

Bethesda Episcopal Church

The Feast of Corpus Christi

22 June 2025

Music before the service: The Gift of Love

Shaker Tune, arr. Mark Hayes

*'Tis the gift to be simple, 'tis the gift to be free,
'Tis the gift to come down where you ought to be,
And when we find ourselves in the place just right,
'Twill be in the valley of love and delight.*

*When true simplicity is gained,
To bow and to bend we shan't be ashamed.
To turn, turn will be our delight,
'Til by turning, turning we come round right.*

Carla Fisk, soprano

All stand as the minsters enter. At the step, 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 #321

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. Almighty Father, whose dear Son, on the night before he suffered, did institute the Sacrament of his Body and Blood: Mercifully grant that we may thankfully receive the same in remembrance of him who in these holy mysteries giveth us a pledge of life eternal, the same thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord; who now liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit ever, one God, world without end. **Amen.**

All sit.

The Reading

1 Corinthians 11.23-26

For I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, 'This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me.' In the same way he took the cup also, after supper, saying, 'This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.' For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

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

All stand.

The Gradual Hymn #324

From the Hymnal 1982

Remain standing.

The Holy Gospel

John 6.51-58

*Celebrant
People*

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

Jesus said to the crowds: "I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live forever, and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh."

The Jews then disputed among themselves, saying, "How can this man give us his flesh to eat?" Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood have eternal life, and I will raise them up on the last day, for my flesh is true food, and my blood is true drink. Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me and I in them. Just as the living Father sent me and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which the ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live forever."

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 this week, we remember the Anglican Church in Central America; and in the Albany Diocese, we pray for Jeremiah, our bishop, and the ministry of the Cathedral of All Saints, Albany.

Let us join our prayers with those of our Savior Jesus Christ, seeking the Father's blessing, and the gifts of the Spirit, saying, Lord, graciously hear us.

Jesus Christ, our great high priest, living for ever to intercede for us, pray for the Church, your broken body in the world. Lord, hear us. **Lord, graciously hear us.**

Jesus Christ, king of righteousness, enthroned at the right hand of your majesty on high, pray for this troubled world, and make it subject to your just and gentle rule. Lord, hear us. **Lord, graciously hear us.**

Jesus Christ, Son of Man, drawing humanity into the life of God, pray for your brothers and sisters in any need, distress or sorrow, especially Tony, Robert, Valerie, John and Fred. Lord, hear us. **Lord, graciously hear us.**

Jesus Christ, pioneer of our salvation, bringing us to glory through your death and resurrection, surround with your saints and angels those who have died trusting your promises. Lord, hear us. **Lord, graciously hear us.**

Jesus Christ, Lord over all things, ascended far above the heavens and filling the universe, pray for us who bear witness to your glory and power. Lord, hear us. **Lord, graciously hear us.**

Celebrant: O Lord Jesus Christ, you said to your disciples, "Do this in remembrance of me": help us at every Eucharist, to look back and remember your death for us on the cross; to look up and know that you are the risen Savior among us; to look around and rejoice in our fellowship with one another; and to look forward to your coming reign of justice, mercy and peace. We ask this in your name, and for your sake. **Amen.**

The Confession and Absolution

Celebrant Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

**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 gives 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 exchange of the Peace, greet those around you in the name of the Lord.

