

Bethesda Episcopal Church

The Feast of Dedication

6 October 2024

8.00am Holy Communion

The service order is on the laminated card. Collect, Epistle and Gospel printed below.

10.00am Sung Eucharist and Sermon

Remain seated while the Choir sings the Introit.

Anton Bruckner (1824-1896)

Locus iste a Deo factus est, inaestimabile sacramentum, irreprehensibilis est.

This place was made by God, a priceless holy place, without fault

All stand to sing

The Processional Hymn

From The Hymnal 1940

OO. OO (rallio)

QUAM DILECTA
Simply

HENRY L. JENNER, 1861

1 We love the place, O God, Where - in thine hon - or dwells;
2 We love the house of prayer, Where - in thy ser - vants meet;

The joy of thine a - bode All oth - er joy ex - cels.
For thou, O Lord, art there Thy cho - sen ones to greet. A - men.

3 We love the sacred font,
Wherein the holy Dove
Bestows, as ever wont,
His blessing from above.

4 We love thine altar, Lord,
Its mysteries revere;
For there, in faith adored,
We find thy presence near.

5 We love thy holy word,
The lamp thou gav'st to guide
All wand'ers home, O Lord,
Home to their Father's side.

6 Then let us sing the love
To us so freely giv'n,
Until we sing above
The triumph song of heav'n! Amen.

WILLIAM BULLOCK, 1854, *alt.*

Remain standing. *The Celebrant says*

The Opening Acclamation and Collect for Purity

Celebrant
People

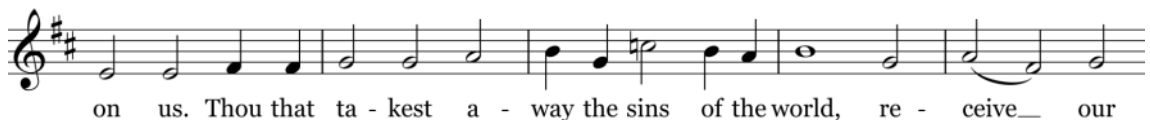
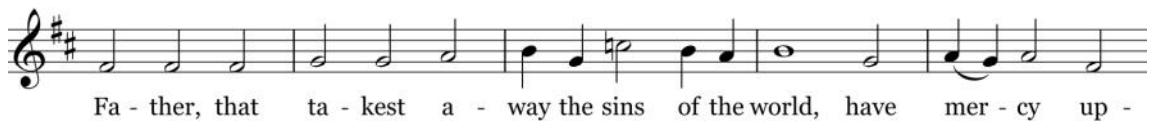
Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.

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.**

Remain standing.

The Gloria in excelsis

Healey Willan (1880-1968)



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.

The Collect of The Day

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

Let us pray. O Almighty God, to whose glory we celebrate the dedication of this house of prayer: We give thee thanks for the fellowship of those who have worshipped in this place; and we pray that all who seek thee here may find thee, and be filled with thy joy and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee, in unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

All sit.

The First Lesson

1 Kings 8.22-30

Then Solomon stood before the altar of the Lord in the presence of all the assembly of Israel, and spread out his hands to heaven. He said, 'O Lord, God of Israel, there is no God like you in heaven above or on earth beneath, keeping covenant and steadfast love for your servants who walk before you with all their heart, the covenant that you kept for your servant my father David as you declared to him; you promised with your mouth and have this day fulfilled with your hand. Therefore, O Lord, God of Israel, keep for your servant my father David that which you promised him, saying, "There shall never fail you a successor before me to sit on the throne of Israel, if only

your children look to their way, to walk before me as you have walked before me.” Therefore, O God of Israel, let your word be confirmed, which you promised to your servant my father David. ‘But will God indeed dwell on the earth? Even heaven and the highest heaven cannot contain you, much less this house that I have built! Have regard to your servant’s prayer and his plea, O Lord my God, heeding the cry and the prayer that your servant prays to you today; that your eyes may be open night and day towards this house, the place of which you said, “My name shall be there”, that you may heed the prayer that your servant prays towards this place. Hear the plea of your servant and of your people Israel when they pray towards this place; O hear in heaven your dwelling-place; heed and forgive.

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

Remain seated.

