

Bethesda Episcopal Church

The Third Sunday after the Epiphany

22 January 2023

8.00 Holy Communion

10.00 Sung Eucharist

Prelude Larghetto, from Voluntary in G Minor, Op. 6, No. 9

Samuel Wesley (1766-1837)

The Entrance Hymn #7

From *The Hymnal* 1982

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 Gloria in excelsis



Glo - ry be to God on high, and on earth_ peace, good will towards men.



We praise thee, we bless thee, we wor - ship thee, we glo - ri - fy



thee, we give thanks to thee for thy great glo - ry, O_____ Lord



God, heaven - ly King, God_____ the Fa - ther Al -



might - - y._____ O Lord, the on - ly be-got-ten



Son, Je - sus Christ; O Lord God, Lamb_ of God, Son of the

Fa - ther, that ta - kest a - way the sins of the world, have mer - cy up -
on us. Thou that ta - kest a - way the sins of the world, re - ceive our
prayer. Thou that sit - test at the right hand of God the Fa - ther, have
mer - cy up - on us. For thou on - ly art ho - ly;
thou on - ly are the Lord; thou on - ly, O Christ, with the Ho - ly
Ghost, art most high in the glo - ry of God the
Fa - ther. A - - - - -
men.

Remain standing.

The Collect of the Day

<i>Celebrant</i>	The Lord be with you.
<i>People</i>	And with thy spirit.
<i>Celebrant</i>	Let us pray.

Give us grace, O Lord, to answer readily the call of our Savior Jesus Christ and proclaim to all people the Good News of his salvation, that we and all the whole world may perceive the glory of his marvelous works; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

All sit.

The First Lesson

Isaiah 9:1-4

There will be no gloom for those who were in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he will make glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness -- on them light has shined.

You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy;

they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder.

For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian.

*The Lector concludes
The people respond*

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

The Gradual: Psalm 27:1, 5-13

Music: Ivor Atkins (1869-1953)

The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom then shall I fear? *
the LORD is the strength of my life; of whom then shall I be afraid?

One thing have I asked of the LORD; one thing I seek; *
that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life;

To behold the fair beauty of the LORD * and to seek him in his temple.

For in the day of trouble he shall keep me safe in his shelter; *
he shall hide me in the secrecy of his dwelling and set me high upon a rock.

Even now he lifts up my head *
above my enemies round about me.

Therefore I will offer in his dwelling an oblation with sounds of great gladness; *
I will sing and make music to the LORD.

Hearken to my voice, O LORD, when I call; *
have mercy on me and answer me.

You speak in my heart and say, "Seek my face." *
Your face, LORD, will I seek.

Hide not your face from me, *
nor turn away your servant in displeasure.

You have been my helper; cast me not away; *
do not forsake me, O God of my salvation.

The Second Lesson

1 Corinthians 1:10-18

Now I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you be in agreement and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same purpose. For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there are quarrels among you, my brothers and sisters. What I mean is that each of you says, "I belong to Paul," or "I belong to Apollos," or "I belong to Cephas," or "I belong to Christ." Has Christ been divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, so that no one can say that you were baptized in my name. (I did baptize also the household of Stephanas; beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone

else.) For Christ did not send me to baptize but to proclaim the gospel, and not with eloquent wisdom, so that the cross of Christ might not be emptied of its power. For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

*The Lector concludes
The people respond*

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

All stand.

The Alleluia

Choir: The LORD is King, the earth may be glad thereof: yea, the multitude of the isles may be glad thereof. (Ps 97:1)



All repeat: Alleluia.

Remain standing.

The Holy Gospel

Matthew 4:12-23

*Celebrant
People*

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

When Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee. He left Nazareth and made his home in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, so that what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled: “Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali, on the road by the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles— the people who sat in darkness have seen a great light, and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death light has dawned.” From that time Jesus began to proclaim, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.”

As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea—for they were fishermen. And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fish for people.” Immediately they left their nets and followed him. As he went from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John, in the boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. Immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed him.

Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness among the people.

*Celebrant
People*

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

The Sermon

Fr Charles Wallace

All stand.

The Nicene Creed

**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 the Anglican cycle of prayer, we pray for the Church of North India; in the Albany diocese for the parish of St George, Schenectady, as it continues its search for a new priest; and in our parish, we ask God's blessing on our Annual Meeting next week and those standing for election to Vestry and Convention.

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

The love of God embraces all peoples and knows no limit. Let us place our hope in God as we offer these petitions.

