

Bethesda Episcopal Church

The Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

13 August 2023

Prelude

A Simple Song

from Mass - Leonard Bernstein (1918-1990)

Sing God a simple song, lauda laude
Make it up as you go along, lauda laude
Sing like you like to sing, God loves all simple things.
For God is the simplest of all, For God is the simplest of all.
I will sing the Lord a new song, to praise him, to bless him, to bless the Lord.
I will sing his praises while I live, all of my days.
Blessed is the man who loves the Lord,
Blessed is the man who praises him.
Lauda, lauda, laude, and walks in his ways.
I will lift up my eyes, to the hills from which comes my help.
I will lift up my voice to the Lord, singing *lauda, laude*.
For the Lord is my shade, is the shade upon my right hand.
And the sun shall not smite me by day, or the moon by night.
Blessed is the man who loves the Lord *lauda, lauda, laude*,
And walks in his ways.
Lauda, lauda, laude, lauda, lauda di da di day
All of my days.

Lyrics: Stephen Schwartz, Leonard Bernstein

Valerie Lord, mezzo soprano

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 #321

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.

Grant to us, Lord, we beseech thee, the spirit to think and do always such things as are right, that we, who cannot exist without thee, may by thee be enabled to live according to thy will; 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

1 Kings 19:9-18

At Horeb, the mount of God, Elijah came to a cave, and spent the night there. Then the word of the LORD came to him, saying, "What are you doing here, Elijah?" He answered, "I have been very zealous for the LORD, the God of hosts; for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away." He said, "Go out and stand on the mountain before the LORD, for the LORD is about to pass by." Now there was a great wind, so strong that it was splitting mountains and breaking rocks in pieces before the LORD, but the LORD was not in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake; and after the earthquake a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire; and after the fire a sound of sheer silence. When Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave. Then there came a voice to him that said, "What are you doing here, Elijah?" He answered, "I have been very zealous for the LORD, the God of hosts; for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away." Then the LORD said to him, "Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus; when you arrive, you shall anoint Hazael as king over Aram. Also you shall anoint Jehu son of Nimshi as king over Israel; and you shall anoint Elisha son of Shaphat of Abel-meholah as prophet in your place. Whoever escapes from the sword of Hazael, Jehu shall kill; and whoever escapes from the sword of Jehu, Elisha shall kill. Yet I will leave seven thousand in Israel, all the knees that have not bowed to Baal, and every mouth that has not kissed him."

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 14:22-33

Celebrant
People

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

Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them. And early in

the morning he came walking toward them on the sea. But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out in fear. But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid."

Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus. But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, "Lord, save me!" Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, "You of little faith, why did you doubt?" When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

*Celebrant
People*

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

The Sermon

Fr Thomas John Pettigrew

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 in Chile; and in the Albany Diocese, we pray for all those participating in our upcoming episcopal election: the four candidates and their families; and the clergy and lay delegates to Convention.

We pray that God will bring comfort and healing to all suffering in body, mind or spirit, especially at this time for Penny, David, Paul and Jerilyn.

We ask God's blessing on those celebrating birthdays and anniversaries this week; and those whose year's mind falls at this time.

Let us pray with confidence to the Lord, saying, "hear our prayer."

O Lord, guard and direct your Church in the way of unity, service, and praise. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Give to all nations an awareness of the unity of the human family. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Cleanse our hearts of prejudice and selfishness, and inspire us to hunger and thirst for what is right. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Teach us to use your creation for your greater praise, that all may share the good things you provide. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Strengthen all who give their energy or skill for the healing of those who are sick in body or in mind. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Set free all who are bound by fear and despair. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Grant a peaceful end and eternal rest to all who are dying, and your comfort to those who mourn. Lord, in your mercy, **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 #339

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, through Jesus Christ our Lord; who on the first day of the week overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of 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, 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

