

# Bethesda Episcopal Church

**The Fifth Sunday in Lent**

**26 March 2023**

**8.00 Holy Communion**

**10.00am Sung Eucharist**

**Prelude** Prelude on 'Aberystwyth'

*Maurice Whitney (1909-1984)*

**The Entrance Hymn #457**

*From the Hymnal 1982*

**The Opening Acclamation**

*The people standing, the Celebrant says*

**Celebrant  
People**

Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.  
**His mercy endures forever.**

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 Kyrie Eleison**

Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up - on us.

Christ, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up - on us.

Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up -

on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

*Remain standing.*

### ***The Collect of The Day***

<b><i>Celebrant</i></b>	The Lord be with you.
<b><i>People</i></b>	<b>And with thy spirit.</b>

Let us pray. O Almighty God, who alone canst order the unruly wills and affections of sinful men: Grant unto thy people that they may love the thing which thou commandest, and desire that which thou dost promise; that so, among the sundry and manifold changes of the world, our hearts may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

*All sit.*

### ***The First Lesson***

*Ezekiel 37:1-14*

The hand of the LORD came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. He said to me, "Mortal, can these bones live?" I answered, "O Lord GOD, you know." Then he said to me, "Prophecy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the LORD."

So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. Then he said to me, "Prophecy to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord GOD: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live." I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude.

Then he said to me, "Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.' Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord GOD: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. And you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the LORD, have spoken and will act," says the LORD.

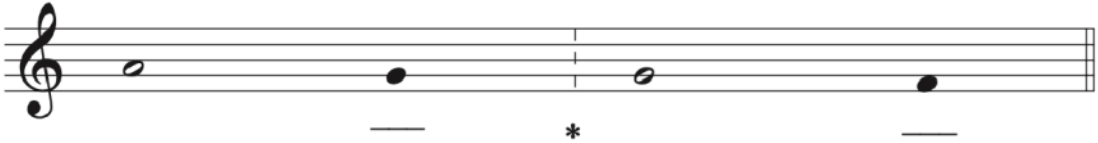
*The Lector concludes*  
*The People respond*

*The Word of the Lord.*  
**Thanks be to God.**

*All remain seated.*

### ***Psalm 130***

*The congregation are invited to sing the verses in bold print.*



- 1 Out of the depths have I called to you, O LORD; ‘ LORD, hear my voice; \*  
let your ears consider well the voice of my suppli-ca-tion.
- 2 If you, LORD, were to note what is done a-miss, \*  
O Lord, who could stand?
- 3 **For there is forgiveness with you; \***  
**therefore you shall be feared.**
- 4 I wait for the LORD; my soul waits for him; \*  
in his word is my hope.
- 5 **My soul waits for the LORD, more than watchmen for the morning, \***  
**more than watchmen for the morning.**
- 6 O Israel, wait for the LORD; \*  
for with the LORD there is mercy;
- 7 **With him there is plenteous re-demption, \***  
**and he shall redeem Israel from all their sins.**

## ***The Second Lesson***

*Romans 8:6-11*

To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law-- indeed it cannot, and those who are in the flesh cannot please God. But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

*The Lector concludes  
The People respond*

*The Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.***

*All stand.*

## ***The Gradual Hymn #487***

*From the Hymnal 1982*

*Remain standing.*

## ***The Holy Gospel***

*John 11.1-45*

*Celebrant  
People*

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

Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, “Lord, he whom you love is ill.” But when Jesus heard it, he said, “This illness does not lead to death; rather it

is for God's glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it." Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was.

Then after this he said to the disciples, "Let us go to Judea again." The disciples said to him, "Rabbi, the Jews were just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?" Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Those who walk during the day do not stumble, because they see the light of this world. But those who walk at night stumble, because the light is not in them." After saying this, he told them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him." The disciples said to him, "Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right." Jesus, however, had been speaking about his death, but they thought that he was referring merely to sleep. Then Jesus told them plainly, "Lazarus is dead. For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him." Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with him."

When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him." Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?" She said to him, "Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world."

When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary, and told her privately, "The Teacher is here and is calling for you." And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him. Now Jesus had not yet come to the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him. The Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there. When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. He said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Lord, come and see." Jesus began to weep. So the Jews said, "See how he loved him!" But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?"

Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, "Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days." Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?" So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said, "Father, I thank you for having heard me. I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me." When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Unbind him, and let him go." Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what Jesus did,

believed in him.

*Celebrant  
People*

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

### ***The Sermon***

*Fr Wallace*

*All stand.*

### ***The Nicene Creed***     *Said by all*

**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 South America; in the Albany diocese, for the people and clergy of the Church of the Messiah, Glens Falls; and in our parish community, for all those in special need, especially: Bruce McMorris, Jerilyn Towner, Bruce Solenski, Doug Huston, Paul Evans, and Linda Gould. We also pray for the repose of the souls of Shirley Armstrong and John David, who died recently.

In peace, let us pray to the Lord, by responding to each petition, **Lord, graciously hear us.**

For the one, holy, catholic, and apostolic Church, and especially, for this parish family, Lord, hear us. **Lord, graciously hear us.**

For the mission of the Church, that in faithful witness it may preach the gospel to the ends of the earth, Lord, hear us. **Lord, graciously hear us.**

For those preparing for baptism and for their sponsors, Lord hear us. **Lord, graciously hear us.**

For peace in the world, that a spirit of respect and reconciliation may grow among nations and peoples, Lord, hear us. **Lord, graciously hear us.**

For the poor, the persecuted, the sick, and for their families; for refugees, prisoners, and all in danger; that they may be relieved and protected, Lord, hear us.  
**Lord, graciously hear us.**

For those whom we have injured or offended, Lord, hear us. **Lord, graciously hear us.**

For grace to amend our lives and to further the reign of God, Lord, hear us.  
**Lord, graciously hear us.**

In communion with all those who have walked in the way of holiness and are now at rest, Lord, hear us. **Lord, graciously hear us.**

*The Celebrant says a concluding prayer, followed by the invitation to 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 Celebrant says*

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**

<i>Celebrant</i>	The peace of the Lord be always with you.
<i>People</i>	<b>And with thy spirit.</b>

### **Hymn at The Offertory #309**

*From the Hymnal 1982*

*Remain standing*

### **The Eucharistic Prayer**

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

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 was in every way tempted as we are, yet did not sin; by whose grace we are able to triumph over every evil, and to live no longer unto ourselves, but unto him who died and rose again. 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, Almighty God, our heavenly Father, for that thou of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption; who made there, by his one oblation of himself once offered, a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction, for the sins of 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, he *brake* 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 ye all of this; for this is my Blood of the New Testament, 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, according to the institution of thy dearly beloved Son our Savior Jesus Christ, we, thy humble servants, do celebrate and make here before thy divine Majesty, 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; rendering unto thee most hearty thanks for the innumerable benefits procured unto us by the same.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us; and of thy almighty goodness, vouchsafe to bless and sanctify, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, these thy gifts and creatures of bread and wine; that we, receiving them according to thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed Body and Blood. And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; most humbly beseeching thee to grant that, by the merits and death of thy Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in his blood, we, and all thy whole Church, may obtain remission of our sins, and all other benefits of his passion.

And here we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and living sacrifice unto thee; humbly beseeching thee that we, and all others who shall be partakers of this Holy Communion, may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction, and made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him.

And although we are unworthy, through our manifold sins, to offer unto thee any sacrifice, yet we beseech thee to accept this our bounden duty and service, not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offenses, through Jesus Christ our Lord; 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**

### ***Our Father***

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 Fraction***

<i>Celebrant</i>	Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
<i>People</i>	<b>Therefore let us keep the feast.</b>

*Remain kneeling*

### **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.**

***The Agnus Dei*** from Missa Sancti Niniani *C. E. S. Littlejohn (1879-1959)*

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 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.*

***At The Communion*** ‘Lord, Let Me Know Mine End’ *Maurice Greene (1697-1755)*

*Lord, let me know mine end, and the number of my days; that I may be certified how long I have to live. Behold, thou hast made my days, as it were a span long; and mine age is even as nothing in respect of thee; And verily every man living is altogether vanity. For man walketh in a vain shadow; and disquieteth himself in vain. He heapeth up riches, and cannot tell who will gather them. And now, Lord, what is my hope? Truly my hope is e'en in thee. Hear my prayer, O Lord, and with thine ears, consider my calling. Hold not thy peace at my tears. O spare me. Spare me a little, that I may recover my strength; before I go hence, and be no more seen.* *(Text: from Psalm 39)*

*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***

<i>Celebrant</i>	Let us bless the Lord.
<i>People</i>	<b>Thanks be to God.</b>

### ***The Closing Hymn #470***

*From the Hymnal 1982*

**Voluntary**    Grand Chorus in G Minor

*Alexandre Guilmant (1837-1911)*

### **Upcoming Events**

Please join us for **coffee** following the 10am service.

