

# Bethesda Episcopal Church

The Seventh Sunday of Easter

29 May 2022

*We continue to recommend that masks are worn throughout the service.*

**Prelude**

Solemn Melody

Henry Walford Davies (1869-1941)

## The Opening Acclamation

*The people standing, the Celebrant says*

*Celebrant* Alleluia! Christ is risen.  
*People* The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.  
*People* And with thy spirit.  
*Celebrant* Let us pray.

O Almighty God, whose blessed Son our Savior Jesus Christ ascended far above all heavens that he might fill all things: Mercifully give us faith to perceive that, according to his promise, he abideth with his Church on earth, even unto the end of the ages; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*The people are seated*

## The First Lesson

Acts 1:1-11

In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. After his suffering he presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. While staying with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for the promise of the Father. "This," he said, "is what you have heard from me; for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now."

So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?" He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."

*The Lector concludes* The Word of the Lord.  
*The People respond* Thanks be to God

**Gradual** Psalm 97

Henry Thomas Smart (1813 – 1879)

1 The Lord is King;  
let the earth rejoice; \*

- let the multitude of the isles be glad.  
 2 Clouds and darkness are round about him, \*  
     righteousness and justice are the foundations of his throne.  
 3 A fire goes before him \*  
     and burns up his enemies on every side.  
 4 His lightnings light up the world; \*  
     the earth sees it and is afraid.  
 5 The mountains melt like wax at the presence of the Lord, \*  
     at the presence of the Lord of the whole earth.  
 6 The heavens declare his righteousness, \*  
     and all the peoples see his glory.  
 7 Confounded be all who worship carved images  
     and delight in false gods! \*  
     Bow down before him, all you gods.  
 8 Zion hears and is glad, and the cities of Judah rejoice, \*  
     because of your judgments, O Lord.  
 9 For you are the Lord,  
     most high over all the earth; \*  
     you are exalted far above all gods.  
 10 The Lord loves those who hate evil; \*  
     he preserves the lives of his saints  
     and delivers them from the hand of the wicked.  
 11 Light has sprung up for the righteous, \*  
     and joyful gladness for those who are truehearted.  
 12 Rejoice in the Lord, you righteous, \*  
     and give thanks to his holy Name.

**The Second Lesson**

Ephesians 1:15-23

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

*The Lector concludes*  
*The People respond*

The Word of the Lord.  
 Thanks be to God.

*The people stand, if able.*

**Hymn #483**

From The Hymnal 1982

**The Holy Gospel**

Luke 24:44-53

*Celebrant*  
*People*

The Holy Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke  
 Glory be to thee, O Lord.

Jesus said to his disciples, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you-- that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled." Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and

that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. See, I am sending upon you what my Father promised; so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high."

Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them. While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven. And they worshipped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy; and they were continually in the temple blessing God.

*Celebrant*        The Gospel of the Lord.  
*People*            Praise be to thee, O Christ.

## **The Sermon**

Fr Wallace

**The Nicene Creed**    *Said by all, standing.*

I believe in one God,  
  the Father Almighty,  
  maker of heaven and earth,  
  and of all things visible and invisible;  
And in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
  the only-begotten Son of God,  
  begotten of his Father before all worlds,  
  God of God, Light of Light,  
  very God of very God;  
  begotten, not made;  
  being of one substance with the Father;  
  by whom all things were made;  
  who for us men and for our salvation  
  came down from heaven,  
  and was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary,  
  and was made man;  
  and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate;  
  he suffered and was buried:  
  and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures,  
  and ascended into heaven,  
  and sitteth on the right hand of the Father;  
  and he shall come again, with glory,  
  to judge both the quick and the dead;  
  whose kingdom shall have no end.  
And I believe in the Holy Ghost, The Lord, and Giver of Life,  
  who proceedeth from the Father and the Son;  
  who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified;  
  who spake by the Prophets.  
And I believe one holy Catholic and Apostolic Church;  
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins;  
and I look for the resurrection of the dead,  
  and the life of the world to come. Amen.

**The Prayers of The People**    *Please kneel.*

This week, in our Anglican cycle of prayer, we pray for the Church of South India, and in the Albany diocese, for the parish of St Mark's, Malone. We especially remember at this time the people of Uvalde, Texas and all those affected by the recent tragedy there.

