

Bethesda Episcopal Church

The Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

12 October 2025

8.00 Holy Communion

*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 Aria

Eugene Bozza (1905-1991)

All stand as the Choir and Clergy enter.

The Entrance Hymn #377

From the Hymnal 1982

Remain standing. The Celebrant says

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

Dear friends in Christ, God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy, welcoming sinners and inviting them to his table. Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith, firmly resolved to keep God's commandments, and to live in love and peace with all.

All kneel. After a period of silence, the Celebrant begins the Confession, saying

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.**

Remain kneeling.

Kyrie Eleison from Missa Tribus Vocibus

Christoph Dalitz (b. 1967)

Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

All stand.

The Collect of the Day

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

Let us pray. Lord, we pray thee that thy grace may always precede and follow us, and make us continually to be given to all good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

All sit.

The Reading

2 Kings 5:1-3, 7-15c

Naaman, commander of the army of the king of Aram, was a great man and in high favor with his master, because by him the LORD had given victory to Aram. The man, though a mighty warrior, suffered from leprosy. Now the Arameans on one of their raids had taken a young girl captive from the land of Israel, and she served Naaman's wife. She said to her mistress, "If only my lord were with the prophet who is in Samaria! He would cure him of his leprosy."

When the king of Israel read the letter, he tore his clothes and said, "Am I God, to give death or life, that this man sends word to me to cure a man of his leprosy? Just look and see how he is trying to pick a quarrel with me."

But when Elisha the man of God heard that the king of Israel had torn his clothes, he sent a message to the king, "Why have you torn your clothes? Let him come to me, that he may learn that there is a prophet in Israel." So Naaman came with his horses and chariots, and halted at the entrance of Elisha's house. Elisha sent a messenger to him, saying, "Go, wash in the Jordan seven times, and your flesh shall be restored and you shall be clean." But Naaman became angry and went away, saying, "I thought that for me he would surely come out, and stand and call on the name of the LORD his God, and would wave his hand over the spot, and cure the leprosy! Are not Abana and Pharpar, the rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? Could I not wash in them, and be clean?" He turned and went away in a rage. But his servants approached and said to him, "Father, if the prophet had commanded you to do something difficult, would you not have done it? How much more, when all he said to you was, 'Wash, and be clean'?" So he went down and immersed himself seven times in the Jordan, according to the word of the man of God; his flesh was restored like the flesh of a young boy, and he was clean. Then he returned to the man of God, he and all his company; he came and stood before him and said, "Now I know that there is no God in all the earth except in Israel."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

All stand.

The Alleluia



Verse: Ye that fear the Lord, put your trust in him; He is their helper and defender.
Alleluia.

Remain standing.

The Holy Gospel

St Luke 11.17-19

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

On the way to Jerusalem Jesus was going through the region between Samaria and Galilee. As he entered a village, ten lepers approached him. Keeping their distance, they called out, saying, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!" When he saw them, he said to them, "Go and show yourselves to the priests." And as they went, they were made clean. Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice. He prostrated himself at Jesus' feet and thanked him. And he was a Samaritan. Then Jesus asked, "Were not ten made clean? But the other nine, where are they? Was none of them found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?" Then he said to him, "Get up and go on your way; your faith has made you well."

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

The Sermon

All stand.

The Nicene Creed

**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 Episcopal Church of the Philippines; and in the Albany Diocese, our hospital chaplains. We give thanks for the marriage yesterday of Claire and Tony; and pray for Vivienne, who will receive the sacrament of baptism this afternoon, and for her parents and godparents. 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 the sick, and the suffering, especially Holly;
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.

In a moment of silence, let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

Celebrant: Lord, make us instruments of thy peace. Where there is hatred, let us sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; and where there is sadness, joy. O Master, grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned; and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. **Amen.**

All stand. At the exchange of the Peace, you may 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 #390

From the Hymnal 1982

Remain standing.

The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you.

And with thy spirit.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up unto the Lord.

Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

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. Creator of the light and source of life, who hast made us in thine image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord. 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. The Celebrant says the Eucharistic Prayer (p. 341 of the BCP), which concludes,

... 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

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.

Communion is distributed at the altar rail. Please come forward at the direction of the ushers.

The Agnus Dei from Missa Tribus Vocibus.