**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.

**Readers.** Thank you to those reading and leading prayers at services today:

8am	Bob Bullock
10am	Mark Claverie & Libby Smith-Holmes

**Parish Cleaning Day.** In preparation for Holy Week and Easter, volunteers are needed for a parish cleaning day to be held on Saturday, 1 April, from 9am-11am in the church.

**Special Monthly Envelope.** In *March*, we will be receiving donations for *LifeWorks Community Action*. Since 1965, Lifeworks has built a comprehensive network of programs and resources in Saratoga County to assist low-income families facing a variety of challenges, including health, housing, childcare, immigration and legal services.

### **Upcoming Services**

**Thursday** 30 March: 12.05 p.m. Holy Communion  
**Palm Sunday**, 2 April: 8am Holy Communion & 10am Sung Eucharist

On Palm Sunday, the Cathedral Choir of All Saints', Albany, presents a service of lessons and carols on the Passion of Christ. The service begins at 3.00pm, and is preceded by an organ recital at 2.30pm. The Cathedral is located at 62 South Swan Street, Albany.

On the Sunday after Easter, 16 April, at 10am, there will be a service of **Easter Lessons & Music** with harpist, Elizabeth Huntley.

### **Daily Devotions in Lent—beginning Monday 27 March**

**Invocation:** In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

### **Opening Prayer (*said daily*)**

O God, help us to see ourselves in the light of your holiness, that we may turn from sin, receive your grace and forgiveness, and learn to love and serve you with our whole heart;

through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Reading:**

**Monday:** Genesis 1  
**Tuesday:** Ezekiel 36:22–32  
**Wednesday:** Micah 5:5–8  
**Thursday:** John 14:15–25  
**Friday:** Colossians 3:1–17  
**Saturday:** Philippians 2:1–14

*Say the **Our Father** and the following prayers:*

Grant us, Lord, not to be anxious about earthly things, but to love things heavenly; and even now, while we are placed among things that are passing away, to hold fast to those that shall endure; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. Amen.

**Holy Week at Bethesda Church**

**2 April - Palm Sunday**

8am Eucharist  
10am Sung Eucharist

**5 April - Wednesday in Holy Week**—7pm Stations of the Cross

**6 April - Maundy Thursday**—7pm Eucharist.  
*The Church remains open until 10pm for prayer.*

**7 April - Good Friday**—12 Noon Liturgy of the Day

**9 April - Easter Day**

8am Eucharist  
10am Sung Eucharist

***Please place this form in the collection plate if you would like us to get in touch with you:***

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home address: \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred contact method: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Reason(s):

- ☐ Visitor or new resident
- ☐ Would like more information about the church and/or worship
- ☐ Interested in opportunities to serve
- ☐ Would like to speak with or have a visit from the priest
- ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_



### **Holy Week Offerings**

Bethesda offers the opportunity to purchase palms for Palm Sunday as well as flowers for Easter Sunday. If this is something that you would like to do, please complete this form and return it to the church office. You can place the completed form in the offering plate or mail it to the office at 178 Elm Street, Suite 5, Saratoga Springs.

I would like to contribute towards the following:

- ☐ Palms (Fans and Fronds) \$20
- ☐ Maundy Thursday (Altar of Repose, white flowers) \$25 each
- ☐ Easter Flowers (Lilies, Hyacinths, etc) \$25 each

Given By: \_\_\_\_\_

In Honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please return to the church office before April 3, 2023:**

Bethesda Episcopal Church Office  
178 Elm St. Suite 5  
Saratoga Springs, NY 12866



*Fr Charles Wallace, Priest in Charge*

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