

Bethesda Episcopal Church

The 17th Sunday after Pentecost (*Holy Cross*)

15 September 2024

Organ Menuet Gothique, from *Suite Gothique*, op. 25 Léon Boëllmann (1862-1897)

The Opening Hymn #665

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

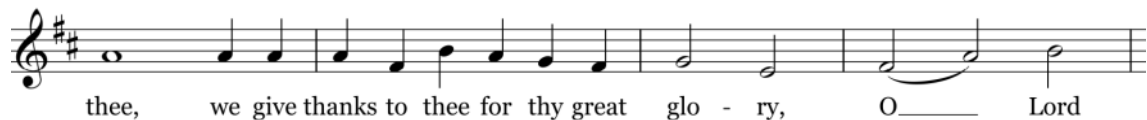
Healey Willan (1880-1968)



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

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

Let us pray. Almighty God, whose Son our Savior Jesus Christ was lifted high upon the cross that he might draw the whole world unto himself: Mercifully grant that we, who glory in the mystery of our redemption, may have grace to take up our cross and follow him; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

All sit.

The Reading

Philippians 2.5-11

Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death— even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

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

All stand.

The Alleluia



Verse: We adore thee, O Christ, and we bless thee, because by thy Holy Cross thou hast redeemed the world.

All: **Alleluia.**

Remain standing.

The Holy Gospel

Mark 8:27-38

*Celebrant
People*

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

Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi; and on the way he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that I am?” And they answered him, “John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets.” He asked them, “But who do you say that I am?” Peter answered him, “You are the Messiah.” And he sternly ordered them not to tell anyone about him.

Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, “Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.”

He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake

of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.”

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 Church, we pray for the Anglican Church of Nigeria; and in the Albany diocese, for Jeremiah, our bishop. Today, we remember the parish of

Holy Cross, Warrensburg and their new Rector, Fr Jason Radcliffe.

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.

For all people in their daily life and work;
For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for all those who are alone.

For this community, our country, and the world;
For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

For the just and proper use of your creation;
For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;
For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and needy.

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;
For all who proclaim the gospel, and all who seek the truth.

For all bishops, priests and other ministers:
For all who serve God in his Church.

For our own needs and those of others.

Silence is kept for people to offer their own petitions.

Hear us, Lord.
For your mercy is great.

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

Silence is kept for people to offer their own thanksgivings.

We will exalt you, O God our king;
And praise your name for ever and ever.

We pray for those who have died in the peace of Christ, and for those whose faith is known to you alone, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

Silence is kept to remember the departed.

Lord, let your loving kindness be upon them;
Who put their trust in you.

We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

The Celebrant begins: 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

<i>Celebrant</i>	The peace of the Lord be always with you.
<i>People</i>	And with thy spirit.

Hymn at The Offertory #675

From the Hymnal 1982

Remain standing

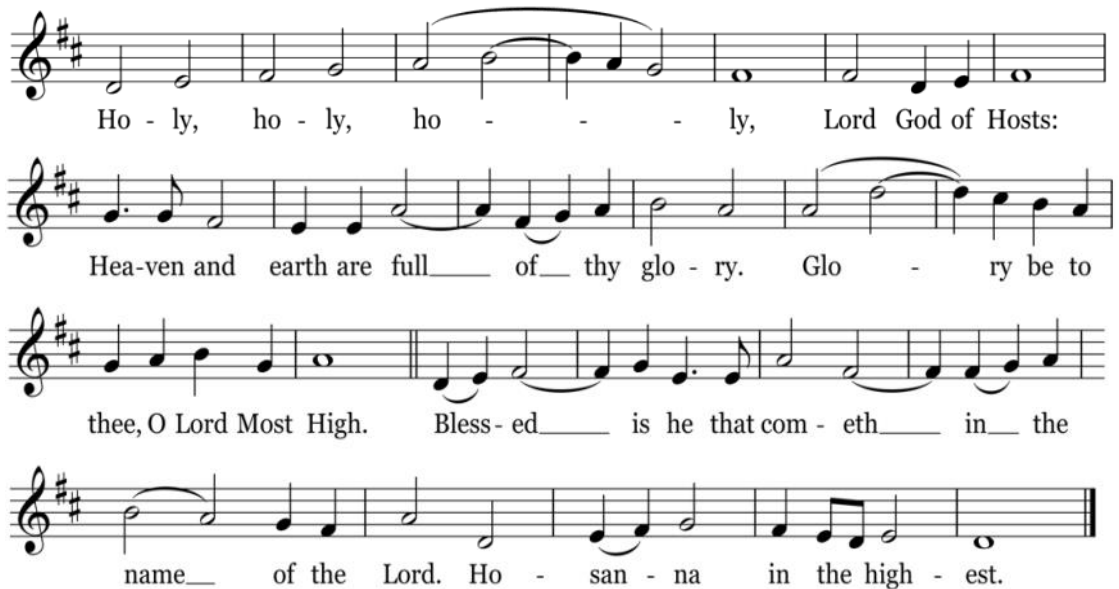
The Eucharistic Prayer

<i>Celebrant</i>	The Lord be with you.
<i>People</i>	And with thy spirit.
<i>Celebrant</i>	Lift up your hearts.
<i>People</i>	We lift them up unto the Lord.
<i>Celebrant</i>	Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.
<i>People</i>	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 for our sins was lifted high upon the cross, that he might draw the whole world to himself; who by his suffering and death became the author of eternal salvation for all who put their trust in him. 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.**

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 on us.
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, grant us thy peace.*

Communion is distributed at the chancel step.

Choir: Adoramus Te, Christe *Theodore Dubois (1837-1924)*

Alleluia, alleluia. Adoramus te, Christe, et benedicimus tibi, quia per sanctam crucem tuam redemisti mundum.