In this week of Prayer for Christian Unity, we pray for the leaders of the Churches, especially, Justin, Archbishop of Canterbury; Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Francis, Bishop of Rome; and Bartholomew, Ecumenical Patriarch; let us pray to the Lord:
Lord, hear our prayer.

For those who work for the unity of all Christians, let us pray to the Lord:
Lord, hear our prayer.

For the whole People of God, that each one may be a true and faithful servant of Christ, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For those drawing near to the light of faith, that the Lord will bring them to true knowledge of himself, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For our families and friends, that the Lord will give them joy and satisfaction in all that they do, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For those who are lonely, sick, hungry, persecuted, or ignored, that the Lord will comfort and sustain them, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For our country, that the Lord will help us to contribute to its true growth and well-being, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For the whole human family, that we may live together in justice and peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, 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
People*

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

At The Offertory: Hymn #542

From The Hymnal 1982

Remain standing.

The Eucharistic Prayer

Prayer Book, Page 340

*Celebrant
People
Celebrant
People
Celebrant
People*

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

The Celebrant continues with the Proper Preface:

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. Because in the mystery of the Word made flesh, thou hast caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give the knowledge of thy glory in the face of thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Therefore with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious name, evermore praising thee and saying:

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.

All glory be to thee, O Lord our God, for that thou didst create heaven and earth, and didst make us in thine own image; and, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to take our nature upon him, and to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption. He made there a full and perfect sacrifice for the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks to thee, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink this, all of you; for this is my Blood of the New Covenant, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me."

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, we thy people do celebrate and make, with these thy holy gifts which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; and looking for his coming again with power and great glory. And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us, and, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, to bless and sanctify these gifts of bread and wine, that they may be unto us the Body and Blood of thy dearly-beloved Son Jesus Christ.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, whereby we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies. Grant, we beseech thee, that all who partake of this Holy Communion may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, and be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction; and also that we and all thy whole Church may be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord; by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

And now, as our Savior Christ hath commanded and 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

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.

*Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis.
Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, dona nobis pacem.*

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

Communion is distributed at the chancel step.

At The Communion ‘Surge Illuminare’

William Byrd (1540-1623)

Surge, illuminare, Jerusalem, quia venit lumen tuum, et gloria Domini super te orta est.
Alleluia.

*Arise, shine, Jerusalem; for thy light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee.
Alleluia.*

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.**

The Closing Hymn: #613

All stand as the ministers depart.

Voluntary Nun danket alle Gott (Now Thank We All Our God), Op. 65, No. 59
Sigfrid Karg-Elert (1877-1933)

Today at Bethesda

The **flowers on the High Altar** are given to the glory of Almighty God, and in honor of Elsie Priestley, given by her daughter, Lynne.

Please join us for **refreshments** following the 10am service. Thank you to Claire and Tim Wood for hosting this week.

Bible Study. Today at 9.20am, we continue our weekly study of the Old Testament. This course is led by Dr Blaine Edele. All welcome and no registration required.

Parish and Community News

NEXT WEEK: Our Annual Parish Meeting will take place **next Sunday**, 29 January, following a combined **service at 9am**. Copies of the minutes from the 2022 Annual Meeting are available on the tract table.

Special Monthly Envelope for January. The special monthly envelope for the month of January assists the church with the cost of fuel during the winter months. We are grateful for your assistance and generosity.

Forward Day by Day for February–March– April 2023 is available for purchase from the church office. The cost is \$2 per book.

Parish Retreat in 2023: Following last October’s successful retreat weekend at Holy Cross Monastery in West Park, NY, we have reserved ten places for the weekend of 13 - 15 October 2023. If you wish to attend, a \$50.00 non-refundable deposit is required to reserve your room. For more information, speak to Fr Wallace. To learn more about the monastery at consult their website: www.holycrossmonastery.com

Office Hours: In January, the office will be open at the following times:

Tuesdays: 10:00 am –1:00 pm

Wednesdays: 10:00 am–1:00 pm

Thursdays: 10:00 am– 1:00 pm

Otherwise, please call (518) 584-5980 to leave a message or email, office@bethesdachurch.org

Upcoming Services

Next Sunday, 29 January: **ONE SERVICE at 9 am** followed by Annual Meeting

Wednesday, 22 February Ash Wednesday: Liturgies at 12 Noon and 7.00 p.m.

