

Bethesda Episcopal Church

The 4th Sunday of Easter: Good Shepherd Sunday

30 April 2023

Prelude

Improvisation on 'Donne secours'

The Entrance Hymn #645

From the Hymnal 1982

The Opening Acclamation

The people standing, the Celebrant says

Celebrant
People

Alleluia. Christ is risen.
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.

The Gloria in excelsis

Healey Willan (1880-1968)

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.

O God, whose Son Jesus is the good shepherd of thy people: Grant that when we hear his voice we may know him who calleth us each by name, and follow where he doth lead; who, with thee and the Holy Spirit, liveth and reigneth, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

All sit.

The First Lesson

Acts 2:42-47

Those who had been baptized devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

*The Lector concludes
The People respond*

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God

Remain seated.

The Gradual 'Ego Sum Pastor Bonus'

Heinrich Isaac (1450-1517)

Ego sum pastor bonus et cognosco oves meas, et cognoscunt me meae.
I am the Good Shepherd and know my sheep, and am known of mine. Alleluia!

The Second Lesson

1 Peter 2:19-25

It is a credit to you if, being aware of God, you endure pain while suffering unjustly. If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, what credit is that? But if you endure when you do right and suffer for it, you have God's approval. For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps. "He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth." When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten; but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly. He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

*The Lector concludes
The People respond*

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

All stand.

The Alleluia



Choir: The Lord has sent redemption unto his people. (*Ps 111:9*)

All repeat: **Alleluia.**

Remain standing.

The Holy Gospel

John 10.1-10

<i>Celebrant</i>	The Lord be with you.
<i>People</i>	And with thy spirit.
<i>Celebrant</i>	The Holy Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ according to St John.
<i>People</i>	Glory be to thee, O Lord.

Jesus said, "Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers." Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

So again Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly."

<i>Celebrant</i>	The Gospel of the Lord.
<i>People</i>	Praise be to thee, O Christ.

The Sermon

Robert Bullock

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 our prayers for the Anglican Communion, we remember the Episcopal Church and our Presiding Bishop, Michael Curry; and in the Albany Diocese, for our Deacon Formation Program and those preparing for ordination.

In our parish, we give thanks for the marriage of Nicholas and Nicole MacVie last weekend and we ask God's blessing on those celebrating birthdays and anniversaries; and those whose year's mind falls at this time.

In joy and hope, let us pray to the Lord saying, *Lord, hear our prayer.*

That our risen Savior may fill us with the joy of his glorious and life-giving resurrection, let us pray to the Lord: ***Lord, hear our prayer.***

That isolated and persecuted churches may find fresh strength in the good news of Easter, let us pray to the Lord: ***Lord, hear our prayer.***

That he may provide for those who lack food, work, or shelter, let us pray to the Lord: ***Lord, hear our prayer.***

That by his power war and famine may cease through all the world, let us pray to the Lord: ***Lord, hear our prayer.***

That he may reveal the light of his presence to the sick, the weak, and the dying, to comfort and strengthen them, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

That, according to his promises, all who have died in the faith of the resurrection may be raised on the last day; we remember with thanksgiving the life of John More, who died recently; let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

That he may send the fire of the Holy Spirit upon his people, so that we may bear faithful witness to his resurrection, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

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

The people say together

**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

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

Hymn at The Offertory #193

From the Hymnal 1982

Remain standing

The Eucharistic Prayer

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.

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. But chiefly are we bound to praise thee for the glorious resurrection of thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the very Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and hath taken away the sin of the world; who by his death hath destroyed death, and by his rising to life again hath won for us 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,

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.**

Our Father

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 Fraction

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

Remain kneeling

The Agnus Dei from Missa Secunda

Hans Leo Hassler (1564-1612)

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: The Lord Is My Shepherd

Thomas Matthews (1915-1999)

*The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.
He maketh me to lie down in green pastures; He leadeth me beside the
still waters.
He restoreth my soul; He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for
His name's sake.
Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil;
For Thou art with me; Thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.
Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies;
Thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.
Surely, goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life;
And I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.*

Text: Psalm 23

After Communion, all kneel. All say together

The Prayer after Communion

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 God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every work to do his will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be amongst you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

*Celebrant
People*

*Alleluia. Go into the world rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.
Thanks be to God. Alleluia.*

The Closing Hymn #199

From the Hymnal 1982

Voluntary

Grand Choeur

Théodore-César Salomé (1834-1896)

Notices

The **flowers on the High Altar** are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Michael Stockman by Karen and Craig Walton.

Last week's floral arrangement at the high altar was given to the glory of God and in thanksgiving for the marriage of Nicholas Daniel MacVie and Nichole Lynn Pease at Bethesda on Saturday, 22 April.

Thank you to those reading and leading prayers at today's services:

8am—Bob Bullock

10am—Colette Manny & Sara Manny

Coffee will be served after today's 10am service. If you are able to host an upcoming Coffee Hour, please sign up using the sheet in the Narthex. Our thanks to Allison Read for hosting today.

Today at 3pm, there will be an ecumenical service of readings and hymns at the Church of St. Peter on Broadway in Saratoga Springs entitled "The Good Shepherd in Scripture and Song". All welcome.

Flowers and Communion Elements If you would like to contribute flowers for the altar or eucharistic elements (bread and wine) as a memorial, or in thanksgiving for a birthday or anniversary, please contact the office.

Pastoral Care If you know of someone in hospital or housebound who would appreciate hearing from the Church, please contact the office by phone (518.584.5980) or email (office@bethesdachurch.org).

April Special Envelope Donations in **April** will be directed to the Thomas T. Parke Music Fund. Fr Parke was Rector of Bethesda from 1968 to 2012. In recognition of his commitment to the liturgical and musical life of the parish, a fund was established in his name which provides additional financial support to our choral program throughout the year. Thank you for your generosity to the ministry of music at Bethesda.

From last week: Building update Work has begun with the replacement of the air handlers throughout the church. Most of the old brown air handlers were no longer functional and replacement parts were difficult to obtain. The new air handlers are now in place and are in the process of being connected to the heating and cooling system. The new units will allow a uniform distribution of heated and cooled air throughout the church. The work on the air handlers should be completed by the end of the month. The new air chiller has been installed but will need to be tested and inspected before it is put into operation.



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 _____

Fr Charles Wallace, Priest in Charge

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