

Bethesda Episcopal Church

The Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

19 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 Berceuse, from 24 *Pièces en style libre*

Louis Vierne (1870-1937)

All stand as the Choir and Clergy enter.

The Entrance Hymn #371

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 *Mass in the Phrygian Mode*

Charles Wood (1866-1926)

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. Almighty and everlasting God, who in Christ hast revealed thy glory among the nations: Preserve the works of thy mercy, that thy Church throughout the world may persevere with steadfast faith in the confession of thy Name; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

All sit.

The Reading

2 Timothy 3:14-4:5

As for you, continue in what you have learned and firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it, and how from childhood you have known the sacred writings that are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, so that everyone who belongs to God may be proficient, equipped for every good work.

In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I solemnly urge you: proclaim the message; be persistent whether the time is favorable or unfavorable; convince, rebuke, and encourage, with the utmost patience in teaching. For the time is coming when people will not put up with sound doctrine, but having itching ears, they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own desires, and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander away to myths. As for you, always be sober, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, carry out your ministry fully.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

All stand.

The Alleluia



Verse: Praise the Lord, O my soul; while I live will I praise the Lord; yea, as long as I have any being, I will sing praises unto my God. **Alleluia.**

Remain standing.

The Holy Gospel

Luke 18:1-8

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

Jesus told his disciples a parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heart. He said, "In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor had respect for

people. In that city there was a widow who kept coming to him and saying, 'Grant me justice against my opponent.' For a while he refused; but later he said to himself, 'Though I have no fear of God and no respect for anyone, yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will grant her justice, so that she may not wear me out by continually coming.'"

And the Lord said, "Listen to what the unjust judge says. And will not God grant justice to his chosen ones who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long in helping them? I tell you, he will quickly grant justice to them. And yet, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?"

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

The Sermon

Jonathan Kimmel

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, we remember the Episcopal Church and Sean Rowe, our Presiding Bishop; and in the Albany Diocese, our bishop, Jeremiah Williamson and those involved in healing ministries and hospital chaplaincy.

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, Candance, Catherine, Polly, Liz and John.
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: Almighty and most merciful God, grant that by the indwelling of thy Holy Spirit, we may be enlightened and strengthened for thy service; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **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 #337

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.

The Agnus Dei from *Mass in the Phrygian Mode*

Charles Wood (1866-1926)

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 altar rail. Please move at the direction of the ushers.

Motet: Almighty and Everlasting God

Orlando Gibbons (1583-1625)

Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities, and in all our dangers and necessities stretch forth thy right hand to help and defend us; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Text: BCP Collect, 1552

Communion Hymn #300 (remain seated or kneeling)

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 #709

From the Hymnal 1982

Organ

Prelude, Fugue, and Chaconne

Dietrich Buxtehude (1637-1707)

Notices

Welcome! Thank you for joining us this morning. If you would like to learn more about Bethesda Church, introduce yourself to an usher or speak to Fr Wallace.

The Eucharistic elements (wine and bread) for the month of October are given by Lynne Priestley.

Thank you to those reading and leading prayers today: 8am Bob Bullock; and 10am Joyce Cole and Daniel Beach.

Join us for **refreshments** following the 10am service. Thank you to Marcia MacDonald and Judi Stern for hosting today.

TODAY: *Mere Christianity* is perhaps C. S. Lewis's most famous text on the Christian faith, but engaging the text is not always easy. Our 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 between the services, beginning at 9am. Future Sunday sessions at 9am are Nov 16th, Dec 21st and Jan 18th. Register at office@bethesdachurch.org

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 A service of Holy Communion will be held on Thursdays at 12.10pm. All welcome.

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

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. Admission \$25.

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.

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

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

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:

- ☐ 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 _____

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