Psalm 84 *Congregation and Choir sing the Refrain*

Geoffrey Boulton-Smith



My soul is longing and yearning for the courts of the Lord. My heart and my soul ring out their joy to God, the living God. **Refrain**

*The sparrow herself finds a home and the swallow a nest for her brood; she lays her young by your altars, Lord of hosts, my king and my God. **Refrain***

*They are happy, who dwell in your house, for ever singing your praise. They are happy, whose strength is in you, they walk with ever growing strength. **Refrain***

*One day within your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere. The threshold of the house of God I prefer to the dwellings of the wicked. **Refrain***

The Epistle

1 Peter 2.1-5,9-10

Rid yourselves, therefore, of all malice, and all guile, insincerity, envy, and all slander. Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation— if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good. Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God’s sight, and like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. Once you were not a people, but now you are God’s people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

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

All stand.

The Alleluia

The Choir intones: Alleluia.

All Respond:



Al - le - lu - ia.

Choir: I will worship toward thy holy temple, and I will give glory to thy name.

Ps 138: 2

All repeat: **Alleluia.**

The Holy Gospel

Matthew 7:24-29

Celebrant
People

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

Jesus said, "Everyone who hears these words of mine and acts on them will be like a wise man who built his house on rock. The rain fell, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house, but it did not fall, because it had been founded on rock. And everyone who hears these words of mine and does not act on them will be like a foolish man who built his house on sand. The rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell – and great was the fall!"

Now when Jesus had finished saying these things, the crowds were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as their scribes.

Celebrant
People

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

The Sermon

All stand.

The Nicene Creed Said by all, standing.

**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 and the world, we remember the Anglican Church of Papua New Guinea; in our Diocese, we pray for our bishop, Jeremiah; and, as we keep our Dedication festival today, we give thanks for our parish community.

With all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord, saying "We thank you, Lord."

For the Church universal, of which this building is a visible symbol, **We thank you, Lord.**

For your presence whenever two or three have gathered in your name, **We thank you, Lord.**

For this place where we may be still and know that you are God, **We thank you, Lord.**

For the fulfilling of our desires and petitions as you see best for us, **We thank you, Lord.**

For our past and a vision of the future that lies ahead, **We thank you, Lord.**

For the gift of the Holy Spirit and new life in baptism, **We thank you, Lord.**

For the pardon of our sins when we have fallen short of your glory, **We thank you, Lord.**

For the holy eucharist in which we have a foretaste of your eternal kingdom, **We thank you, Lord.**

For the blessing of our vows and the crowning of our years with your goodness, **We thank you, Lord.**

For all those who, in years past, have worshipped in this place and now rest in the peace of Christ, **We thank you, Lord.**

Celebrant: O God, from living stones you prepare an everlasting dwelling place for your majesty. Grant that in the power of the Holy Spirit those who serve you here may always be kept within your presence. This we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord. **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.**

Celebrant: 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.**

At The Offertory: Hymn #518

From The Hymnal 1982

Remain standing.

The Great Thanksgiving

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.**

The Celebrant continues

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 great High Priest; in whom we are built up as living stones of a holy temple, that we might offer before thee a sacrifice of praise and prayer which is holy and pleasing in thy sight. 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 Qui Venit *Sung by all, standing*

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.

The Eucharistic Prayer

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.**

The Lord's Prayer

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.**

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.

Communion is distributed at the chancel step.

Agnus Dei from the Service in F

Harold Darke (1888-1976)

*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.*

Motet: Behold the Tabernacle of God

William Harris (1883-1973)

*Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and the Spirit of God dwelleth within you;
for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are; for the love of whom ye
do this day celebrate the joys of the temple with a season of festivity. Alleluia.*

Hymn during Communion: printed on the back page of this bulletin.

After Communion, all kneel.

The Post Communion Prayer

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

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 among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

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

Closing Hymn: #525

From The Hymnal 1982

Organ Fuga a 3 Voce

Charles Zeuner (1795-1857)

Notices

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. Complete the form included in this bulletin for more information about the parish.

The **flowers** on the altar are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Virginia Jean & Bruce Long, by Garrie Long.

Thank you to those reading and leading prayers this morning:

8am Mary Withington 10 am Darren Miller and Daniel Beach

Please join us for **lemonade and cookies** following the 10am service. Thank you to Judy and Grady Aronstamm for hosting today.

