

Bethesda Episcopal Church

The Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

16 July 2023

Prelude

An die Musik

Franz Schubert (1797-1828)

Ann Marie Adamick, mezzo-soprano

*Du holde Kunst, in wieviel grauen Stunden,
Wo mich des Lebens wilder Kreis umstrickt,
Hast du mein Herz zu warmer Lieb entzunden,
Hast mich in eine bessre Welt entrückt!*

*Oft hat ein Seufzer, deiner Harf entflossen,
Ein süsser, heiliger Akkord von dir
Den Himmel bessrer Zeiten mir erschlossen,
Du holde Kunst, ich danke dir dafür!*

*Beloved art, in how many a bleak hour,
when I am enmeshed in life's tumultuous round,
have you kindled my heart to the warmth of love,
and borne me away to a better world!*

*Often a sigh, escaping from your harp,
a sweet, celestial chord
has revealed to me a heaven of happier times.
Beloved art, for this I thank you!*

Text: Franz von Schober; translation: Richard Wigmore

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 #512

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, mercifully receive the prayers of thy people who call upon thee, and grant that they may both perceive and know what things they ought to do, and also may have grace and power faithfully to fulfill the same; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

All sit.

The Lesson

Romans 8:1-11

There is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and to deal with sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. 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 Alleluia

The Cantor sings:



All repeat: Alleluia.

Remain standing.

The Holy Gospel

Matthew 13:1-9,18-23

*Celebrant
People*

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

Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. And he told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Let anyone with ears listen!"

“Hear then the parable of the sower. When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.”

*Celebrant
People*

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

The Address

Mr Nick Caras

Following the Address, 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 our prayers for the Anglican Communion, we remember the Anglican Church of Canada; and in the Albany Diocese, we pray for the guidance of the Holy Spirit as we prepare to elect a new bishop.

We ask God's blessing on those celebrating birthdays and anniversaries this week; and those whose year's mind falls at this time. In peace we pray to you, Lord God.

For all people in their daily life and work;
For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for all those who are alone.

For this community, our country, and the world;
For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

For the just and proper use of your creation;
For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;
For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and needy.

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;
For all who proclaim the gospel, and all who seek the truth.

For all bishops, clergy and other ministers;
For all who serve God in his Church.

For our own needs and those of others.

Silence is kept for people to add their own petitions.

Hear us, Lord.
For your mercy is great.

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

Silence is kept for people to add their own thanksgivings.

We will exalt you, O God our king;
And praise your name for ever and ever.

We pray for those who have died in the peace of Christ, and for those whose faith is known to you alone, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

Silence is kept to remember the departed.

Lord, let your loving kindness be upon them;
Who put their trust in you.

