

Bethesda Episcopal Church

The Second Sunday after the Epiphany

14 January 2024

Organ Andantino

Edwin H. Lemare (1865-1934)

All stand as the choir and minsters enter.

The Opening Hymn #477

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

Almighty God, whose Son our Savior Jesus Christ is the light of the world: Grant that thy people, illumined by thy Word and Sacraments, may shine with the radiance of Christ's glory, that he may be known, worshiped, and obeyed to the ends of the earth; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who with thee and the Holy Spirit liveth and reigneth, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

All sit.

The First Reading

1 Samuel 3:1-10 -20

Now the boy Samuel was ministering to the Lord under Eli. The word of the Lord was rare in those days; visions were not widespread. At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his room; the lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the Lord, where the ark of God was. Then the Lord called, "Samuel! Samuel!" and he said, "Here I am!" and ran to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call; lie down again." So he went and lay down. The Lord called again, "Samuel!" Samuel got up and went to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call, my son; lie down again." Now Samuel did not yet know the Lord, and the word of the Lord had not yet been revealed to him. The Lord called Samuel again, a third time. And he got up and went to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." Then Eli perceived that the Lord was calling the boy. Therefore Eli said to Samuel, "Go, lie down; and if he calls you, you shall say, 'Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.'" So Samuel went and lay down in his place.

Now the Lord came and stood there, calling as before, "Samuel! Samuel!" And Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant is listening." [Then the Lord said to Samuel, "See, I am about to do something in Israel that will make both ears of anyone who hears of it tingle. On that day I will fulfill against Eli all that I have spoken concerning his house, from beginning to end. For I have told him that I am about to punish his house forever, for the iniquity that he knew, because his sons were blaspheming God, and he did not restrain them. Therefore I swear to the house of Eli that the iniquity of Eli's house shall not be expiated by sacrifice or offering forever."

Samuel lay there until morning; then he opened the doors of the house of the Lord. Samuel was afraid to tell the vision to Eli. But Eli called Samuel and said, "Samuel, my son." He said, "Here I am." Eli said, "What was it that he told you? Do not hide it from me. May God do so to you and more also, if you hide anything from me of all that he told you." So Samuel told him everything and hid nothing from him. Then he said, "It is the Lord; let him do what seems good to him."

As Samuel grew up, the Lord was with him and let none of his words fall to the ground. And all Israel from Dan to Beer-sheba knew that Samuel was a trustworthy prophet of the Lord.]

*The Lector concludes
The People respond*

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God

Remain seated.

The Gradual: Psalm 139:1-5, 12-17

Samuel Sebastian Wesley (1810-1876)

Lord, you have searched me out and known me; * you know my sitting down and my rising up; you discern my thoughts from afar.

You trace my journeys and my resting-places * and are acquainted with all my ways.

Indeed, there is not a word on my lips, * but you, O Lord, know it altogether.

You press upon me behind and before * and lay your hand upon me.

Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; * it is so high that I cannot attain to it.

For you yourself created my inmost parts; * you knit me together in my mother's womb.

I will thank you because I am marvelously made; * your works are wonderful, and I know it well.

My body was not hidden from you, * while I was being made in secret and woven in the depths of the earth.

Your eyes beheld my limbs, yet unfinished in the womb; all of them were written in your book; * they were fashioned day by day, when as yet there was none of them.

How deep I find your thoughts, O God! * how great is the sum of them!

If I were to count them, they would be more in number than the sand; * to count them all, my life span would need to be like yours.

The Second Reading

1 Corinthians 6:12-20

“All things are lawful for me,” but not all things are beneficial. “All things are lawful for me,” but I will not be dominated by anything. “Food is meant for the stomach and the stomach for food,” and God will destroy both one and the other. The body is meant not for fornication but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. And God raised the Lord and will also raise us by his power. Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Should I therefore take the members of Christ and make them members of a prostitute? Never! Do you not know that whoever is united to a prostitute becomes one body with her? For it is said, “The two shall be one flesh.” But anyone united to the Lord becomes one spirit with him. Shun fornication! Every sin that a person commits is outside the body; but the fornicator sins against the body itself. Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, which you have from God, and that you are not your own? For you were bought with a price; therefore glorify God in your body.

