

# Bethesda Episcopal Church

**The Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost**

**22 October 2023**

**Organ** Toccata in E Minor

Johann Pachelbel (1653-1706)

*All stand as the choir and minsters enter.*

**The Opening Hymn #435 (vv.1-4 only)**

*From the Hymnal 1982*

*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 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.
<b><i>People</i></b>	<b>And with thy spirit.</b>
<i>Celebrant</i>	Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, who in Christ hast revealed thy glory among the nations:  
Preserve the works of thy mercy, that thy Church throughout the world may persevere

with steadfast faith in the confession of thy Name; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

*All sit.*

***The First Reading***

*Isaiah 45.1-7*

Thus says the LORD to his anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I have grasped to subdue nations before him and strip kings of their robes; to open doors before him-- and the gates shall not be closed: I will go before you and level the mountains. I will break in pieces the doors of bronze and cut through the bars of iron. I will give you the treasures of darkness and riches hidden in secret places, so that you may know that it is I, the LORD, the God of Israel, who call you by your name.

For the sake of my servant Jacob, and Israel my chosen, I call you by your name, I surname you, though you do not know me.

I am the LORD, and there is no other; besides me there is no god.

I arm you, though you do not know me, so that they may know, from the rising of the sun and from the west, that there is no one besides me; I am the LORD, and there is no other. I form light and create darkness. I make weal and create woe. I the LORD do all these things.

*The Lector concludes  
The People respond*

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

*Remain seated.*

***The Gradual: Psalm 99***

*Thomas Tallis (1505-1585)*

Jehovah reigns supreme, Let all the people quake;  
He sits between the cherubim, Let earth's foundations shake.  
In Zion God is great; O'er nations high his throne;  
His fearful, great and holy name, In praises let them own.

Moses and Aaron, priests, 'Midst those that on Him call,  
And Samuel too, these called on God, And He them answered all.  
In pillar of a cloud, To them Jehovah spake,  
His testimonies gave to them, and laws they did not break.

O Lord, our gracious God, Thou didst an answer send;  
Tho' taking vengeance on their deeds, Thou pardon didst extend.  
All ye exalt the Lord; Our God in praises laud,  
And worship at his holy hill, For holy is our God.

***The Second Reading***

*Thessalonians 1:1-10*

Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace. We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, because our message of

the gospel came to you not in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake. And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy inspired by the Holy Spirit, so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but in every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it. For the people of those regions report about us what kind of welcome we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols, to serve a living and true God, and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead-- Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath that is coming.

*The Lector concludes*  
*The People respond*

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

*All stand.*

### ***The Alleluia***



*Cantor:* Praise the Lord, O my soul: while I live will I praise the Lord:  
yea, as long as I have any being, I will sing praises unto my God.

*(Ps 146:1-2)*

*All repeat: Alleluia.*

*Remain standing.*

### ***The Holy Gospel***

*Matthew 22:15-22*

*Celebrant*  
*People*

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

The Pharisees went and plotted to entrap Jesus in what he said. So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality. Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?" But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, "Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? Show me the coin used for the tax." And they brought him a denarius. Then he said to them, "Whose head is this, and whose title?" They answered, "The emperor's." Then he said to them, "Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor's, and to God the things that are God's." When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.

*Celebrant*  
*People*

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

### ***The Sermon***

*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 Korea; and in the Albany Diocese, those who suffer with AIDS and those who minister to them.

At this time, we entrust our very troubled world into the hands of our Lord Jesus, the Prince of Peace, asking him to have mercy on us all, and to give us his peace and blessing.

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name maybe united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.

*Silence.* Lord, in your mercy **Hear our prayer.**

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good.

*Silence.* Lord, in your mercy **Hear our prayer.**

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

*Silence.* Lord, in your mercy **Hear our prayer.**

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us.

*Silence.* Lord, in your mercy **Hear our prayer.**

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation, remembering especially at this time, Patricia, Deborah and Jerilyn.

*Silence.* Lord, in your mercy **Hear our prayer.**

We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; at this time I ask your prayers for the repose of the souls of Sharon Boyd and Peter Davis; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

*Silence.* Lord, in your mercy **Hear our prayer.**

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

*A period of silence is kept. The Celebrant says a concluding prayer.*

O heavenly Father, in whom we live and move and have our being: We humbly pray thee so to guide and govern us by thy Holy Spirit, that in all the cares and occupations of our life we may not forget thee, but may remember that we are ever walking in thy sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*Following 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**

