

# ***Bethesda Episcopal Church***

**The Fourth Sunday of Easter**

**11 May 2025**

## ***8.00 Holy Communion***

*At the 8am service, the order of service is printed on the laminated card.  
The Reading, Gospel, and Prayers of the People can be found below.*

## **10.00 Sung Eucharist**

***Organ***

Fugue in G

*Johann Pachelbel (1653-1706)*

***The Entrance Hymn #645***

*From the Hymnal 1982*

***The Opening Acclamation***

*The people standing, 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  
People***

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

Let us pray. O God, whose Son Jesus is the good shepherd of thy people: Grant that when we hear his voice we may know him who calleth us each by name, and follow where he doth lead; who, with thee and the Holy Spirit, liveth and reigneth, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

*All sit.*

### ***The First Lesson***

*Acts 9:36-43*

Now in Joppa there was a disciple whose name was Tabitha, which in Greek is Dorcas. She was devoted to good works and acts of charity. At that time she became ill and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in a room upstairs. Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, who heard that Peter was there, sent two men to him with the request, "Please come to us without delay." So Peter got up and went with them; and when he arrived, they took him to the room upstairs. All the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing tunics and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was with them. Peter put all of them outside, and then he knelt down and prayed. He turned to the body and said, "Tabitha, get up." Then she opened her eyes, and seeing Peter, she sat up. He gave her his hand and helped her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he showed her to be alive. This became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. Meanwhile he stayed in Joppa for some time with a certain Simon, a tanner.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*All remain seated.*

### ***The Gradual***

Alleluia

*August Eduard Grell (1800-1886)*

### ***The Second Lesson***

*Revelation 7:9-17*

I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. They cried out in a loud voice, saying, "Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!" And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, singing, "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen."

Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?" I said to him, "Sir, you are the one that knows." Then he said to me, "These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. For this reason they are before the throne of God, and worship him day and night within his temple, and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them. They will hunger no more, and thirst no more; the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat; for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*All stand.*

## ***The Alleluia***



*Verse:* I am the Good Shepherd; I know my sheep and am known of mine.

(John 10: 14)

*All:*     **Alleluia.**

*Remain standing.*

## ***The Holy Gospel***

*John 10:22-30*

*Celebrant  
People*

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

At that time the festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon. So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, "How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly." Jesus answered, "I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name testify to me; but you do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep. My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. What my Father has given me is greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father's hand. The Father and I are one."

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

## ***The Sermon***

*Fr Gary Kriss*

*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 Anglican Church in Japan; in the diocesan cycle, we pray for Jeremiah, our bishop; and parishes in transition at this time; and in our parish, we remember those who are sick, in hospital, or housebound.

We remember today the role that our mothers have played in our lives. For the love and nurture they have given, the sacrifices they have made, and the guidance they have provided, we give thanks to God.

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

With all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord, saying, *Lord, have mercy.*

For the peace from above, for the loving kindness of God, and for the salvation of our souls, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace of the world, for the welfare of the holy Church of God, and for the unity of all peoples, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For our President, and for the leaders of all nations, that wisdom and courage may prevail in the cause of justice and peace, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For deliverance from all danger, oppression, and degradation; for all affected by violence and war, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For the city of Saratoga Springs, and for every city and community, and for those who live in them, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For the good earth which God has given us, and for the wisdom and will to conserve it, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy**

For the aged and infirm, for the widowed and orphans, and for the sick and the suffering, let us pray to the Lord; remembering especially, Robert Nedwick, Stephen Beach, Connie, and Fred. **Lord, have mercy.**

For the poor and the oppressed, for the unemployed and the destitute, for prisoners and captives, and for all who remember and care for them, let us pray to the Lord.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

For all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, and for all the departed, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

*Celebrant:* Grant these our prayers, O Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our only mediator and advocate. **Amen.**

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

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

**Most merciful God,  
we confess that we have sinned against thee  
in thought, word, and deed,  
by what we have done,  
and by what we have left undone.  
We have not loved thee with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.  
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.  
For the sake of thy Son Jesus Christ,  
have mercy on us and forgive us;  
that we may delight in thy will,  
and walk in thy ways,  
to the glory of thy Name. 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 Peace, you may greet those around you in the name of the Lord.*

### ***The Peace***

*Celebrant*        The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
*People*            **And with thy spirit.**

***Hymn at The Offertory #663***

*From the Hymnal 1982*

*Remain standing*

## ***The Eucharistic Prayer***

<i>Celebrant</i>	The Lord be with you.
<i>People</i>	<b>And with thy spirit.</b>
<i>Celebrant</i>	Lift up your hearts.
<i>People</i>	<b>We lift them up unto the Lord.</b>
<i>Celebrant</i>	Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.
<i>People</i>	<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. But chiefly are we bound to praise thee for the glorious resurrection of thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the very Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and hath taken away the sin of the world; who by his death hath destroyed death, and by his rising to life again hath won for us 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,

## ***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.**

### ***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 Fraction***

<i>Celebrant</i>	Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
<i>People</i>	<b>Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.</b>

*Remain kneeling.*

***The Agnus Dei*** from Mass in g minor

*Thomas Matthews (1915-1999)*

*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 high altar.*



## ***During Communion***

**Motet**      The Lord Is My Shepherd      *Thomas Matthews (1915-1999)*

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.  
He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters.  
He restoreth my soul:  
    he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.  
Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil:  
    for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.  
Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies:  
    thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.  
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life:  
    and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever. (*Psalm 23*)

**Hymn #664** *From the Hymnal 1982*

*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 God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every work to do his will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, 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 #708*** *From the Hymnal 1982*

**Organ** Postlude in D *Healey Willan (1880-1968)*

### **Today at Bethesda**

**Welcome to Bethesda Church!** Thank you for worshipping with us this morning. If you are interested in joining the parish, complete the form on page 12 and place it on the collection plate.

**Thank you** to Fr Gary Kriss for celebrating and preaching this morning and to those reading and leading prayers: at 8am Sonia Arcelay; and at 10am Bob Bullock and Mary Shartle.

If you would like to contribute **flowers for the altar or eucharistic elements** (bread and wine) as a memorial, or in thanksgiving for a birthday or anniversary, please contact the office.

**Please join us for a cup of coffee** after today's 10am service. Thank you to Tim Holmes and Libby Smith-Holmes for hosting today. If you are able to host lemonade and cookies beginning in June, please sign up using the sheet in the Narthex.

**May** - Donations from the Monthly Envelope in **May** will be directed to the Beaver Cross Camp Scholarship Fund. Beaver Cross, our diocesan camp in Greenwich, NY, seeks to make its summer programs available to every eligible child who wishes to participate in its activities, regardless of a family's financial circumstances. Each year, funds are raised to meet the need for scholarships. Please support this enriching experience for children.

**Bethesda Knitting.** Join us for our next get-together on Sunday, 18 May, following the service. No experience necessary. This is an opportunity to learn a new skill, continue with a project or create something together while all in good company.

**Parish Office** The office is open Tuesday and Wednesday 10-1pm; and Thursday 12.00–3pm

**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.





***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 Reasons:*

- ☐ 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, Rector*

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