*The Lector concludes
The People respond*

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God

All stand.

The Gradual Hymn: #516

From the Hymnal 1982

Remain standing.

The Holy Gospel

John 1:43-51

*Celebrant
People*

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

Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, “Follow me.” Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. Philip found Nathanael and said to him, “We have found him about whom Moses in the law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth.” Nathanael said to him, “Can anything good come out of Nazareth?” Philip said to him, “Come and see.” When Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him, he said of him, “Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!” Nathanael asked him, “Where did you get to know me?” Jesus answered, “I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you.” Nathanael replied, “Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!” Jesus answered, “Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these.” And he said to him, “Very truly, I tell you, you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man.”

*Celebrant
People*

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

The Sermon

Dr Blaine Edele

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 Church of the Province of South East Asia; and in the Albany Diocese, the parish of St Paul's Albany and their Rector, Fr Michael Greene.

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

Lord God, you sent your Son to bring good news to the poor, sight to the blind, freedom to the captives and salvation to your people: anoint us with your Spirit; rouse us to work in his name. Father, by your Spirit: **bring in your kingdom.**

Give comfort to the poor and freedom to the oppressed.
Father, by your Spirit: **bring in your kingdom.**

Send us to tell the world the good news of your healing love.
Father, by your Spirit: **bring in your kingdom.**

Help us to bring in your kingdom of mercy, justice, love and peace.
Father, by your Spirit: **bring in your kingdom.**

Give to all the departed, the riches of eternal life.
Father, by your Spirit: **bring in your kingdom.**

Let us commend ourselves and all for whom we pray to the mercy and protection of God,
offering our own prayers in a moment of silence. (*A period of silence is observed.*)
Father, by your Spirit: **bring in your kingdom.**

The Celebrant says a concluding prayer.

Almighty God, giver of strength and joy: change, we beseech thee, our bondage into liberty, and the poverty of our nature into the riches of thy grace; that, by the transformation of our lives, thy glory may be revealed; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

The Celebrant introduces the Confession.

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 says 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 #497

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. Because in the mystery of the Word made flesh, thou hast caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give the knowledge of thy glory in the face of thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Therefore with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious name, evermore praising thee and saying,

The Sanctus and Benedictus

Healey Willan (1880-1968)

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - - - ly, Lord God of Hosts:
Hea-ven and earth are full of thy glo - ry. Glo - ry be to
thee, O Lord Most High. Bless - ed is he that com - eth in the
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

All kneel.

All glory be to thee, O Lord our God, for that thou didst create heaven and earth, and didst make us in thine own image; and, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to take our nature upon him, and to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption. He made there a full and perfect sacrifice for the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks to thee, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink this, all of you; for this is my Blood of the New Covenant, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me."

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, we thy people do celebrate and make, with these thy holy gifts which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; and looking for his coming again with power and great glory. And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us, and, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, to bless and sanctify these gifts of bread and wine, that they may be unto us the Body and Blood of thy dearly-beloved Son Jesus Christ.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, whereby we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies. Grant, we beseech thee, that all who partake of this Holy Communion may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, and be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction; and also that we and all thy whole Church may be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord; by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. **Amen.**

Our Father

And now, as our Savior Christ hath taught us, we are bold to say,

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

The Fraction

*Celebrant
People*

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

The Prayer of Humble Access

We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

The Agnus Dei from Missa Parochialis

George Oldroyd (1886 -1951)

*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.

During Communion, the choir sings

The Motet From the Rising of the Sun

F. A. Gore Ousley (1825-1889)

From the rising of the sun unto the going down of the same my name shall be great, among the Gentiles; and in every place incense shall be offered up unto my name: for my name shall be great among the heathen, thus saith the Lord.

