

Bethesda Episcopal Church

The Ninth Sunday after Pentecost: 10am Sung Eucharist

7 August 2022

Prelude

Voluntary in G

William Boyce (1710-1779)

The Opening Acclamation

The people standing, the Celebrant says

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People **And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

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.**

The Summary of the Law is said by the Celebrant, followed by the Kyrie and Collect of the Day.

Celebrant Lord, have mercy upon us.
People **Christ, have mercy upon us.**
Celebrant Lord, have mercy upon us.

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

Grant to us, Lord, we beseech thee, the spirit to think and do always such things as are right, that we, who cannot exist without thee, may by thee, be enabled to live according to thy will; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

All sit.

The Reading

Genesis 15:1-6

The word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, 'Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great.' But Abram said, 'O Lord GOD, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?' And Abram said, 'You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir.' But the word of the LORD came to him, 'This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir.' He brought him outside and said, 'Look towards heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them.' Then he said to him, 'So shall your descendants be.' And he believed the Lord; and the Lord reckoned it to him as righteousness.

The Lector concludes
The People respond

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

All stand.

The Gradual Hymn #674

From The Hymnal 1982

Remain standing.

*Celebrant
People*

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

Jesus said to his disciples, "Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. Sell your possessions, and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

"Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks. Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them. If he comes during the middle of the night, or near dawn, and finds them so, blessed are those slaves.

"But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour."

*Celebrant
People*

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

The Sermon

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.**

All kneel.

The Prayers of The People

This week, in our prayers, we remember the bishops of our Anglican Communion gathered in Canterbury, England for the Lambeth Conference. In our community, we pray for and all students preparing to return to college. At this time, we especially give thanks for the ministry of our Associate Priest, Fr Paul Evans, who celebrates forty years at Bethesda this month.

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

Let us pray together as a family of faith from every time and place, saying, Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Let us pray for the world; for the leaders of nations, that wisdom and integrity might prevail; for regions torn by conflict, especially the people of Ukraine; that peace and harmony might be restored: Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Let us pray for the church; for the unity of the body of Christ, that needless division might cease; for Michael our Assisting Bishop, and for all who nurture our life together, that the Church may be strengthened and our common life enriched: Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Let us pray for our parish; for our presence in this community, that persons may find here the means to a deeper relationship with God; and that all may find the forgiveness of God and the acceptance of each other: Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Let us pray for those in need; for the hungry and homeless, that food and shelter might be theirs; for the oppressed and downtrodden, that freedom and dignity might be theirs; for the sick and the infirm, especially Bob, Paul, Bruce, and Bob and Joan, that health and wholeness might be theirs: Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

By your power, Lord God, you raised Christ Jesus and in him we too will be raised. Let us pray for those we love who have died, that they may continue in your love. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

The Celebrant concludes the prayers with a Collect.

The Celebrant introduces the Confession.

All 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.**

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

The Peace

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

At The Offertory: Hymn #397

From The Hymnal 1982

Remain standing

The Great Thanksgiving

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.**

The Preface is sung by the Celebrant:

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God. Through Jesus Christ our Lord; who on the first day of the week overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. Therefore with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious name, evermore praising thee and saying:

Sanctus and Benedictus Qui Venit Sung by all

Healey Willan (1880-1968)

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.

All kneel.

The Eucharistic Prayer

Prayer Book, Page 333

The Celebrant continues the Eucharistic Prayer, which concludes ...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.**

The Prayer of Humble Access *Said by all, kneeling.*

We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

Remain kneeling.

Agnus Dei Sung by all

Healey Willan (1880-1968)

O Lamb of God, that ta - kest a - way the
sins of the world, have mer - cy up - on
us. O Lamb of God, that ta - kest a -
way the sins of the world, have mer - cy up -
on us. O Lamb of God, that
ta - kest a - way the sins of the world,
grant us thy peace.

Communion is distributed at the high altar and by the pulpit for those who prefer to avoid the stairs.

After Communion, all kneel.

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

Please stand as the ministers depart.

Voluntary

“Improvisation on Kingsfold”

Today at Bethesda

The **flowers** are given to the glory of God and in thanksgiving for the ministry of the Reverend Paul Evans, as Associate Priest at Bethesda Church.

Please join us for **refreshments** following the 10am service. Thank you to Laurie Brenenstuhl for hosting this morning. If you are able to provide juice and cookies one week in August, please add your name to the rota which is in the narthex.

Special Monthly Envelope for August. Donations to our special monthly appeal in August will support the Race Track Chaplaincy. Founded in 1971, the Chaplaincy provides vital ministry to backstretch workers and their families by offering food and clothing; legal, medical and clerical assistance; as well as educational support and enrichment to Backstretch families who could not otherwise afford these services or opportunities. Thank you for your generosity.

Donation Statements. The Year-to-Date pledge statements (January to the end of June) are available to pick up at the back of the church. Thank you for supporting the ministry of Bethesda Church.

Upcoming at Bethesda

Office Hours: During the summer, the office will be open at the following times:

Tuesdays: 12:30 pm—4: 30 pm
Wednesdays: 10:00 am—1:00 pm
Thursdays: 10:00 am— 1:00 pm

Call (518) 584-5980 to leave a message or email office@bethesdachurch.org.

News

Building Update: The clerestory windows, in the dormers along the roof, have been removed for restoration work by [J & R Lamb Studios](#). While the windows are being restored, the wood trim, mullions and sills will be inspected and replaced as needed. A rough time estimate for the glass restoration is at least 6 weeks. In the meantime, the dormer window openings have been temporarily covered with wood to keep out the elements. Lamb Studios arrived on Monday, July 25th to begin this removal. The removal had been expected to take up to 2 weeks but was accomplished in 4 days.

Forward Day by Day for August/September/October is now available for purchase. Please contact the church office.

LifeWorks Community Action requests your assistance in providing the following items:

- ◆ Household cleaning supplies.
- ◆ Foods low in salt, fat & sugar. Gluten Free foods.
- ◆ Sponges, laundry detergent, dishwasher detergent.
- ◆ Diapers (size 4 & 5), baby wipes, and baby care products: shampoo and soap.
- ◆ Adult personal hygiene products: soap, toothpaste/brushes, shampoo, razors, shaving cream, deodorant.

Fresh vegetables and other perishable food items (eggs, milk, butter) can be brought directly to the food pantry, Monday - Friday from 9am to 4pm. Lifeworks is located at 39 Bath St., Ballston Spa.

Fr Charles Wallace, *Priest-in-Charge*

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