Bethesda Episcopal Church

Remembrance Sunday: Commemoration of All Souls

12 November 2023

Organ

Adagio, from Sonata No. 6, Op. 86

Alexandre Guilmant (1837-1911)

The service begins in silence. In procession the celebrant says these Burial Sentences.

I am the resurrection and the life, saith the Lord: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: and whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die.

Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you.

I know that my Redeemer liveth, and that he shall stand at the latter day upon the earth.

Whether we live, we live unto the Lord; or whether we die, we die unto the Lord: whether we live therefore or die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died, and lived again, that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a living hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you.

Celebrant People The Lord be with you. **And with thy spirit.**

Let us pray. Father of all, we pray to thee for those we love, but see no longer: Grant them thy peace; let light perpetual shine upon them; and in thy loving wisdom and almighty power, work in them the good purpose of thy perfect will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

All sit.

The Lesson (read at 8am and 10am)

2 Corinthians 4:16-5:9

So we do not lose heart. Even though our outer nature is wasting away, our inner nature is being renewed day by day. For this slight momentary affliction is preparing us for an eternal weight of glory beyond all measure, because we look not at what can be seen but at what cannot be seen; for what can be seen is temporary, but what cannot be seen is eternal. For we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. For in this tent we groan, longing to be clothed with our heavenly dwelling - if indeed, when we have taken it off we will not be found naked. For while we are still in this tent, we groan under our burden, because we wish not to be unclothed but to be further clothed, so that what is mortal may be swallowed up by life. He who has prepared us for this very thing is God, who has given us the Spirit as a guarantee. So we are always confident; even though we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord-- for we walk by faith, not by sight. Yes, we do have confidence, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him.

The Lector concludes

The People respond

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

All stand.

The Hymn #526

from the Hymnal 1982

All remain standing.

The Holy Gospel

John 20:11-18

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

But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. They said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him." When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?" Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away." Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned and said to him in Hebrew, "Rabbouni!" (which means Teacher). Jesus said to her, "Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, `I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God." Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord"; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise be to thee, O Christ.

The Sermon

The Reverend Canon Victor Austin

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 peace, let us pray to the Lord, saying, Lord in thy mercy, hear our prayer.

Almighty God, who hast knit together thine elect in one communion and fellowship, in the mystical body of thy Son Christ our Lord: Grant, we beseech thee, to thy whole Church in paradise and on earth, thy light and thy peace. Lord in thy mercy, **hear our prayer**.

Grant that all who have been baptized into Christ's death and resurrection may die to sin and rise to newness of life, and that through the grave and gate of death we may pass with him to our joyful resurrection. Lord in thy mercy, **hear our prayer**.

Grant to us who are still in our pilgrimage, and who walk as yet by faith, that thy Holy Spirit may lead us in holiness and righteousness all our days. Lord in thy mercy, **hear our prayer**.

Grant to thy faithful people pardon and peace, that we may be cleansed from all our sins, and serve thee with a quiet mind. Lord in thy mercy, **hear our prayer**.

Grant to all who mourn a sure confidence in thy fatherly care, that, casting all their grief on thee, they may know the consolation of thy love. Lord in thy mercy, **hear our prayer**.

Give courage and faith to those who are bereaved, that they may have strength to meet the days ahead in the comfort of a reasonable and holy hope, in the joyful expectation of eternal life with those they love. Lord in thy mercy, **hear our prayer**.

Help us, we pray, in the midst of things we cannot understand, to believe and trust in the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, and the resurrection to life everlasting. Lord in thy mercy, **hear our prayer**.

Grant us grace to entrust all the faithful departed to thy never failing love; receive them into the arms of thy mercy, and remember them according to the favor which thou bearest unto thy people. Lord in thy mercy, **hear our prayer**.

Grant that, increasing in knowledge and love of thee, they may go from strength to strength in the life of perfect service in thy heavenly kingdom. Lord in thy mercy, **hear our prayer**.

The Celebrant says a concluding prayer.

