

# *Bethesda Episcopal Church*

**The Eighth Sunday after Pentecost**

**14 July 2024**

**Organ** Prelude al Te Deum

*Marc Antoine-Charpentier (1643-1704)*

*All stand as the minsters enter. At the high altar, the Celebrant says*

*Celebrant*  
**People**

Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.  
**And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**The Opening Hymn #410**

*From the Hymnal 1982*

*Remain standing.*

**The Collect of The Day**

*Celebrant*  
**People**

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

Let us pray. O Lord, we beseech thee mercifully to receive the prayers of thy people who call upon thee, and grant that they may both perceive and know what things they ought to do, and also may have grace and power faithfully to fulfill the same; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*All sit.*

**The Lesson**

*Ephesians 1:3-14*

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

*The Lector concludes*  
*The People respond*

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

*All stand.*

**The Gradual Hymn #706**

*From the Hymnal 1982*

*Remain standing.*

**The Holy Gospel**

*Mark 6:14-29*

*Celebrant  
People*

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

King Herod heard of Jesus and his disciples, for Jesus' name had become known. Some were saying, "John the baptizer has been raised from the dead; and for this reason these powers are at work in him." But others said, "It is Elijah." And others said, "It is a prophet, like one of the prophets of old." But when Herod heard of it, he said, "John, whom I beheaded, has been raised."

For Herod himself had sent men who arrested John, bound him, and put him in prison on account of Herodias, his brother Philip's wife, because Herod had married her. For John had been telling Herod, "It is not lawful for you to have your brother's wife." And Herodias had a grudge against him, and wanted to kill him. But she could not, for Herod feared John, knowing that he was a righteous and holy man, and he protected him. When he heard him, he was greatly perplexed; and yet he liked to listen to him. But an opportunity came when Herod on his birthday gave a banquet for his courtiers and officers and for the leaders of Galilee. When his daughter Herodias came in and danced, she pleased Herod and his guests; and the king said to the girl, "Ask me for whatever you wish, and I will give it." And he solemnly swore to her, "Whatever you ask me, I will give you, even half of my kingdom." She went out and said to her mother, "What should I ask for?" She replied, "The head of John the baptizer." Immediately she rushed back to the king and requested, "I want you to give me at once the head of John the Baptist on a platter." The king was deeply grieved; yet out of regard for his oaths and for the guests, he did not want to refuse her. Immediately the king sent a soldier of the guard with orders to bring John's head. He went and beheaded him in the prison, brought his head on a platter, and gave it to the girl. Then the girl gave it to her mother. When his disciples heard about it, they came and took his body, and laid it in a tomb.

*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 today, we remember the Church of Ireland; and in the Albany Diocese, our bishop, Jeremiah and the people of St George's Church, Clifton Park.

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

In peace we pray to you, Lord God.

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;  
**That we all may be one.**

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;  
**That your Name may be glorified by all people.**

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;  
**That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.**

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;  
**That there may be justice and peace on the earth.**

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;  
**That our works may find favor in your sight.**

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble; praying especially at this time for Sonia, Paula and Donna.

**That they may be delivered from their distress.**

Give to the departed eternal rest.

**Let light perpetual shine upon them.**

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;

**May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.**

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

*Silence is kept for people to add their own petitions.*

*The Celebrant concludes the prayers.*

Gracious and holy God, give us wisdom to know you, intelligence to understand you, diligence to seek you, patience to wait upon you, a heart to meditate upon you, and a life to proclaim you; in the power of the Spirit of Jesus Christ our Lord, **Amen.**

