

# Bethesda Episcopal Church

***The Feast of Pentecost***

***19 May 2024***

**Voluntary** A Reflection on *Veni Creator Spiritus*

Robert Moore

Robert Moore, saxophone

*All stand as the Celebrant and choir enter.*

***The Opening Hymn #516***

*From the Hymnal 1982*

*At the high altar, the Celebrant says*

*Celebrant  
People*

Alleluia. Christ is risen.  
**The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

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**

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

Let us pray. O God, who on this day didst teach the hearts of thy faithful people by sending to them the light of thy Holy Spirit: Grant us by the same Spirit to have a right judgment in all things, and evermore to rejoice in his holy comfort; through the merits of Christ Jesus our Savior, who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the same Spirit, one God, world without end. **Amen.**

*All sit.*

**The Lesson**

*Acts 2:1-21*

When the day of Pentecost had come, the disciples were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. Amazed and astonished, they asked, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabs-- in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power." All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?" But others sneered and said, "They are filled with new wine."

But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, "Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning. No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel: 'In the last days it will be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams. Even upon my slaves, both men and women, in those days I will pour out my Spirit; and they shall prophesy. And I will show portents in the heaven above and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and smoky mist. The sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day. Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.'

*The Lector concludes  
The People respond*

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

*Remain seated.*

**The Gradual**

'God's Love'

*Richard Shephard (1949- 2021)*

*God's love has been shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Spirit he has given us. (Rom 5.5)*

**The Epistle**

*Romans 8:22-27*

We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

*The Lector concludes*  
*The People respond*

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

*All stand.*

### **The Alleluia**

*Choir:* Come, Holy Ghost, and fill the hearts of thy faithful people: and kindle in them the fire of thy love.



*All repeat:* **Alleluia.**

*Remain standing.*

### **The Holy Gospel**

*John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15*

*Celebrant*  
*People*

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

Jesus said to his disciples, "When the Advocate comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who comes from the Father, he will testify on my behalf. You also are to testify because you have been with me from the beginning. I did not say these things to you from the beginning, because I was with you. But now I am going to him who sent me; yet none of you asks me, 'Where are you going?' But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your hearts. Nevertheless I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Advocate will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you. And when he comes, he will prove the world wrong about sin and righteousness and judgment: about sin, because they do not believe in me; about righteousness, because I am going to the Father and you will see me no longer; about judgment, because the ruler of this world has been condemned.

"I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth; for he will not speak on his own, but will speak whatever he hears, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. He will glorify me, because he will take what is mine and declare it to you. All that the Father has is mine. For this reason I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you.

*Celebrant*  
*People*

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

### **The Sermon**

*After 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 this week for the Anglican Communion, we remember the Church in Canada. In the Albany Diocese, we pray for Jeremiah, our bishop, and for the staff of Beaver Cross Camp. We ask God's blessing on Marissa Aiuto and Peter Malavenda who were married at Bethesda yesterday; and on those celebrating birthdays and anniversaries this week.

As our choral season concludes today, we give thanks for the ministry of our choir and especially for Kathleen Slezak and Derek Stannard.

Let us pray to God the Holy Spirit, saying, "*Come, Holy Spirit, come.*"

Come, Holy Spirit, creator, and renew the face of the earth. **Come, Holy Spirit, come.**

Come, Holy Spirit, counsellor, and touch our lips that we may proclaim your word.  
**Come, Holy Spirit, come.**

Come, Holy Spirit, power from on high: make us agents of peace, and ministers of wholeness. **Come, Holy Spirit, come.**

Come, Holy Spirit, comforter, give to all who are sick, or in special need, your strength and guidance, remembering at this time: Penny, Steve, Betty, Kate, Holly and Catherine. **Come, Holy Spirit, come.**

Come, Holy Spirit, breath of God, give life to the dry bones of this exiled age, and make us a living people, holy and free. **Come, Holy Spirit, come.**

Come, Holy Spirit, wisdom and truth: strengthen us in the risk of faith. **Come, Holy Spirit, come.**

*The Celebrant says a concluding prayer.*

Come, Holy Spirit, come! Come as the Fire and burn. Come as the Light and shine. Come as the Wind and cleanse. Convict us, convert us, and consecrate us, until we are wholly thine. **Amen.**

*Celebrant:* Let us humbly confess our sins to Almighty God.