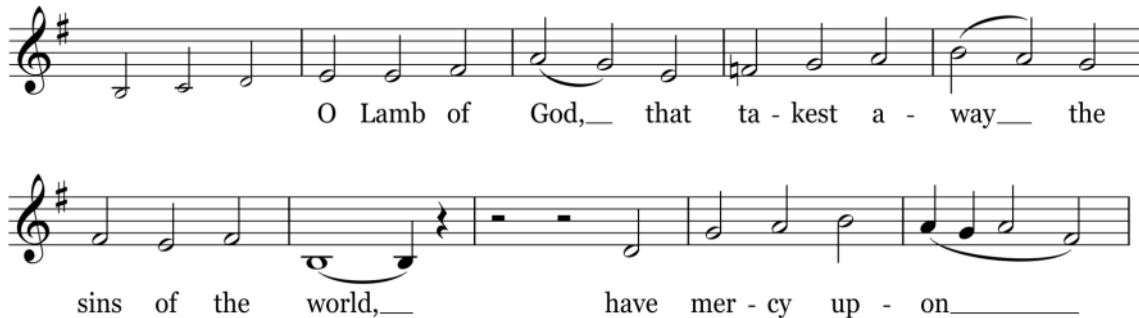
Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
People **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

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

Healey Willian (1880-1968)



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 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 Meditation on 'Pax' *The Public School Hymn Book, 1929*

Now the laborer's task is o'er; Now the battle day is past;
 Now upon the farther shore Lands the voyager at last.

Father, in Thy gracious keeping Leave we now Thy servant sleeping.

There the tears of earth are dried; There its hidden things are clear;
 There the work of life is tried By a juster Judge than here. *Refrain*

There the Shepherd, bringing home Many a lamb forlorn and strayed,
 Shelters each, no more to roam, Where the wolf can ne'er invade. *Refrain*

There the sinful souls, that turn To the cross their dying eyes,
 All the love of Christ shall learn At His feet in Paradise. *Refrain*

There no more the powers of hell Can prevail to mar their peace;
 Christ the Lord shall guard them well, He who died for their release. *Refrain*

Text: John Ellerton

After Communion, all kneel.

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 #522

From the Hymnal 1982

The Voluntary Sinfonia

from Solomon (HWV 67) - George Frederic Handel (1685-1759)

Today at Bethesda

The **flowers on the High Altar** are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Iola Behrendt by John and Theresa Behrendt.

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

8am Robert Bullock
10am Genna Henderson

Refreshments will be served followed the 10am service. Thank you to Carolyn Justice and Paula Pinion for hosting today. Please join us!

Today's Preacher We will welcome (back) the Reverend Thomas John (TJ) Pettigrew as our guest preacher. No stranger to Bethesda, TJ spent his formative years here as a parishioner and assisted in a variety of capacities during Fr Parke's tenure. In September, Fr Pettigrew takes up the post of Rector of St George's Church, Schenectady, having served the past ten years at Holy Cross, Warrensburg. Please join us for coffee after the 10am service to wish TJ well as he prepares to move a new cure!

Today's Soloist Valerie Lord is a graduate of SUNY Potsdam/Crane School of Music (Piano/Music Ed.), and was choral director at Ballston Spa High School for over 30 years. Along with singing alto in the Bethesda Schola Cantorum, she has also music directed at many area theaters, traveled all seven continents and is an avid gardener.

Mid-year giving statements are available at the back of the church. Please take it home with you today!

Community News and Outreach

Special Monthly Envelope Donations to our special monthly appeal in **August** will support Shelters of Saratoga, a county-based agency that provides food, shelter, and other services to people facing homelessness. The agency operates a year-round shelter as well as the Code Blue emergency shelter during the winter. It also manages a number of affordable apartment units in downtown Saratoga Springs.

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.

Parish Notices

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

August 20	Michael and Stephani Emery, violinist and violist
August 27	Karen Becker, pianist

Anticipating the fall choir season - Have you ever considered singing in the choir? Do you know someone who might enjoy the experience? We are always looking for more voices, especially in the tenor and bass sections. You don't need a professional-quality voice, just some musical experience and an interest. Please speak to Kathleen or call the office for more information.

