

Bethesda Episcopal Church

The Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

25 June 2023

Music before the liturgy:

Selected Cantigas de Santa Maria

*Alfonso X (El Sabio)
13th Century Spain*

Elizabeth Huntley, Harp.

All stand as the minsters enter. At the high altar, the Celebrant says

***Celebrant
People***

Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. 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 Opening Hymn #530

From the Hymnal 1982

Remain standing.

The Collect of The Day

***Celebrant
People
Celebrant***

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

O Lord, we beseech thee, make us to have a perpetual fear and love of thy holy Name, for thou never failest to help and govern those whom thou hast set upon the sure foundation of thy loving-kindness; 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 Lesson

Romans 6.1b-11

Should we continue in sin in order that grace may abound? By no means! How can we who died to sin go on living in it? Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life. For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, and we might no longer be enslaved to sin. For whoever has died is freed from sin. But if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. The death he died, he died to sin, once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

*The Lector concludes
The People respond*

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God

All stand.

The Gradual Hymn #626

From the Hymnal 1982

Remain standing.

The Holy Gospel

Matthew 10.24-39

*Celebrant
People*

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

Jesus said to the twelve disciples, "A disciple is not above the teacher, nor a slave above the master; it is enough for the disciple to be like the teacher, and the slave like the master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more will they malign those of his household! So have no fear of them; for nothing is covered up that will not be uncovered, and nothing secret that will not become known. What I say to you in the dark, tell in the light; and what you hear whispered, proclaim from the housetops. Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell. Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. And even the hairs of your head are all counted. So do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows. Everyone therefore who acknowledges me before others, I also will acknowledge before my Father in heaven; but whoever denies me before others, I also will deny before my Father in heaven. "Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth; I have not come to bring peace, but a sword. For I have come to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law; and one's foes will be members of one's own household.

Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever does not take up the cross and follow me is not worthy of me. Those who find their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it."

*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

In the Anglican Communion, we are asked to pray today for the Church of Bangladesh; and in the Albany Diocese, for the candidates in our upcoming episcopal election.

We ask God's blessing on Sam Todd and Kaitlin Kramer, and Timothy Mitchell and Gabriella Leo, who were recently married at Bethesda; and on those celebrating birthdays and anniversaries this week. We also remember with thanksgiving those whose year's mind falls at this time. In peace let us pray to the 'Lord, saying, Lord, have mercy.'

For the unity of the Church in witness and proclamation of the Gospel; let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For all who work for justice and peace in God's world, for good government in our land and for the leaders of the nations; let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For places of work, education and leisure; let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For a blessing on our homes; for our family and friends, and all whom we love; let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For the sick and suffering and all who minister to their needs, especially at this time for Paul, Malcolm, Penny, David, Millie, Bruce, and Jerilyn; let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For those who have recently died, and all who mourn, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

Let us commend ourselves, and all for whom we pray, to the mercy and protection of God; let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

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

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

Hymn at The Offertory #432

From the Hymnal 1982

Remain standing

The Eucharistic Prayer

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.**

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. Creator of the light and source of life, who hast made us in thine image, and called us to new life in 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,

The Sanctus and Benedictus

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.

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 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
People*

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
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.

The Agnus Dei

Healey Willan (1880-1968)



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 chancel step.

At The Communion

Harp: Cathedral Meditation

Lemare

After Communion, all kneel. All say together

The Prayer after Communion

Let us pray. 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
People*

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

The Closing Hymn #655

From the Hymnal 1982

Music Be Still My Soul

J Sibelius

Notices

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

8am Lynne Priestley

10am Judy Aronstamm and Darren Miller

Bible Study at 9.20am, we continue our study of the Old Testament. All welcome. This will be our final class until September.

Today's Musicians A warm welcome and thanks to **Elizabeth Huntley**, this week's artist in our parish summer music series; and to **Nathan Cicero**, our substitute organist for the next two weeks while Derek is enjoying some time away. Nathan is a 2023 Festival Artist with Opera Saratoga.

Parishioners are invited to attend the **Vestry meeting** following today's 10am service. The meeting, which will be approximately 30 minutes, will include an update on parish building work and finances and diocesan news.

Thank you to the wonderful parishioners who have been mowing the lawn around the church. It looks much better!

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

Special Monthly Envelope Donations from the Monthly Envelope in **June** will be in support of *Wellspring*. Founded over 40 years ago, Wellspring has grown to become a vital resource for survivors of domestic abuse and sexual assault in Saratoga and Washington counties, operating an emergency shelter, a 24-hour hotline & live-chat, counselling, housing assistance, case management, and a number of educational and prevention programs. Services are free, non-judgmental, and confidential. Thank you for your support and generosity.