The Peace

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

Hymn at The Offertory #460

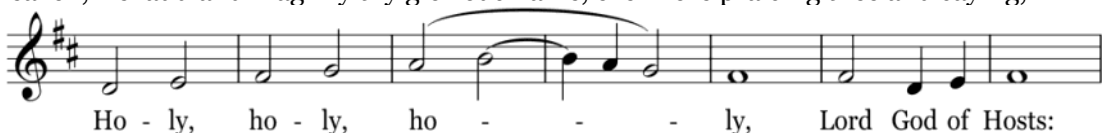
From the Hymnal 1982

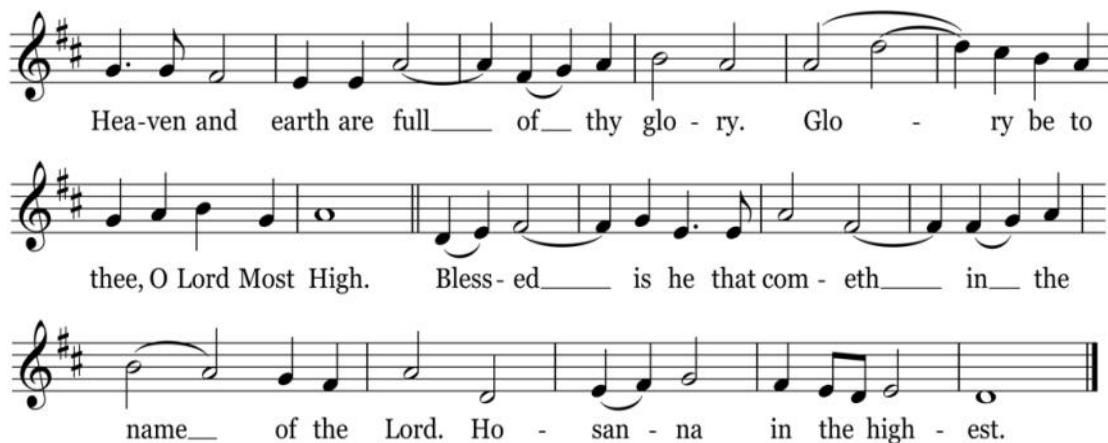
Remain standing.

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,





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

*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)

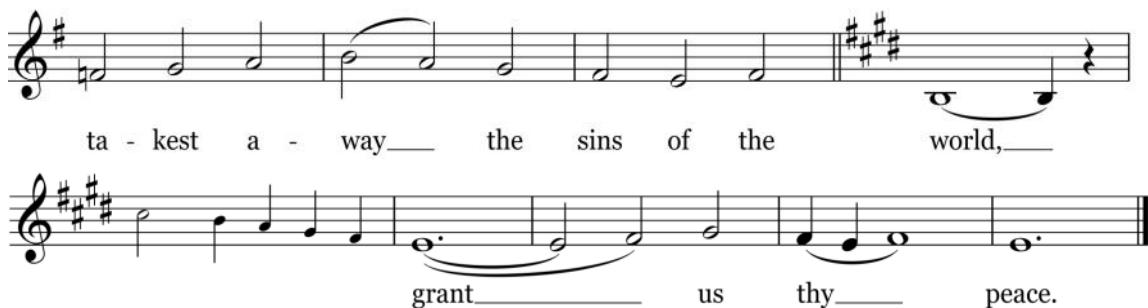
O Lamb of God, that ta - kest a - way the

sins of the world, have mer - cy up - on

us. O Lamb of God, that ta - kest a -

way the sins of the world, have mer - cy up -

on us. O Lamb of God, that



Communion is distributed at the high altar. Please move at the direction of the ushers.

At Communion

Music: Panis Angelicus

César Franck (1822-1890)

Panis angelicus fit panis hominum; Dat panis cœlicus figuris terminum: O res mirabilis! Manducat Dominum pauper, servus et humilis. Te trina Deitas unaque poscimus: Sic nos tu visita, sicut te colimus; Per tuas semitas duc nos quo tendimus, Ad lucem quam inhabitas. Amen.

The Bread of Angels becomes the Bread of Man today; the living Bread puts all foreshadowing to an end. O most miraculous thing! That the body of the Lord nourishes the poor and humble. We therefore ask you, O God, the Three-in-One, to visit us as we worship you; and lead us in your paths to the place where you dwell in light. Amen.

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 passes 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.**

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

The Closing Hymn #690

From the Hymnal 1982

Organ

Chaconne

Henry Purcell (1659-1695)

Notices

Welcome to Bethesda Church! If you are visiting and wish to learn more about our parish, please introduce yourself to Fr Wallace or complete the form on the back page of the bulletin and place it in a collection plate.

Thank you to those reading and leading prayers: at 8am Mary Withington; and at 10am Peter Brooks and Mark Claverie.