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.

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

October Special Monthly Envelope Donations to our monthly envelope for **October** will be divided between the feeding ministry at the local Presbyterian – United Church of Christ which provides meals to those in need; and Christ Church Food Pantry, a ministry operated by the Episcopal parish in Ballston Spa.

Spiritual Autobiography Group Our next meeting is tomorrow, 7 October at 6.30pm. For more information, email office@bethesdachurch.org

Holy Communion this Thursday, 10 October, at 12.10pm. All welcome.

Legs Misérables, Bethesda's parish hiking/walking group, will meet twice in October:

- Thursday 10th October at 2.15pm in Round Lake (Zim Smith trail);
- Sunday, 20 October at 2.30pm. We will meet at the Lincoln Avenue gate for a guided tour/walk through Greenridge Cemetery led by local historian, Gloria May. To register for one or both walks, email the office.

Bible Study: St Mark Bethesda parishioners are invited to participate in a four-week study of the Gospel of Mark beginning Wednesday, October 30th at 3.30pm. Mark's Gospel is the shortest among the four accounts and has often been overlooked throughout church history; however, one should not be fooled by its brevity or obscurity. Mark's account has rightfully earned the nickname "The Lion Gospel" because it is a swift and powerful account of Christ's life. Mark's rapid narrative is filled with suspense and relatable characters, which masterfully point to the Messiah. The course will be led by Jonathan Kimmel. After completing a Bachelor's in Business Administration, Jon sold accounting and HR software in Atlanta and Nashville. Jon then moved to Hong Kong where he

met and married the love of his life, Carmen. They now have two beautiful boys—Gregory and Macarius. During the week, Jon is a secondary school teacher; on Sunday's he serves as Director of Christian Formation at the Cathedral of All Saints; and in his free time, enjoys traveling, exploring nature, and watching the NBA with his family. To register: office@bethesdachurch.org

Invitation from Fr Marshall Vang The Very Reverend Marshall J. Vang, Dean Emeritus, will observe the Golden Jubilee of his Ordination to the Priesthood on Saturday, 26th October, at a Solemn Eucharist at 11am, at The Cathedral of All Saints, Swan and Elk Streets, Albany. Your prayers are asked. Your presence is requested.

Two November Concerts at Bethesda On Friday, 1st November at 7:30pm, Bethesda welcomes Musicians of Ma'alwyck for *Mayhem and Madness*, a program of music from quirky eighteenth and nineteenth-century composers. For tickets, see www.musiciansofmaalwyck.org. Then, on Monday 4th at 7pm, Bethesda hosts an *organ recital*, featuring music of J.S. Bach.

Bethesda Book Club The parish book group will meet 5 December at 5.30pm to discuss the novel, *People of the Book*, by Pulitzer Prize winning author, Geraldine Brooks. To register, contact: office@bethesdachurch.org

Baptism, Confirmation and Reception Instruction Bishop Jeremiah Williamson will make his first visit to the parish on Sunday 16 February, 2025. Anyone wishing to be confirmed or received into the Anglican Communion on this occasion should speak to Fr Wallace.

Bethesda Episcopal Church
Rector: *Fr Charles Wallace*

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Office Telephone: (518) 584-5980

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

Bethesda Church Office
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Please place this form in the collection plate if you would like us to get in touch with you:

Name: _____

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 _____

1 In our day of thanks-giv - ing one psalm let us of - fer
 2 In the morn - ing of life, and at noon, and at eve - ning,
 3 These stones that have ech - oed their prais - es are ho - ly,
 4 Sing praise, then, and thanks that God's love here has found them

for the saints who be - fore us re - ceived the re - ward;
 they were gath - ered to heav'n from our wor - ship be - low;
 and dear is the ground where their feet have once trod;
 whose jour - ney is end - ed, whose per - ils are past;

when the shad - ow of death fell up - on them, we sor - rowed,
 but not till God's love, at the font and the al - tar,
 yet here they con - fessed they were strang - ers and pil - grims,
 they be - lieved in the light; and its glo - ry is round them,

but now we re - joice that they rest in the Lord.
 had clothed them with grace for the way they should go.
 and still they were seek - ing the cit - y of God.
 where the clouds of earth's sor - row are lift - ed at last.