Copies of **Forward Day by Day** are available for purchase from the Parish Office. The cost is \$2.00.

Summer 2023 Music Series Bethesda Church hosts special musical guests during the 10am services this summer:

July 2	Harry G. Pellegrin, classical guitarist
July 9	Bob Moore, saxophonist
July 16	Ann Marie Adamick, mezzo soprano
July 23	Edda Roemelt, soprano
August 6	Elizabeth Sterling, soprano
August 13	Valerie Lord, mezzo soprano
August 20	Michael and Stephani Emery, violinist and violist
August 27	Karen Becker, pianist

Upcoming

Election of the Tenth Bishop of Albany The Profile and Search Committee has reported to the Secretary of Convention with the list of candidates to be placed in nomination for the Tenth Bishop of Albany. The election will take place on Saturday 9th September at All Saints' Cathedral, Albany. The list of nominees includes:

Geoffrey Ward, St Christopher's Church, River Hills, Wisconsin (Diocese of Milwaukee);
Jeremiah Williamson, Grace and St Stephen's, Colorado Springs (Diocese of Colorado);
Neal Longe, St Ann's Church, Amsterdam, New York (Diocese of Albany);
Scott Garno, St Stephen's Episcopal Church, Delmar, New York (Diocese of Albany)

Parish Events Please register with the office for the following autumn events. Further details to follow:

Parish **BBQ** is planned for Sunday 17 September.

Trip to **New Skete** to visit to the Religious Communities at New Skete in Cambridge, NY on Wednesday 27 September.

Retreat at Holy Cross Monastery, West Park, NY from **13th—15th October**

AGENDA: Meeting of the Vestry

Sunday, 25 June 2023 at 11.10 a.m.
At Bethesda Episcopal Church, 26 Washington

Opening Prayer

Fr Wallace

Attendance *Regrets: Marcia MacDonald; Timothy Holmes*

Minutes of the May 2023 meeting

Wardens' Report

Sara Manny, Mark Claverie

Financial Report

Karen Finkbeiner

Report from June Diocesan Convention

Lynne Priestley, Charles Maze

Closing Prayer

**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.**

Building Update

The new air-conditioning system has been installed, however there are still some minor kinks to be ironed out with the church's cooling system. After those are resolved we can look forward to comfortable and cooler summers at Bethesda. There are still a few projects to be completed this year: some minor repairs and painting of the roof dormers, installation of exterior protective glass over the clerestory windows as well as the return of the refurbished eagle lectern and lantern. We experienced some damage to a few of the gutters and downspouts this winter due to sliding ice and snow which resulted in some water damage near the east transept wall. This area will be repaired, and snow guards will be installed on the roof before next winter.

Financial Overview, Year-to-Date May, 2023

Year to date May, our Operational* Financial performance is better than budget.

In Expense, our spending is less than budget by \$18,396, driven by insurance and benefits payments that were assumed paid by May in the budget, but will actually be paid in June, and by lower Maintenance costs than planned YTD. Both the timing and maintenance cost underruns will be lower as the year progresses, and we expect our Expenses to end the year near budget.

Our Pledge and Plate giving appears better than budget, but this is driven by late 2022 donations of equities that showed first in our brokerage account and moved to Operational income in 2023. Without the 2022 giving, our Pledge and Plate income is on budget but does not cover expenses and we would have a deficit.

<u>Operational Performance, Year to Date May 2023</u>			
	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Better/(Worse) than Budget</u>
Expense			
Rector Expenses: <i>Wages, benefits, rectory maintenance</i>	54,738	50,988	3,750 Benefit timing, maintenance
Church Building and Programs <i>Utilities, Maintenance and Insurance</i>	23,836	13,560	10,276 Maintenance, Insurance timing
Fees, Office, Staff <i>Professional and credit card, fees, office expense</i>	35,000	30,630	4,369
Diocese Assessment	19,715	19,714	1
Total Operational Expense	<u>\$ 133,288</u>	<u>\$ 114,892</u>	<u>\$ 18,396</u>
Income			
Pledge and Plate:	82,163	107,215	25,051 <i>Late 2022 gifts</i>
<i>Operation Expense over Pledge/plate by:</i>	<i>(51,125)</i>	<i>(7,678)</i>	
Total unrestricted with Dividend	<u>\$ 89,904</u>	<u>\$ 116,505</u>	<u>\$ 26,601</u>
Operational Income/(deficit)	<u>\$ (43,384)</u>	<u>\$ 1,613</u>	<u>\$ 44,997</u>

*The Operational view excludes items funded through designated funds and giving, such as Choir.



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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