Please join us for refreshments after the 10am service. Thank you to Claire & Tim Wood for hosting today.

TODAY: Vestry Meeting Parishioners are invited to attend the Vestry meeting following the 10am service. The agenda is available on p.10.

Special Monthly Envelope Our appeal in June 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.

Parking The lot next the church, accessible via Congress Street, offers free parking for the first two hours.

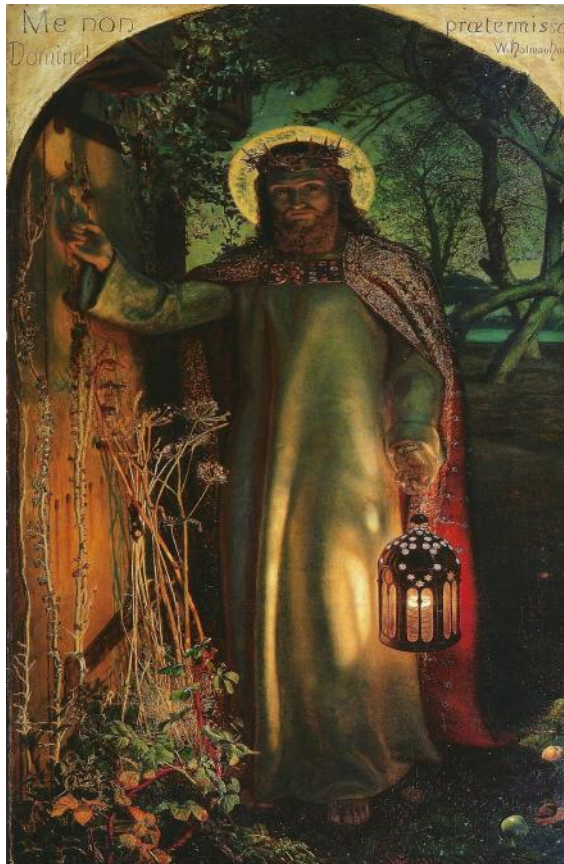
Summer Music Series Today we welcome soprano, **Carla Fisk**. A regional finalist of the Metropolitan Opera's National Council Auditions, Carla has performed in many operas in Europe and the United States. In Rome, Italy, she was chosen to sing on Italian National Television (RAI Uno), performing Hanna from *Die Lustige Witwe*. She then went on to be a part of the Baltimore Opera's Young Artist Program singing the role of Beauty in Giannini's *Beauty and the Beast* (an Educational Outreach Opera) and performing the role of Despina in Mozart's *Così fan Tutte*. They asked her back to sing the role of Second Lady in Mozart's *Die Zauberflöte* directed by Werner Herzog and conducted by William Crutchfield with the main stage of Baltimore Opera. In her performing career she has sung the role of the Contessa in Mozart's *Le Nozze di Figaro*, The title role in Puccini's *Suor Angelica*, Donna Anna in Mozart's *Don Giovanni*, Mimi in Puccini's *La Bohème*, Nedda in Leoncavallo's *Pagliacci*, and Laetitia in Menotti's *The Old Maid and The Thief*.

After moving to New York City she started a non-profit group called Opera on Tap. Opera on Tap is an educational and cultural outreach organization that seeks to bring opera to unconventional performance spaces like bars. Over time it became something that supports young singers, supports new music – chamber and opera – to be performed, and reaches out to children as well. This group has taken off like wildfire since its inception in 2005. Opera On Tap has been written about in the New York Times, Wall Street Journal, and Time Out Magazine. Opera On Tap has also been on NPR's "All Things Considered", WNYC "Soundcheck", and Current TV. Carla remains an active managing "Diva", promoting shows, performing in shows, working with the scholarship programs for singers, and is their Educational Outreach Director (writing and directing shows for children). Since moving to the Albany area, Carla teaches private voice instruction and has performed as soloist in oratorio works such as Handel's *Messiah*, Brahms' *Ein Deutsches Requiem*, Vivaldi's *Gloria*, Mozart's *Coronation Mass*, Fauré's *Requiem*, Einhorn's *Voices of Light*, and Poulenc's *Gloria*.