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
People*

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

The Closing Hymn #544

From the Hymnal 1982

Organ

March in D Major

Alexandre Guilmant (1837-1911)

Today at Bethesda

New to Bethesda? We are glad you're here! If you are interested in joining the parish and/or would like further information about our community, please complete the form on the back of the bulletin and drop it into a collection plate or hand it to an usher.

Thank you to Dr Blaine Edele for preaching at services this morning.

Thanks to all who volunteered their time yesterday removing the decorations and tidying the church after a busy Christmas season at Bethesda.

Please join us for **a cup of coffee** following the 10am service. Thanks to Kathleen and Mark Anspach for hosting this morning. We are still looking for volunteers to provide refreshments in February, as well as assistance with setting/cleaning up. A sign-up sheet is in the narthex.

The Old Testament **Bible Study** meets this morning at 9.20am. All welcome.

We welcome Altar **flower dedications** from next Sunday to 11 February. Contact the office.

Chalk, blessed at the Eucharist on New Year's Eve, and copies of a service for blessing your home, are available on the tract table at the back of the church.

Special Monthly Envelope for January Donations from the special monthly envelope in January assist the church with the cost of fuel during the winter months. We are grateful for your assistance and generosity.

Annual Pledging in 2024 Your financial support is vital to the ministry of Bethesda Church. It is not too late to make a pledge for 2024. Please consider supporting us. Cards are available at the back of the church. Those who requested **Giving Envelopes** for 2024 can now collect them on the back table. If you cannot find a box with your name on it, or wish to subscribe, please contact the office.

Office The parish office on Elm Street will be open this week from 10–1pm on Tuesday and Wednesday; and on Thursday, from noon to 3pm.

Looking Ahead

Annual Parish Meeting 2024. Bethesda's annual parish meeting will follow the service on Sunday, 28 January. There will be *one service* at 9am. The meeting lasts approximately one hour.

Ash Wednesday falls on 14 February this year. There will be two services to mark the first day of Lent at 12.10pm and 7pm. There will also be a midweek service in Lent on Thursdays at 12.10pm beginning 15 February.

Community and Diocesan Events

Consecration Fr Jeremiah Williamson will be ordained a Bishop in the one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church, and seated as Tenth Bishop of Albany at All Saints' Cathedral, Albany, on Saturday 24 February at 11am. In order to accommodate those

wishing to attend the service, each parish of the diocese is limited to six tickets. If you're interested in attending, please speak to Fr Wallace.

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. Laundry detergent, dishwasher detergent
- ◆ Canned Foods including those low in salt, fat & sugar and gluten free.
- ◆ 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.

Please leave donated items *in the box by the side door entrance* of the church. Thank you!

The Epiphany Proclamation 2024

Following the Gospel on the feast of the Epiphany it was an ancient practice of the Church to announce the major 'moveable' feasts of the coming year. This 'Epiphany Proclamation' is a reminder of the centrality of the Resurrection of the Lord in the liturgical year and the importance of the great mysteries of our faith, which are celebrated annually. Presumably it was useful in pre-literate times to help people remember the important feasts of the Christian calendar when they were expected to be in church. The following is taken from the monthly newsletter of the Episcopal Church of the Resurrection in New York City:

*Know ye beloved,
that as by God's favor we rejoiced in the Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ,
so too we announce to you the glad tidings of the Resurrection of Our Savior:*

The Sunday of Septuagesima will fall on the twenty-eighth day of January.

*Ash Wednesday and the beginning of the most holy Lenten fast
on the fourteenth day of February.*

*On the thirty-first day of March you shall celebrate with greatest joy
the holy Pasch of Our Lord Jesus Christ.*

The Ascension of Our Lord will occur on the ninth day of May.

The feast of Whitsunday on the nineteenth day of May.

The thirtieth day of May is the Feast of Corpus Christi.

*The first day of December will usher in the Advent of Our Lord Jesus Christ,
to whom be honor and glory eternally. Amen.*





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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