

Bethesda Episcopal Church

Remembrance Sunday

9 November 2025

8.00am - Holy Communion

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

10.00am - Sung Eucharist and Sermon

Silence is observed before the service. All stand as the Choir and Clergy enter. The Celebrant says the Sentences from the Burial Office.

I am the resurrection and the life, saith the Lord: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: and whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die.

Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you.

I know that my Redeemer liveth, and that he shall stand at the latter day upon the earth.

Whether we live, we live unto the Lord; or whether we die, we die unto the Lord: whether we live therefore or die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died, and lived again, that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a living hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you.

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

Let us pray. Father of all, we pray to thee for those we love, but see no longer: Grant them thy peace; let light perpetual shine upon them; and in thy loving wisdom and almighty power, work in them the good purpose of thy perfect will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

All sit.

The Reading

Wisdom 3:1-9

But the souls of the righteous are in the hand of God, and no torment will ever touch them. In the eyes of the foolish they seemed to have died, and their departure was thought to be a disaster, and their going from us to be their destruction; but they are at peace. For though in the sight of others they were punished, their hope is full of immortality. Having been disciplined a little, they will receive great good, because God tested them and found them worthy of himself; like gold in the furnace he tried them, and like a sacrificial burnt-offering he accepted them. In the time of their visitation they will shine forth, and will run like sparks through the stubble. They will govern nations and rule over peoples, and the Lord will reign over them for ever. Those who trust in him will understand truth, and the faithful will abide with him in love, because grace and mercy are upon his holy ones, and he watches over his elect.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

All stand.

The Hymn #526

from the Hymnal 1982

Remain standing.

The Holy Gospel

John 20:11-18

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

Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. They said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him." When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?" Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away." Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned and said to him in Hebrew, "Rabbouni!" (which means Teacher). Jesus said to her, "Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'" Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord"; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to thee, O Christ.

The Sermon

Robert Bullock

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

Almighty God, you have promised to hear the prayers of those who ask in faith:

We pray for the Church; for Sean, our Presiding Bishop;
for Jeremiah, our bishop;
and for the clergy and people of this diocese;
that in our vocation and ministry, we may truly and devoutly serve you.
Lord, in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

We pray for this nation,
for our political leaders and all in authority;
for those who serve in the Armed Forces;
for judges and magistrates;
that they may have wisdom to know and courage to do what is right.
Lord, in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

We pray for the nations of the world,
for the people of the Middle East, and Ukraine;
for the United Nations and all who work for justice and peace;
that we may honor one another and seek the common good.
Lord, in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

We pray the sick and the suffering, especially at this time for Holly, Candance, Andrea,
Catherine, Jeffrey and Jenny;
and we remember those who are hungry;
those who have lost their livelihood and security;
those injured or displaced as a result of war;
and all who mourn;
that they may to hold to you through good and ill, and trust in your unfailing love.
Lord, in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

Finally, we place in your hands the souls of the departed;
for those known to us, and those with no one to pray for them,
for those who lost their lives in acts of violence and conflict;
that you will keep them in your love.
Lord, in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

Celebrant: O God, whose will it is to hold both heaven and earth in a single peace. Let the design of thy great love shine on the waste of our wraths and sorrows, and give peace to thy Church, peace among nations, peace in our homes, and peace in our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Confession and Absolution

Draw near with faith, and make your humble confession to Almighty God, devoutly kneeling.

**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.**

The Comfortable Words

Hear what comfortable words our Savior Christ saith unto all that truly turn to him.

Come unto me, all ye that travail and are heavy laden, and I will refresh you. (*Mt 11:28*)

God so loved the world, that he gave his only-begotten Son, to the end that all that believe in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. (*John 3:16*)

This is a true saying, and worthy of all to be received, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. (*1 Timothy 1:15*)

If anyone sin, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the propitiation for our sins. (*1 John 2:1-2*)

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 #623

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. Through Jesus Christ our Lord; who rose victorious from the dead, and doth comfort us with the blessed hope of everlasting life; for to thy faithful people, O Lord, life is changed, not ended; and when our mortal body doth lie in death, there is prepared for us a dwelling place in the heavens. 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 glory be to thee, Almighty God, our heavenly Father, for that thou of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption; who made there, by his one oblation of himself once offered, a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction, for the sins of 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, he brake 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 ye all of this; for this is my Blood of the New Testament, 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, according to the institution of thy dearly beloved Son our Savior Jesus Christ, we, thy humble servants, do celebrate and make here before thy divine Majesty, 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; rendering unto thee most hearty thanks for the innumerable benefits procured unto us by the same.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us; and of thy almighty goodness, vouchsafe to bless and sanctify, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, these thy gifts and creatures of bread and wine; that we, receiving them according to thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed Body and Blood.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; most humbly beseeching thee to grant that, by the merits and death of thy Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in his blood, we, and all thy whole Church, may obtain remission of our sins, and all other benefits of his passion.

And here we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and living sacrifice unto thee; humbly beseeching thee that we, and all others who shall be partakers of this Holy Communion, may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction, and made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him.

Remember, Lord, also the souls of thy servants which are gone before us with the mark of faith, and now rest in the sleep of peace... (*The tower bell tolls for the departed.*) We beseech thee, O Lord, that unto them, and unto all such as rest in Christ, thou wilt grant a place of refreshing, of light, and of peace. And vouchsafe to give unto us some portion and fellowship with thy holy Apostles and Martyrs and with all thy Saints; within whose fellowship we beseech thee to admit us.