Annual Meeting Vote

Please be advised that on Sunday 29 January, 2023, there will be **one service at 9.00am**, immediately followed by our **Annual Parish Meeting and Annual Election**. At that time, we will be electing a Junior Warden, and five members of the Vestry, one of whom will also serve a two-year term as Treasurer, and another who will also serve a two-year term as Clerk. Additionally, the meeting will include reports on finance, the ratification of our 2023 budget, and an update on current building work. This year, we will also be voting on certain proposed amendments to the Parish by-laws which have been recommended by the Vestry. Those recommendations will be submitted to the Parish for ratification at the above Annual Meeting and Annual Election. If those recommendations are so ratified by the Parish, the proposed amendments would not take effect until next year’s Annual Meeting and Annual Election. The proposed amendments are printed (opposite) for your review.

Your prayers and presence are requested. If you have any questions, speak to me or to the wardens.

Fr Charles Wallace

Priest-in-Charge, Bethesda Church

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO CERTAIN BYLAWS OF BETHESDA EPISCOPAL CHURCH, SARATOGA SPRINGS, NEW YORK

On motion duly made and seconded at a meeting of the Vestry of Bethesda Episcopal Church, Saratoga Springs, New York (Article 13 of the Parish Bylaws reciting that “the Wardens, Treasurer and Clerk, together with the Rector, and the Vestrypersons shall constitute the Vestry of the Parish”) called for the following purposes and held on January 11, 2023, a quorum being present, the following Resolutions were unanimously approved by vote of the members of the Vestry present and voting at that meeting, at least three days’ notice of such meeting having been given to each member of the Vestry by the Rector in writing, either personally or by mail:

BE IT RESOLVED,

That the Vestry hereby recommends that Article 4, Section 4.2 of the Parish Bylaws, entitled “Vestrypersons,” which presently reads: “There shall be nine additional vestrypersons. Two or more members of the same household or family shall not serve concurrently on the Vestry,” be amended to read: “There shall be six additional vestrypersons (such six, the “At Large Vestrypersons” or the “Vestrypersons”). Wherever the capitalized term “Vestrypersons” appears in these Bylaws, it shall be deemed to refer to the At Large Vestrypersons. Two or more members of the same household or family shall not serve concurrently on the Vestry;”

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,

That the Vestry hereby recommends that Article 5, Section 5.1 of the Parish Bylaws, entitled “Elections,” which presently reads:

“Officers and Vestrypersons shall be elected at the Annual Meeting of the Parish. Wardens, Treasurer, Clerk and Delegates shall hold office until the second Annual Meeting following their election. Vestrypersons shall hold office until the third Annual Meeting following their election. All shall hold office until their successors are elected and qualify.

At the Annual Meeting after which this Article takes effect, three Vestrypersons shall be elected to hold office for three years. Vestrypersons and Wardens elected prior to the adoption of these Bylaws [January 18, 2017] shall be considered valid and shall continue the terms to which they were originally elected;”

be amended to read:

“Officers (defined in Article 4, Section 4.1 of the Parish Bylaws as being comprised of two Wardens, a Treasurer, an Assistant Treasurer if one is desired, and a Clerk) and Vestrypersons shall be elected at the Annual Meeting of the Parish. Wardens, Treasurer and Clerk shall hold office until the second Annual Meeting following their election, provided that in accordance with and in the manner prescribed in Section 45 of the N.Y. Religious Corporations Law (as such Section 45 has been amended from time to time) the terms of office of the two Wardens shall be staggered so that only one Warden shall be elected annually. Except as may otherwise be prescribed in said Section 45, or if applicable, Section 44, of the N.Y. Religious Corporations Law (as such Sections 45 and 44 have been or may hereafter be amended from time to time) respecting the terms of office for which Vestrypersons are required to be elected at the first annual election following an Annual Meeting at which the Parish has determined to change the number of Vestrypersons, Vestrypersons shall hold office until the third Annual Meeting following their election. Officers and Vestrypersons shall all hold office until their successors are elected and qualify.”

LifeWorks Community Action is a nonprofit established in 1965 that works to alleviate poverty by assisting local families facing economic hardship with a wide range of services. Bethesda is currently collecting the following items on behalf of LifeWorks:

- ◆ 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.

You may leave donated items in the box by the side door entrance of the church.

Loaves and Fishes is a feeding ministry based in the parish hall of the St. Francis Mission (Episcopal) Church in the Arbor Hill area of Albany. The ministry offers a hot, healthy meal every Saturday to people from this underserved neighborhood. The Mission is looking for volunteers to assist on Saturdays, 11.30—1pm. If you're interested speak to Fr Wallace for further information.

Fr Charles Wallace, *Priest-in-Charge*

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