We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

Celebrant: 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 #48

From the Hymnal 1982

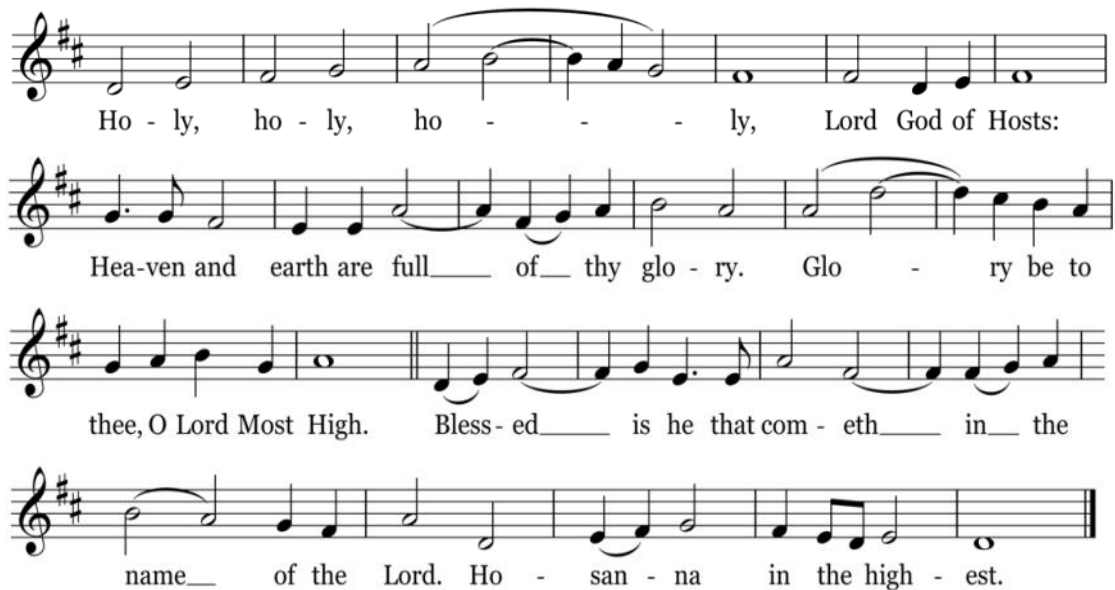
Remain standing

The Eucharistic Prayer

<i>Celebrant</i>	The Lord be with you.
<i>People</i>	And with thy spirit.
<i>Celebrant</i>	Lift up your hearts.
<i>People</i>	We lift them up unto the Lord.
<i>Celebrant</i>	Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.
<i>People</i>	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,



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.**

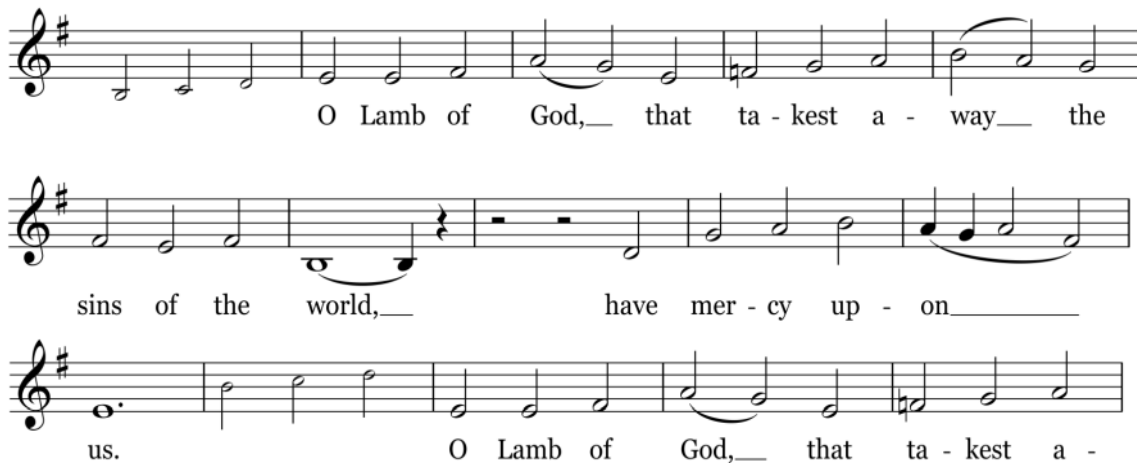
The Fraction

Celebrant 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.

The Agnus Dei



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

way the sins of the world, have 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 O Rest in the Lord, from *Elijah* Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)

O rest in the Lord, wait patiently for Him,
 And He shall give thee thy heart's desires.
 Commit thy way unto Him, and trust in Him,
 And fret not thyself because of evil-doers.

Text: Based on Psalm 37.7

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

The Closing Hymn #628

From the Hymnal 1982

Voluntary

Toccatina in C Major

Johann Pachelbel (1653-1706)

Today at Bethesda

The **flowers on the High Altar** are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Kathleen Dodge Withington by Mary Withington.

Readers Thank you to those reading and leading prayers at services today:
8am Mary Withington 10am Daniel Beach

We welcome **Nick Caras** to Bethesda this morning. Nick serves as Programs Director of the Race Track Chaplaincy of America NY-Division, a position he has held since April 2006. Prior to joining RTCA-NY, he served as the Welfare-Recreation Director of NY Racing Association.