Memorial Service at Bethesda for Bruce and Anne Solenski on Saturday, 16 September at 10.30am.

Summer Office Hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10-11am.

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.

Autumn Events at Bethesda

Bible Study resumes on **10 September** at 9.20am. No registration required.

Please register with the office for the following autumn events. For further information, contact the office, or speak to Fr Wallace.

New Skete An afternoon to visit to the Religious Communities at New Skete in Cambridge, NY has been arranged for Wednesday 27 September. Our tour begins at 1.15pm and includes a talk, tour of the chapel and grounds, and a visit to the kennel where the community breeds and trains German Shepherds. For those interested, there is an option of meeting beforehand at Christ the King Center in Greenwich (just before noon) for lunch; the cost is \$15.

CHANGE OF DATE: A **Parish BBQ** is planned for **Sunday 1 October** and will be held at the MacVane farm in Ballston Spa. We will begin with an outdoor Eucharist at 11am for those who wish to attend. Lunch will be served from 12 noon. A variety of meats and salads will be provided, courtesy of our generous friends at *Fred the Butcher*. Cold drinks and desserts will also be available. When you register with the office, please let us know if you are able to provide transportation for others or to bring a dessert. The office will provide directions to the venue via email prior to the event to everyone who has registered. Please be advised that there will only be one service at the church (8am) on the day of the BBQ. If you already registered for the original BBQ date, you need only contact the office if you are unable to attend.

Weekend Retreat at Holy Cross Monastery, West Park, NY from 13th—15th October. Our retreat this year will include daily reflections led by one of the Holy Cross brothers, worship and meals with the monastic community, and plenty of time to enjoy this beautiful setting on the Hudson River.

Bethesda Book Club meets Thursday 7 December at 5pm to discuss a novel by Irish author, Joseph O'Connor, *My Father's House*, based on the true story of a priest who helped thousands of Jews and Allied prisoners escape from Italy during World War II. The book may be ordered online or from your local independent bookshop. All welcome.

Diocesan News and Events

Bishop Election Candidates' Tour takes place from 13-17 August. For more details, see <https://albanyepiscopaldiocese.org/abtour/> If you cannot attend a 'meet and greet' in person, please note that the following sessions will be **live-streamed** and can be accessed on YouTube via the link above.

August 14th 7pm - St. Paul's Albany

August 15th 7pm - Christ Church, Cooperstown

August 16th 7pm - Trinity Church, Plattsburgh

August 17th 7pm - Church of the Messiah, Glens Falls

Education for Ministry In September, St. George's Church, Clifton Park will begin its 31st consecutive year of the distance learning program, *Education for Ministry*, a four year program in theological education. The course helps the faithful encounter the breadth and depth of the Christian tradition and bring it into conversation with their experiences of the world as they study, worship, and engage in theological reflection together. The class meets weekly during the academic year (September through May) in small group seminars. For more info, contact Maureen Demler at deacon.maureen.demler@gmail.com

Bible Symposium All Saints' Cathedral, Albany, will host a special Bible Symposium this year on Saturday, 4 November, with British poet, priest, and scholar, Malcolm Guite. His talks will be based on his most recent book, *David's Crown: Sounding the Psalms*, a collection of poems written in response to the Coverdale translation of the Psalms in the 1662 *Book of Common Prayer*. The cost is \$35 and includes lunch. To purchase tickets online, go to www.cathedralofallsaints.org/events/bible-symposium-2023-malcolm-guite



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
- Would like information about pledge envelopes or regular giving to Bethesda
- Other _____

Fr Charles Wallace, Priest in Charge

Email: office@bethesdachurch.org

Website: bethesdachurch.org

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/bethesdaepiscopalchurch>

Bethesda Episcopal Church Office

178 Elm Street, Suite 5

Saratoga Springs NY 12866

(518) 584-5980