Almighty and eternal God, from whose love in Christ we cannot be parted, either by death or life: Hear our prayers and thanksgivings for all whom we remember this day; fulfil in them the purpose of thy love; and bring us, with them, to thy eternal joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Confession and Absolution

Ye that do truly and earnestly repent you of your sins, and are in love and charity with your neighbors, and intend to lead the new life, following the commandments of God, and walking from henceforth in his holy ways: Draw near with faith, and take this holy Sacrament to your comfort; and make your humble confession to Almighty God, devoutly kneeling.

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 pronounces the Absolution.

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 #623

From the Hymnal 1982

Remain standing

The Eucharistic Prayer

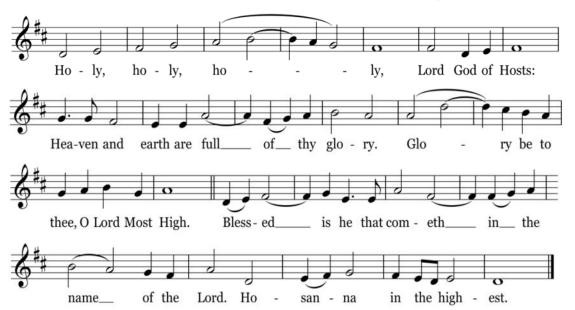
Celebrant People And with thy spirit.
Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People
Celebrant
People
We lift them up unto the Lord.
Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.
It is meet and right so to do.

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God. Through Jesus Christ our Lord; who rose victorious from the dead, and doth comfort us with the blessed hope of everlasting life; for to thy faithful people, O Lord, life is changed, not ended; and when our mortal body doth lie in death, there is prepared for us a dwelling place in the heavens. 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)



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.

Remember, Lord, also the souls of thy servants which are gone before us with the mark of faith, and rest in the sleep of peace... (*Tower bell tolls as names of the departed are read.*) We beseech thee, O Lord, that unto them, and unto all such as rest in Christ, thou wilt grant a place of refreshing, of light, and of peace. And vouchsafe to give unto us some portion and fellowship with thy holy Apostles and Martyrs and with all thy Saints; within whose fellowship we beseech thee to admit us.

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 Breaking of The Bread

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

Said by all, kneeling.

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 & Lux Aeterna from Requiem in C minor Robert Fuhrer (1807-1831)

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, dona eia requiem. Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, dona eis requiem sempiternam. Lux aeterna luceat eis cum sanctis Tuis in aeternam, quia pius es.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, grant them rest everlasting. May eternal light shine upon them, with thy saints in eternity, for thou art merciful.

Communion is distributed at the chancel step.

During The Communion

Choir: I Heard A Voice From Heaven John Goss (1800-1880)

I heard a voice from heaven, saying unto me: Write: From henceforth, blessed are the dead

Write: From henceforth, blessed are the dead which die in the Lord.

Even so, saith the Spirit; for they rest from their labors.

After Communion, all kneel.

The Post-Communion Prayer (Said by the Celebrant)

Let us pray. Almighty God, we thank thee that in thy great love thou hast fed us with the spiritual food and drink of the Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, and hast given unto us a foretaste of thy heavenly banquet. Grant that this Sacrament may be unto us a comfort in affliction, and a pledge of our inheritance in that kingdom where there is no death, neither sorrow nor crying, but the fullness of joy with all thy saints; through Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen**.

The Blessing and Dismissal

God grant to the living, grace; to the departed, rest; to the Church and the world, peace and concord; and to us sinners, everlasting life; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen**.

Celebrant Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

All stand.

Closing Hymn: #624 From The Hymnal 1982

Organ Adagio (from a Voluntary)

John Bennett (1735-1784)

Notices

Welcome and thanks to The Reverend Dr Victor Austin, our guest preacher today. Fr Austin is Canon Theologian of the Diocese of Dallas and an honorary assistant at St Matthew's Cathedral, Dallas. Last week, he led the annual diocesan priests' retreat at the Christ the King Center, Greenwich.