**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 #228

From the Hymnal 1982

Remain standing

### The Eucharistic Prayer

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

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; according to whose true promise the Holy Ghost came down on this day from heaven, lighting upon the disciples, to teach them and to lead them into all truth; uniting peoples of many tongues in the confession of one faith, and giving to thy Church the power to serve thee as a royal priesthood, and to preach the gospel to all nations. Therefore with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious name, evermore praising thee and saying,

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

*Remain kneeling.*

***The Agnus Dei*** from Mass for Four Voices *William Byrd (1540-1623)*

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis.  
Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, dona 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***

**Choir:** Factus Est Repente *Jacob Handl (Gallus) (1550-1591)*

Factus est repente de coelo sonus, advenientis spiritus vehementis, ubi erant sedentes, et replenti sunt omnes spiritus sancto, loquentes magnalia Dei. Alleluia.

*And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a mighty rushing wind, and it filled the place where they were sitting, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and began to speak of the wondrous works of God. Alleluia. (Acts 2: 2, 4)*

**Organ:** Adagio, from *Concerto for Oboe* *Benedetto Marcello (1686-1739)*

*After Communion, all kneel. All say together*

### ***The Prayer after Communion***

Let us pray. **Almighty and ever living God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.**

### ***The Blessing and Dismissal***

The peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost, be amongst you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

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

### ***The Closing Hymn #500***

*From the Hymnal 1982*

**Organ** Psalm 19 "The Heavens Declare" *Benedetto Marcello (1686-1739)*

## **Today at Bethesda**

**Welcome to Bethesda Church.** Thank you for joining us this morning. If you are new to the community and interested in becoming a member of Bethesda, introduce yourself to an usher or to Fr Wallace and please join us for coffee following the service. If you wish to learn more about our parish, you may complete the form on the back page and drop it into the collection plate.

**The Eucharistic elements** (wine and bread) for the month of May are given in loving remembrance of Daniel Thornton by his wife Patty.

**Readers.** Thank you to those reading and leading prayers at services today:  
8am Bob Bullock 10 am Colette Manny & Sara Manny

**Thank you** to Robert Moore for playing the opening voluntary at the 10am service.

**Bible Study.** Today at 9.20am, we continue our weekly study of the Old Testament. This course is led by Dr Blaine Edele. All welcome.

Please join us for **lemonade** following the 10am service. Thank you to Diane Robinson and Mark Claverie for hosting today.

We are looking for volunteers to host refreshments (lemonade and cookies) beginning May 19th through September 8th. If you're able to assist, please add your name (and phone number) to the rota at the back of the church.

**Holy Rollers.** We are asking for volunteers to help with removal of pews from the last three rows of the church **after the 10am service TODAY**. The pews will then be available for pickup by those parishioners who have requested them. Thank you to all those who are assisting with this project.

**Choral Season** Today is the last Sunday with the choir for the Spring season. We look forward to their return in the autumn. Thanks to all our musicians for sharing their talent and dedication and to the leadership provided by Kathleen Slezak and Derek Stannard. If you, or someone you know, is interested in joining for the Fall season, now is the time to speak to Derek or Kathleen. We are especially in need of more men. You bring the voice, and we'll bring the training!

**Summer Music** We will continue to schedule special music at the 10am service during the summer Sundays and look forward to sharing more information in due course. If you are able to sponsor music for one week (or more!) this summer, please speak to Fr Wallace.

**Special Monthly Envelope** donations in May are being received for **Mary's Haven**. Mary's Haven, located in Saratoga Springs, is a residence serving persons with terminal illness who are within the last 3 months of their lives. Opened in 2003, Mary's Haven has assisted over 325 residents to live out their final days with dignity in a peaceful, loving and compassionate homelike environment, while supporting families and friends as they cope with the impending loss of a loved one. Referrals come from several sources including Hospice, health care agencies, hospitals, physicians, and social workers. Preference is given to those with the greatest need and the fewest options, regardless of race, gender, religion or age. Bereavement care, before and after the death of the resident, is an essential part of the journey to assist loved ones dealing with their loss. Because its

services are provided free of charge to residents, Mary's Haven relies on funds raised through community contributions, memorial donations, and other fundraising efforts. Thank you for your generous support.

**Summer Office Hours.** Beginning the week of 26 May, the office will only be open Tuesdays from 10.30-11.30am. We advise that if you call ahead if you wish to visit in person, or email [office@bethesdachurch.org](mailto:office@bethesdachurch.org) with your query.

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

### **Community Outreach and Events**

**Organ Recital** by Elizabeth and Raymond Chenault at St. Kateri Tekakwitha Parish, 1803 Union St., Schenectady, NY, on **Sunday, June 2 at 3pm**. This concert is co-sponsored by St. Kateri Tekakwitha Parish, Allen Organ Studios, and the Eastern NY chapter of the American Guild of Organists. It is free and open to the public.

**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 Descent of the Holy Spirit** (Engraving, 1518) by *Domenico Campagnola* from the Rosenwald Collection at the National Gallery of Art



***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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