We remember with thanksgiving those who are celebrating birthdays and anniversaries this week, and those whose year's mind falls at this time.

We welcome into the fellowship of the Church, Beckham Patrick Connors, who will be baptized this afternoon, and ask God's blessing on him and his family.

Let us join our prayers with those of our Savior Jesus Christ, seeking the Father's blessing, and the gifts of the Spirit.

Jesus Christ, our great high priest, living for ever to intercede for us, pray for the Church, your broken body in the world. Lord, hear us.  
*Lord, graciously hear us.*

Jesus Christ, king of righteousness, enthroned at the right hand of your majesty on high, pray for this troubled world, and make it subject to your just and gentle rule. Lord, hear us.  
*Lord, graciously hear us.*

Jesus Christ, Son of Man, drawing humanity into the life of God, pray for your brothers and sisters in any need, distress or sorrow. Lord, hear us.  
*Lord, graciously hear us.*

Jesus Christ, pioneer of our salvation, bringing us to glory through your death and resurrection, surround with your saints and angels those who have died trusting your promises. Lord, hear us.  
*Lord, graciously hear us.*

Jesus Christ, Lord over all things, ascended far above the heavens and filling the universe, pray for us who bear witness to your glory and power. Lord, hear us.  
*Lord, graciously hear us.*

*The Celebrant concludes with a Collect*

*The Celebrant introduces the Confession*

*The people say*

Almighty God,  
Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
maker of all things, judge of all men:  
We acknowledge and bewail our manifold sins  
and wickedness,  
which we from time to time most grievously have committed,  
by thought, word, and deed, against thy divine Majesty,  
provoking most justly thy wrath and indignation against us.  
We do earnestly repent,  
and are heartily sorry for these our misdoings;  
the remembrance of them is grievous unto us,  
the burden of them is intolerable.  
Have mercy upon us,  
have mercy upon us, most merciful Father;  
for thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake,  
forgive us all that is past;  
and grant that we may ever hereafter  
serve and please thee in newness of life,  
to the honor and glory of thy Name;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**The Absolution**      *Said by the Celebrant*

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**The Peace** *All stand. At the exchange of the Peace, please remain in your pew.*

*Celebrant* The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
*People* And with thy spirit.

**At The Offertory** Hymn #494

From The Hymnal 1982

**The Great Thanksgiving** *Please stand.*

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.  
*People* And with thy spirit.  
*Celebrant* Lift up your hearts.  
*People* We lift them up unto the Lord.  
*Celebrant* Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.  
*People* It is meet and right so to do.

### **Proper Preface Of The Ascension**

Through thy dearly beloved Son Jesus Christ our Lord; who after his glorious resurrection manifestly appeared to his disciples; and in their sight ascended into heaven, to prepare a place for us: that where he is, there we might also be, and reign with him in glory.

**Sanctus and Benedictus Qui Venit** *Sung by all*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - - - ly, Lord God of Hosts:  
Hea-ven and earth are full of thy glo - ry. Glo - ry be to  
thee, O Lord Most High. Bless - ed is he that com - eth in the  
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

**The Eucharistic Prayer** *Please kneel.*

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*The Celebrant continues the Eucharistic Prayer, which concludes*

By whom, and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. **Amen.**

And now, as our Savior Christ hath taught us, we are bold to say,

Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy Name,  
thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,  
for ever and ever. Amen.

### **The Breaking of The Bread**

*Celebrant* Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;  
*People* Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

**Agnus Dei:** Missa Sancti Magni (Mass on St. Magnus) Sydney Nicholson (1875-1947)

*O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.*  
*O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.*  
*O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, grant us thy peace.*

*Communion is distributed at the chancel step. Please remain seated until directed by an usher.*

**At The Communion** Ascendit Deus Samuel Webbe, Sr. (1704-1816)

Ascendit Deus in júbilo, et Dominus in voce tubae.  
Psallite Deo nostro. Psallite! Psallite!  
Quoniam rex omnis terrae Deus, psallite sapienter.  
Psallite Deo nostro. Psallite! Psallite!  
Regnabit Deus super gentes; Deus sedet super sedem sanctam suam.  
Psallite Deo nostro. Psallite! Psallite!