Alleluia, alleluia. We adore thee, O Christ, and we bless thee, because by thy Holy Cross thou hast redeemed the world.

Choir: O Crux Ave

Rihards Dubra (b. 1964)

*O crux ave, spes unica, hac triumphi gloria.
Auge piis justitiam, reisque dona veniam.
O crux ave, spes unica, hac triumphi gloria.*

*Hail, O cross, at this triumphant, glorious time
be grace for the just, and pardon for the sinner.*

Text: Venantius Fortunatus (530-609)

Organ: Elegy

C. Hubert Parry (1848-1918)

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 #473

From the Hymnal 1982

Organ Festival Voluntary

Flor Peeters (1903-1986)

Notices and Upcoming Parish Events

The **flowers** on the altar are given in thanks, praise and glory to God, by Paula Pinion in loving memory of her deceased family members.

Thank you to those reading and leading prayers this morning:

Sam Lynne Priestley 10 am Peter Brooks and Libby Smith-Holmes

Welcome back to our **Choir** after the summer break, and especially to new members.

Please join us for **lemonade and cookies** following the 10am service. Thank you to Laurie Brenenstuhl for hosting today.

Church Cleaning We are looking for willing and able volunteers to assist with tidying and cleaning the church this coming Saturday morning, 21 September. We will begin promptly at 9am and conclude no later than 11am. If you have an hour or two to spare, we would be grateful for your help!

Church Services on 29 September Please be advised that on Sunday 29th, there will be a service of Holy Communion at 8am in the church as usual. However, due to the BBQ, we will not have a **10am service** in church on this day.

Our outdoor service and BBQ will be held on Sunday 29 September, beginning at 11am. Anyone wishing to attend needs to email the office: office@bethesdachurch.org

Spiritual Autobiography Group Spiritual autobiography is a significant practice in the Christian tradition. It ranges from St Augustine's classic "Confessions" to Teresa's "Interior Castles", to more modern writers like C.S.Lewis's "Surprised by Joy" to Fredrick Buechner's "Telling Secrets". This 4 session group will draw on the writings of C.S.Lewis and Fredrick Buechner in order to explore our own spiritual journeys. We will meet on four Monday evenings at 6:30 starting September 30 at the home of Cheryl and David Olsen. To register, email caolsen73@gmail.com or office@bethesdachurch.org

Midweek Service Beginning 3 October, there will be a service of Holy Communion on Thursdays at 12.10pm. All welcome.

Legs Miserables Two brisk autumn walks for parishioners (friends too!) in October: Thursday 10th at 2.15pm in Round Lake (Zim Smith trail); and Sunday 27th at 2.30pm for a guided tour of Greenridge Cemetery. More to come.

Parish Retreat Bethesda's annual residential retreat at Holy Cross Monastery, West Park, is November 1st-3rd. This year's retreat, led by Fr Ephrem OHC, explores the spirituality of the desert fathers and mothers of the fourth century extending all the way through the popular writings of Thomas Merton and Thomas Keating. For further information, speak to Fr Wallace.

November Concerts at Bethesda On **Friday, 1st November** at 7:30pm Bethesda welcomes Musicians of Ma'alwyck for *Mayhem and Madness*, a program offering music from quirky eighteenth and nineteenth-century composers related to the chaotic titular theme. To purchase tickets, contact www.musiciansofmaalwyck.org On **Monday 4th**, Bethesda hosts a *organ recital*, featuring music of Johann Sebastian Bach. Admission to the concert is free with donations gratefully received. This event is sponsored by the Eastern New York chapter of the American Guild of Organists. Further details to follow.

Bible Study Mark's Gospel. Wednesdays at 3.45pm beginning 30 October, for 4 weeks.

Advance Notice The Bishop of Albany, Jeremiah Williamson, will make his first visit to Bethesda Church on Sunday, 16 February 2025. If you are interested in the sacrament of confirmation or being received into the Anglican Communion (Episcopal Church) on this occasion, please have a word with Fr Wallace.

Office Hours The office is normally open Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 10.00-12.30.

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.

Special Monthly Envelope Our appeal in **September** supports the work of *Habitat for Humanity*. Habitat for Humanity is a non-profit organization that helps people build, repair and improve homes and neighborhoods, particularly in urban areas, by working with communities to address their housing needs. It also works closely with local agencies to respond quickly to communities affected by natural disasters.

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



Outreach Ministries

WHO ARE WE?

Loaves & Fishes, is a ministry of the Episcopal Diocese of Albany. It is an emergency feeding program that operates every Saturday serving lunch from 11:30-1:00. We are located at:

St. Francis Mission
498 Clinton Ave. Albany

For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat.

Matthew 25:35



OUR MISSION

- To bring people to Jesus by feeding the body, heart, mind and soul.
- To provide nourishing food to people living with the injustice of food scarcity.
- To fight the negative effects of food insecurity in the community.

WHY HELP?

- To love your neighbor!
- To seek and serve Christ in all persons!
- To strive for justice and peace!
- To respect the dignity of every human being!

I tell you the truth, whatever you did for the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me.

Matthew 25:40

HOW TO HELP

Volunteer! Click this [link](#) to sign-up. The link is also available on the Diocese website and appears weekly in the Ministry and Parish Update.

Donate! There are a number of ways the ministry can be supported financially, both by churches and individuals. Please contact us for more details.

Support the Regional Food Bank - ADOPT A PROGRAM - agency name is Loaves and Fishes Outreach Ministries



CONNECT WITH US

Email: loavesandfishesalbany@gmail.com
Phone: 518-414-2800
<https://albanyepiscopaldioocese.org/loaves-and-fishes/>



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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
- Other _____

Rector: *Fr Charles Wallace*

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