Christoph Dalitz (b.1967)

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis.
Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, dona nobis pacem.

*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.*

During the administration of Communion, the Choir sings

Motet: Jubilate Deo

W. A. Mozart (1756-1791)

Jubilate Deo omnis terra, Servite Domino in laetitia.
Laudate nomen ejus: quoniam suavis est Dominus, Alleluia.

*O be joyful in the Lord, all ye lands. Serve the Lord with gladness.
Praise His Name, for the Lord is gracious. Alleluia.*

(Text: Ps 100)

Communion Hymn #334 (remain seated)

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 #481

From the Hymnal 1982

Organ

Fugue on the Magnificat

J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

Notices

Welcome! Thank you for joining us this morning. If you are interested in learning more about Bethesda Church, please introduce yourself to an usher or speak to Fr Wallace.

Thank you to those reading and leading prayers today: 8am Lynne Priestley and 10am Libby Smith-Holmes and Darren Miller.

Please join us for **refreshments** following the 10am service. Thanks to Laurie Brenenstuhl and Caroline for hosting today.

Congratulations to those who were confirmed or received into the Anglican Communion by Bishop Williamson last Sunday. If you did not collect a signed certificate, your copy is available in the sacristy.

Special Monthly Envelope Funds raised in **October** will be divided between the feeding ministry at the local Presbyterian – United Church of Christ which provides a hot meal to those in need; and Christ Church Food Pantry, a ministry operated by the Episcopal parish in Ballston Spa.

Office Hours this week are Tuesday & Wednesday 10.00 to noon, and Thursday 1.30 to 3.30pm.

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

Bethesda Book Club meets on Thursday 16 October at 5.30pm to discuss *The Testament of Mary* by Irish author, Colm Tóibín. For further information, or to register (if you have not already done so) contact office@bethesdachurch.org

NEXT SUNDAY: *Mere Christianity* is perhaps C. S. Lewis's most famous text on the Christian faith, but engaging the text is not always easy. The first meeting will discuss the preface and foreword found in your text. Copies of the preface are available on the back table. Join this session with Jonathan Kimmel on Oct 19th at 9:00.

Musicians of Ma'alwyck return to Bethesda on Friday 24 October to present a programme of chamber works by 17th and 18th century Dutch composers. For more information about their upcoming season and to purchase tickets, please visit musiciansofmaalwyck.org

Excelsior Vocal Ensemble opens its 2025-2026 concert season at Bethesda Church on Sunday, 26 October at 3pm. Music by Brahms, Britten, Mahler and Reger.

This year's **Parish Retreat** at Holy Cross Monastery, West Park from 31 October—2 November is fully subscribed. If you would like to learn more about retreat opportunities in 2026, speak to Fr Wallace.

Annual Bible Symposium. This year's Symposium in 2025 will be a joint celebration between The Cathedral of All Saints, Albany, and The Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception for the 1700th anniversary of the Nicene Creed. This basic summary of the Christian faith is said in thousands of churches of all denominations throughout the world each Sunday. What are the Biblical roots of this creed? What is the history behind it? Why is it still important today? The keynote speaker will be Fr. Khaled Anatolios, who is the Chair of the Department of Theology and the John A. O'Brien professor of theology at the University of Notre Dame. He is a convert from Islam and a priest of the Byzantine Rite which though part of the Roman Catholic Church follows the liturgy and many of the customs of Eastern Orthodoxy. The Symposium will take place at All Saints' Cathedral, 62 South Swan (and Elk Streets) on Saturday, 1 November from 9.30 to 1.30pm. To purchase tickets, go to the Cathedral's website: www.cathedralofallsaints.org

Remembrance Sunday & Commemoration of the Faithful Departed On Sunday 9 November, the names of loved ones and friends who have died in the past year will be read at the 8am and 10am services. If you wish to add a name, a list is available on the tract table at the back of the church, or you may notify the office.

Forward Day by Day Copies of the latest edition of *Forward Day by Day* are available for purchase on the back table. Copies are \$2 each.

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 canned food and household supplies on behalf of LifeWorks. Place donated items in the box by the side door entrance.

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 in November or December 2025, please contact the office.

Parking The lot adjacent to the church, which is accessible via Congress Street, offers free parking for the first two hours.