Thank you to Ann Marie Adamick, mezzo soprano, this week's guest artist in our summer Music series.

Refreshments will be served followed the 10am service. Please join us! Thank you to Judy and Grady Aronstamm

Parish Notices

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

Thank you to all who contributed to the Scholarship Fund of Beaver Cross Camp through the special monthly envelope in May. Beaver Cross, our diocesan camp in Greenwich, NY, seeks to make its summer programs available to every eligible child who wishes to participate in its activities, regardless of a family's financial circumstances. This year, Bethesda parishioners and friends contributed just over \$1000 to the fund.

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

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

Episcopal Election News

1. A week of ‘walkabouts’ for the four candidates for bishop has been arranged from 14th to 17th August. If you wish to attend one of these townhall-style meetings, you must *register in advance* via the diocesan website. The closest venues are St Paul’s Church, Albany on Monday 14th and Church of the Messiah, Glens Falls on Thursday 17th. Both meetings start promptly at 6pm. For further information, please consult www.albanyepiscopal-diocese.org/abctour/
2. Biographical sketches of those standing for election as 10th Bishop of Albany are also posted at the website above.
3. Each parish of the diocese will send delegates to a special electoral convention to be held on Saturday 9 September at All Saints’ Cathedral, Albany. Lynne Priestley, Charles Maze and Fr Wallace will represent Bethesda at the convention.

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.

Summer Office Hours This week, the office will be open from 10-11am on Tuesday and Thursday. We advise that you call ahead if you wish to visit in person, or email office@bethesdachurch.org with your query.

Parking The lot adjacent to the church offers free parking for the first two hours. You will require a credit card to enter and exit the lot which is accessible via Congress Street.

Community Outreach

Donations of linens and blankets The RISE shelter on Adelphi Street in Saratoga Springs is accepting donations of towels, sheets and blankets. There is a box in the narthex in which to place your donations.

Volunteers Needed *Mary's Haven* is seeking new volunteers for our community home for the dying. Please consider becoming a volunteer and attending our upcoming volunteer training on Wednesday, July 19th and Thursday, July 20th from 9:30 am-3:30 pm at Mary's Haven; 35 New Street, Saratoga Springs. For further information, please call Agatha: 518-584-9397.

LifeWorks Community Action is a non-profit established in 1965 that works to alleviate poverty by assisting local families and individuals 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.

Autumn Events

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.

Sunday Bible Study resumes on 24 September at 9.20am.

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

Bethesda Book Club meets Thursday 7 Decemher (time: tbd) to discuss a novel by Joseph O'Connor, *My Father's House*. Set in based on the true story of a priest who helped thousands of Jews and Allied prisoners escape from Italy during World War II.

Ann Marie Adamick

Mezzo-soprano **Ann Marie Adamick** is a lifelong singer and performer who has worked with a variety of classical choral groups for over thirty years. She is a frequent soloist with Saratoga Voices and the Schenectady Octavo Singers, appearing in performances of Handel's *The Messiah*, Mendelssohn's *Elijah*, Mozart's *Requiem*, Mozart's *Vesperae Solennes de Confessore*, Bach's *Magnificat*, Vivaldi's *Gloria* and Rutter's *Magnificat*. Ann Marie was the alto soloist in the 2011 world premiere of Thomas F. Savoy's chancel opera, *The Agon of St. Joseph*, and made her Carnegie Hall debut in 2012 performing the Slavonic liturgical works of Vladimir Pleshakov. She is a member of the Clare Ensemble Singers and has also appeared as a soloist with Auriel Camerata, Albany Pro Musica, Northern Berkshire Chorale, and the Hudson-Mohawk Chorale. Equally at home with musical theater, Ann Marie has performed many leading roles with Syracuse-based Theater '90 and Talent Company production companies. Ann Marie has studied with Anne Turner, Carolyn Amory, and Carla Fisk. She is a University at Albany graduate and teaches English as a Second Language for WSWHE BOCES.



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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