*God is gone up with a merry noise, and the Lord with the sound of the trumpet.*  
*Sing praises unto our God. Sing praises!*  
*For God is King over all the earth; sing ye praises with understanding.*  
*Sing praises unto our God. Sing praises!*  
*God reigneth over the heathen; God sitteth upon his holy seat.*  
*Sing praises unto our God. Sing praises!*

Psalm 47: 5-8

**The Post Communion Prayer** Said by all.

Almighty and ever living God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through

Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

### **The Blessing and Dismissal**

The peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost, be amongst you and remain with you always. Amen.

*Celebrant* Alleluia! Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.  
*People* Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

*Please stand as the celebrant departs.*

**Voluntary** Rigaudon André Campra (1660-1744)

### **Today at Bethesda**

**May special monthly envelope:** Donations from the Monthly Envelope in May will be directed to the Beaver Cross Camp Scholarship Fund. Beaver Cross, our diocesan camp in Greenwich, NY, seeks to make its summer programs available to every eligible child who wishes to participate in its activities, regardless of a family's financial circumstances. Each year, funds are raised to meet the need for scholarships. Please support this enriching experience for children.

The study of Genesis meets today and throughout the month of May at 9:20. All welcome.

The **Flowers on the Altar** are given in loving memory of men and women who have served our country.

### **Upcoming at Bethesda**

**Office Changes:** Our Office Administrator, Barbara, left us on May 20. We are grateful to Barbara for all she has done for the church, especially through the challenges of COVID. During the summer, we will be evaluating this position as we contemplate the administrative needs of the parish. In the interim, the office will be staffed by volunteers. The office will be open at the following times:

Tuesday: 12:30 pm—4:30 pm  
Wednesday: 10:00 am—1:00 pm  
Thursday: 9:00 am—noon

If you need assistance or information, please call the office at (518) 584-5980 and leave a message or email the office ([office@bethesdachurch.org](mailto:office@bethesdachurch.org)), and someone will get back to you as soon as possible. Voicemail will be checked regularly.

**Refreshments following the 10am service:** If you are able to provide some light refreshments following the 10am service, please sign up in the narthex or speak to Fr. Wallace or Sara Manny.

**About Receiving Communion:** We will return to administering Holy Communion in both kinds (bread and wine) at services beginning 12 June, Trinity Sunday. This means that, if you wish, you may also receive from the chalice at the Eucharist. However, this is entirely optional, and you should feel comfortable receiving Holy Communion under the form of bread only. However, please be advised that Intinction (or 'dipping' the bread into the chalice) is not permitted.

## News

**Roof Replacement Update:** Work continues, with most of the activity taking place on the eastern side of the church. More roof panels, ridge caps, flashing and gutters are being installed and trim work is being painted as well. One item of particular interest is the exposure of granite that had long been hidden behind metal panels. You can view this on the southeast corner of the church from the parking lot.

The Holy Rollers volunteer group is taking a well-deserved break before returning for a final “deep clean” of the church sometime next month, after roof work is complete. If you would like to volunteer a bit of your time with the Holy Rollers, please contact the office or Mark Claverie.

**Ordination:** The Reverend Jonathan Beck will be ordained to the sacred order of priests at All Saints’ Cathedral, Albany, on Trinity Sunday, 12 June, at 3pm. This service is open to the public. Jonathan will continue to serve at the Cathedral as he completes his studies.

**Lecture Series:** In 1908, Katrina Trask, a parishioner of Bethesda Church, and Mary Fuller of St. Paul’s Episcopal in Troy, founded Wiawaka Center on Lake George. This residential retreat center was originally part of the Girls’ Friendly Society, an organization affiliated with the Episcopal Church which provided training, confidence building, and other educational opportunities for young women. Its mission as a place dedicated to enriching the lives of women continues today.

Wiawaka hosts a lecture series in July and August on a variety of artistic, literary and historic topics. On July 19th, Rumara Jewett will speak on “Katrina Trask, Mary Fuller, and the Founding of Wiawaka”.

The cost of attending the lecture is \$20.00. Come early and enjoy a buffet supper for an additional charge of \$15.00. Dinner is served at 6pm, followed by the lecture at 7:00 pm. To learn about other lectures in this year’s series, consult [www.wiawaka.org](http://www.wiawaka.org).



Fr. Charles Wallace, Priest in Charge

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