Upcoming

Members of the **Orchestra of the NYC Ballet** will perform a recital at Bethesda on Thursday 10 July at 4pm. All welcome.

Excelsior Vocal Ensemble presents *Celestial England* on Saturday 19 July at 3pm. Returning to Bethesda in July, Excelsior travels the scope of English Choral Music from across the centuries. Herbert Howells stirring *Requiem* and William Byrd's *Mass for Five Voices* are contrasted with the powerful Five Spirituals from *A Child of Our Time* and selections from Gustav Holst's *Choral Folk Songs*. With guest organist, Derek Stannard, don't miss this performance in a beautiful space. Tickets \$25, general seating, www.Saratoga-arts.org/events or at door.



William Holman Hunt's "**The Light of the World**" is an allegorical painting depicting Jesus knocking on a door - representing the human soul - seeking entry. The painting is a powerful religious illustration, particularly inspired by the biblical passage in Revelation 3:20: "Behold I stand at the door and knock." It's known for its detailed and symbolic elements, including the ivy-covered door, and the light radiating from Christ's halo and lantern.

BETHESDA EPISCOPAL CHURCH

AGENDA: Meeting of the Parish Vestry

Sunday, 22 June 2025 at 11.20am

Opening Prayer:

Come Holy Spirit, and fill the hearts of your faithful people, and kindle in us, the fire of your love. **Amen.**

Attendance Regrets:

Approval of Minutes of the May 2024 meeting - circulated

Rector's remarks

Fr Wallace

Warden's report

Sara Manny

Treasurer's Report

Karen Finkbeiner

Building Update

David Harper

Calendar:

NEXT MEETING: **17 September**

Other Dates

10 July – NYC Ballet Orchestra – recital

19 July – Excelsior Vocal Ensemble – concert

5 October— Bishop's Visitation & Confirmation

Closing Prayer:

The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. Amen.

Financial Summary: Overall, Year to Date May most of our Expenses are running as planned. Building maintenance and Insurance are running over budget, mainly due to timing of payments and activities. Utilities have been more costly in 2025 than budgeted. Pledge and plate income fell below budget for the first time in May, but our dividends and interest income covered the shortfall and our net Income was \$8,343.

Operational Performance, Year to Date May 2025

Expense	Budget	Actual	Better/(Worse) than Budget
Rector Expenses:	55,005	53,031	1,974
<i>Wages, benefits, rectory maintenance</i>			
Church Building	16,581	21,614	(5,033)
<i>Utilities, Maintenance and Insurance</i>			Maint, Utilities, Insurance
Programs not uniquely funded	3,558	4,075	(517)
<i>Outreach, Organ, other</i>			
Fees	12,014	11,835	179
<i>Professional and credit card</i>			
Office	9,434	9,859	(425)
<i>Rent, Equipment, Supplies</i>			
Diocese Assessment	22,553	22,552	1
Total Operational Expense	\$ 119,144	\$ 122,966	\$ (3,821)
<u>Income</u>			
Pledge and Plate:	123,131	119,420	(3,712)
<i>Pledge and plate over/(under) expense:</i>	3,987	(3,546)	Shortfall in May
Other operational	-	1,568	1,568
<i>Fuel</i>			
Total unrestricted Income	\$ 123,131	\$ 120,988	\$ (2,144)
Total unrestricted Income with Div, Int	\$ 133,385	\$ 131,309	\$ (2,076)
Operational Income (Deficit)	\$ 14,241	\$ 8,343	\$ (5,897)

Non-Operational Expenses:

Special Events	-
Choir	14,970
Altar Guild	716
Christian Ed	2,000

Non-Operational Income:

Special Event Income	850	
Choir	9,610	Dividend Griffith
Flowers/Altar guild	1,995	
Christian Educ		
Elements	200	
Summer Music	1,200	
Feb Env	495	Franklin Community Center
Mar Env	644	Lifeworks Community action
Apr Env	845	Parke music fund
May Env	923	Beaver Cross scholarships

Items in italics do not show in our financial statements once transferred, they are maintained in this list for information only.



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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