### ***The Confession and Absolution***

*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 #671**

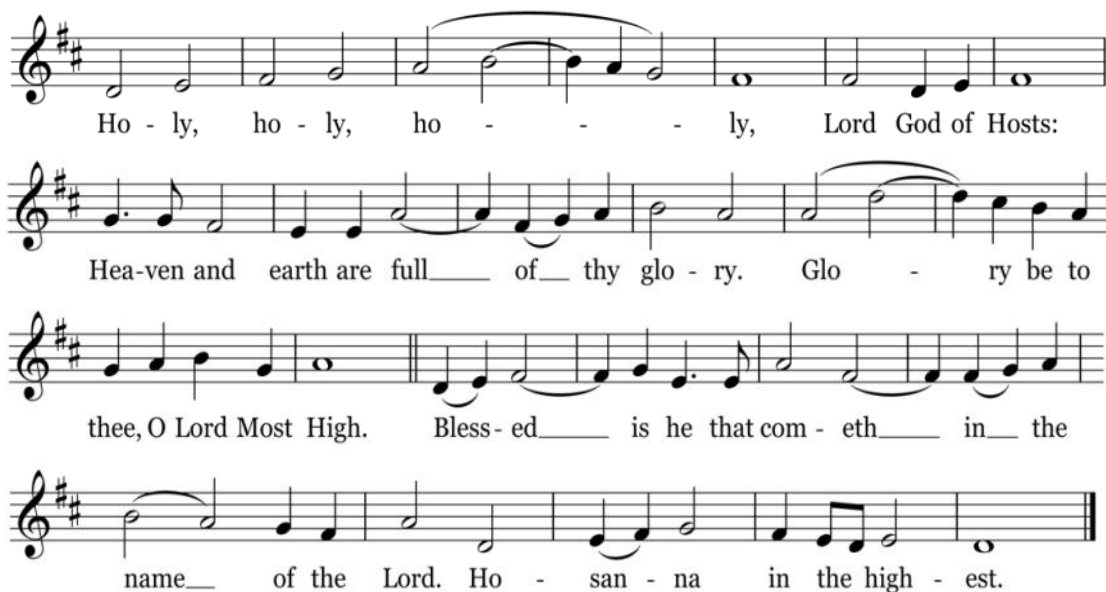
*From the Hymnal 1982*

*Remain standing*

## **The Eucharistic Prayer**

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

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God. Through Jesus Christ our Lord; who on the first day of the week overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. Therefore with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious name, evermore praising thee and saying,



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

*All kneel.*

All glory be to thee, 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***

*Healey Willan (1880-1968)*



sins of the world, have mer - cy up - on  
 us. O Lamb of God, that ta - kest a -  
 way the sins of the world, have mer - cy up -  
 on us. O Lamb of God, that  
 ta - kest a - way the sins of the world,  
 grant us thy peace.

*Communion is distributed at the chancel step.*

**Music:** Chant de Paix

*Jean Langlais (1907-1991)*

*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 Spirit, 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 #535***

*From the Hymnal 1982*

**Organ**

Chant de Joie

*Jean Langlais (1907-1991)*

## **Notices**

**New to Bethesda?** We are glad you're here! If you are interested in joining our parish and/or would like further information about our community, please speak to Fr Wallace or an usher at the end of the liturgy.

The **flowers on the altar** are given to the glory of God, and in loving memory of Daniel Thornton, by his wife, Patricia.

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

8am Lynne Priestley

10 am Chris Lyons and Ann Bullock

**Welcome** to The Reverend Dr Tom Papazoglakis, our preacher this morning. Fr Tom is Rector of St George's Church, Clifton Park, and Dean of the Upper Hudson region of the Diocese of Albany.

**Thank you** to Carl Hackert for playing the organ for us while Derek is away.

Please join us for **lemonade and cookies** following the 10am service. Thank you to Ann and Bob Bullock for hosting.

**Special Monthly Envelope** Donations to our July appeal support the **Race Track Chaplaincy**. Founded in 1971, the Chaplaincy provides vital ministry to backstretch workers and their families by offering food and clothing; legal, medical and clerical assistance; as well as educational support and enrichment to families who could not otherwise afford these services.

**Concert** Bethesda hosts an one-hour performance of classical music for cello, piano and voice on Monday 12 August at 7.30pm. The musicians are recent graduates of American University, Washington, DC. Admission by freewill offering.

**Baptism, Confirmation and Reception Instruction** Anyone interested in being baptised, confirmed or received into the Anglican Communion, should be in touch with Fr Wallace at [office@bethesdachurch.org](mailto:office@bethesdachurch.org). Confirmation classes will begin in the autumn.

**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.

**Summer Office Hours** The office is open Tuesdays from 10.30-11.30am.