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

**Hymn at The Offertory #704**

*From the Hymnal 1982*

*Remain standing*

**The Eucharistic Prayer**

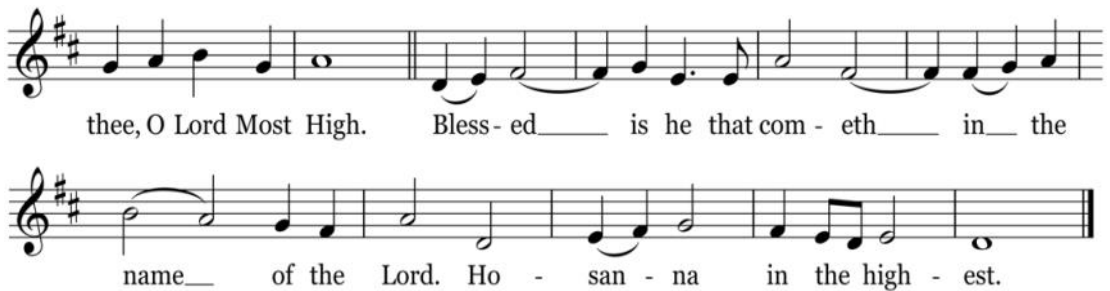
*Celebrant*      The Lord be with you.  
*People*          **And with thy spirit.**  
*Celebrant*      Lift up your hearts.  
*People*          **We lift them up unto the Lord.**  
*Celebrant*      Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.  
*People*          **It is meet and right so to do.**

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



*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*** from Missa Quinti Toni *Orlando diLasso (1532-1594)*

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis.  
Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, donna nobis pacem.

O Lamb of God, that takest away 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 Motet:*** O Come Ye Servants of the Lord  
*Christopher Tye (1505-1573)*

O come ye servants of the Lord, and praise his holy name;  
From early morn to setting sun his might on earth proclaim.  
His laws are just and glad the heart; He makes his mercies known.  
Ye princes come, ye people too, and bow before the throne.

*After Communion, all kneel. All say*

### ***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 #665***

*From the Hymnal 1982*

**Organ**

Fugue in C Major (Jig Fugue)

*Dietrich Buxtehude (1637-1707)*

## **Today at Bethesda**

The **flowers on the High Altar** are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Diana Mobley and Doris Kautzman by Mary Withington.

**Bible Study** resumes today at 9.20. All welcome.

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

**8am** Lisa Edele **10am** Katie Hooper and Tom Remington

**Refreshments** will be served followed the 10am service. Thank you to Libby and Tim Holmes for hosting today. Please join us!

**Special Monthly Envelope** - Donations in **October** will be directed to the feeding ministry team at the Presbyterian – New England Congregational Church which work together to provide meals to those in need; and Christ Church Food Pantry, a ministry operated by the Episcopal parish in Ballston Spa.

## **Notices**

The **Funeral Service** for Sharon Boyd will be held at Bethesda on Saturday, 28 October at 10.30am. Visitation at Burke Funeral Home is from 4–6pm on Friday 27th.

## **Remembrance Sunday & Commemoration of the Faithful Departed**

On Sunday 12 November, the names of loved ones who have died in the past year will be read out at the 8am and 10am services. If you wish to add a name, a list is available on the table at the back of the church, or you may notify the office: 518.584.5980.

**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 but please register so we can arrange a suitable venue for our discussion.**

**Office Hours:** Tuesday & Wednesday 10 to noon; and Thursday noon to 3pm.

**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.

## Outreach

**Anglican charities in the Middle East.** As Christians, how can we respond to the situation in the Middle East, especially to those who are suffering through no fault of their own? Here are a couple of options for humanitarian relief through Anglican organizations:

*The Diocese of Jerusalem & the Middle East* ([www.j-diocese.org/wordpress/healthcare-3](http://www.j-diocese.org/wordpress/healthcare-3)) operates many humanitarian organizations including hospitals in Gaza and the West Bank.

*The Order of St John* ([www.stjohnehospital.org](http://www.stjohnehospital.org)) operates the only charitable eye care in Gaza, West Bank, and East Jerusalem.

Further information about the history, mission and ongoing work of these charities can be found on their websites.

**LifeWorks needs 200 volunteers** willing to drive Thanksgiving baskets to recipients the morning of Saturday, November 18th. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact LifeWorks at 518-288-3206.

## UPDATED Financial Overview\*, Year-to-Date SEPTEMBER 2023

Through September, our financial position remains better than budget, although our deficit has grown to \$11,043. It is expected that the deficit will approach \$20,000 year-to-date October, and again this year we will be dependent on special late-year gifts to close our deficit and provide cash for the early months of 2024.

Year to Date September, our spending is less than budget by \$20,194, driven primarily by lower Maintenance costs than planned, and lower fees. In year-to-date Income, our regular Pledge and Plate giving is slightly over budget, but is less than our expenses by over \$25,000.

### YTD September:

Total Unrestricted income	\$ 191,720
<i>of which Pledge and Plate is</i>	<i>177,435</i>
Total Expenses	<u>\$ 202,763</u>
<b>Income/(Deficit)</b>	<b><u>\$ (11,043)</u></b>

\* *The Operational view excludes items supported by designated funds (eg. Choir and Education programs) and special giving.*



***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*

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Website: [bethesdachurch.org](http://bethesdachurch.org)

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

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