The **flowers on the High Altar** are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Gary Houde by Pam Houde.

Readers. Thank you to those reading and leading prayers at services today: **8am** Mary Withington **10am** Paula Pinion and Judy Aronstamm

Bible Study continues today at 9.20. All welcome.

Refreshments Join us for coffee following the 10am liturgy. We are in need of Coffee Hour hosts. If you are willing to provide refreshments following an upcoming 10am service, please write your name on the sign-up sheet in the Narthex.

Stewardship November is traditionally the time we ask you to consider making a pledge to support the ministry of Bethesda. Bethesda relies almost entirely on weekly offerings. Please think seriously about your contribution to our ongoing work and witness for the coming year. Our financial gifts are an important way of giving thanks to God for blessings we have received, and putting our faith into action through the stewardship of the resources God has given us. Please collect your envelope at the back of the Church and return it to the office in the collection plate or by mail.

Visit to St Paul's, Troy An afternoon guided tour to see the magnificent interior of St Paul's Episcopal Church, Troy, has been arranged for Bethesda parishioners on Wednesday 15 November from 1.30—2.45pm. St. Paul's is unusual because all aspects of the design are based on a concept by the Tiffany Company: chandeliers, glass mosaics, tile work, a glass jeweled altar rail, a baptistery of wood and plaster filigree, decorative stenciling of the ceiling, walls and organ pipes, pews and support members, stunning windows by Tiffany and Tiffany artisan, J.A. Holzer. As such it is a fully integrated interior design; only four such churches done by the Tiffany Company have survived intact, and St. Paul's is arguably the finest expression of this concept. If you wish to attend, please register with the office: 518.584.5980.

Victorian Stroll Open House The church will be open the evening of the Victorian Stroll, Thursday 30 November, from 6pm—9pm. If you are available to assist as a greeter or guide, please contact the office.

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.

Advent Recital A program of arias, art songs, and piano works performed by Carla Fisk, soprano, Derek Stannard, tenor, and Karen Becker, pianist, is planned for Sunday 17 December at 3pm at Bethesda.

Special Monthly Envelope – Our special monthly appeal in **November** supports the work of Saratoga County Children's Committee Empty Stocking Project. The Empty Stocking Project is the largest and most widely recognized program of the Saratoga County Children's Committee. There are hundreds of children living within Saratoga County who are in need of assistance yearly, but the holiday season can be the most trying time of for parents and caregivers. Their mission is to embody the holiday spirit by helping to provide these families with a joyous holiday. Each year, they are able to provide over 900 children living in Saratoga County with a wonderful holiday season. Thank you for your generosity to November's special monthly envelope.

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.

Community Outreach & Diocesan News

Concert The Choir of Cathedral of All Saints Albany and period instrument orchestra will present a performance of Handel's masterpiece, *Messiah* at 7 p.m. on Tuesday 5 December. For tickets consult www.cathedralofallsaints.org/special-events

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 canned goods for LifeWorks. Donated items may be left in the box by the side door entrance.



Christmas Flowers, Greens, Wreaths and Trees

This Christmas Season offers the opportunity to not only purchase flowers for the Altar, but to sponsor other decorations that are used to ready the Sanctuary for this special time of year. If you would like to contribute, please complete this form and return it to the church office. You can place your completed form in the offering plate or mail it to:

> Bethesda Church Office 178 Elm Street, Suite 5 Saratoga Springs, NY 12866

I would like to pumbaga.

I would like to pur	chase:
Poinsettia \$25	each. How many?
Given By:	
In Honor of:	
In Memory of:	
I would like to con Greens Wreathes Trees	\$
Given By:	
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In Memory of:	

Please return to the church office before 3 December.



No	me(s):
\overline{Ph}	one:
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	ntact 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
П	Other

Fr Charles Wallace, Priest-in-Charge

Email: of fice@bethes dachurch.org

Website: bethesdachurch.org Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/bethesdaepiscopalchurch

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