And although we are unworthy, through our manifold sins, to offer unto thee any sacrifice, yet we beseech thee to accept this our bounden duty and service, not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offenses, through Jesus Christ our Lord; By whom, and with 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 Agnus Dei from Requiem in c-minor

Robert Führer (1807-1861)

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, dona eis requiem.
Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, dona eis requiem sempiternam

*Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, grant them rest.
Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, grant them rest eternal.*

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

During Communion, the Choir sings

If we believe that Jesus died and rose again, e'en so them also which sleep in Jesus, will God bring with Him. Wherefore, comfort one another with these words.

Music: *John Goss (1800-1880)* Text: 1 Thess. 4: 14, 18

Communion Hymn: #692 (remain seated)

From the Hymnal 1982

After Communion, all kneel.

The Post-Communion Prayer *Said by the Celebrant*

Let us pray. Almighty God, we thank thee that in thy great love thou hast fed us with the spiritual food and drink of the Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, and hast given unto us a foretaste of thy heavenly banquet. Grant that this Sacrament may be unto us a comfort in affliction, and a pledge of our inheritance in that kingdom where there is no death, neither sorrow nor crying, but the fullness of joy with all thy saints; through Jesus Christ our Savior. **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 upon you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

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

All stand.

Closing Hymn #624

From The Hymnal 1982

Organ Chorale on 'O World, I now must leave thee' *Johannes Brahms (1833-1897)*

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. Complete the form on the back page of this bulletin for more information about the parish.

The **flowers** on the altar and Communion elements are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Madeline Stewart by Lynne Priestley.

Thank you to those **reading and leading prayers** at services today:

8am Lynne Priestley

10 am Judy Aronstamm and Peter Brooks

Please join us for **refreshments** following the 10am service. Thanks to Alison Read for hosting today. If you are able to host in November or December, please let us know; a sign-up sheet is available at the back of the church.

Victorian Street Walk We are looking for a few volunteers to welcome visitors to the church on the evening of Thursday 4 December from 6pm to 8.30pm. Please call the office if you are willing to assist.

Holy Communion this Thursday, 13 November, at 12.10pm. Please note that there will be no service on Thursday 27 November.

NEXT SUNDAY *Mere Christianity* From scholarly literature to children's fantasy, C. S. Lewis is one of the most profound authors of the last century. His classic work *Mere Christianity* explores the great questions of life from a Christian perspective and is valued by people of all traditions. The next class takes place Sunday, 16th November at 9am. For more information, register at office@bethesdachurch.org

Decorating of the Church Please join us on Saturday, 13 December, for our annual decorating of the church. We'll need help hanging wreaths and garland and arranging trees. Please bring work clothes and gloves.

Stewardship November is traditionally the time we ask you to consider making a pledge to support the ministry of Bethesda. Bethesda relies almost entirely on weekly offerings. Please think seriously about your contribution to our ongoing work and witness for the coming year. Our financial gifts are an important way of giving thanks to God for the blessings we have received, and putting our faith into action through the stewardship of the resources God has given us. Please collect your envelope at the back of the Church and return it to the office in the collection plate or by mail.

Office Hours This week, the office is closed on Tuesday due to the federal holiday, and on Wednesday. It will be open **Thursday** from 12.30 to 3pm. Please call ahead if you wish to visit in person, or email office@bethesdachurch.org.

Special Monthly Envelope Our special monthly appeal in November supports the work of the Saratoga County Children's Committee Empty Stocking Project. The Empty Stocking Project is the largest and most widely recognized program of the Saratoga County Children's Committee. Their mission is to embody the holiday spirit by helping to provide families in need with a joyous holiday. Each year, they are able to provide over 900 children living in Saratoga County with a wonderful holiday season.

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 2026, 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.

Advent and Christmas Services at Bethesda Church 2025

30 November	Advent Sunday	Services at 8am and 10am
7 December	Advent II	Services at 8am and 10am
14 December	Gaudete: Advent III	8am Holy Communion
		10am Sung Eucharist and Pageant
21 December	Advent IV	8am Holy Communion
		10am Lessons and Carols
24 December	Christmas Eve	4pm Sung Eucharist
		10pm Sung Eucharist
25 December	Christmas Day	9am Holy Communion (said)
28 December	Christmas I	9am Holy Communion (said)



Liturgical Notes

Q In the Prayers of the People at the Sunday Eucharist, we remember those "*whose year's mind falls at this time*." What is the derivation of that phrase?

A Although the phrase was common centuries ago, it now survives only in Church ritual. In this context, '*mind*' is a reference to remembrance or commemoration. It is a relative of phrases like the old English proverb, *out of sight, out of mind*, or the idiom, *to call to mind*, which gives us a clue why *mind* is equated with *memory*. It survives in this ecclesiastical phrase to refer to an act of commemoration of a departed soul on the anniversary of his or her death.

Until the Reformation in the 16th century, the Church was clear that there was no 'end date' on the need to remember the faithful departed in our prayers. The wealthy even built Chantry Chapels in order that prayers for their own souls would go on until the end of time. In the Roman Catholic Church, people can still pay to have masses said for the departed on or near their year's mind.

Another meaningful and lasting way to remember someone is with a memorial gift supporting a particular ministry or project. In 2024, Bethesda received a gift from the estate of Bruce Solenski, a faithful member of this parish. In accordance with Bruce's wishes, this fund is to be used for the upkeep of the sanctuary and to purchase items needed for worship: candles, vestments, vessels, *etc.* As we remember Bruce at the altar today, we pray that his generous gift will benefit our church for years to come. May his soul and the souls of all the faithful departed, rest in peace.



Christmas Flowers, Greens, Wreaths and Trees

This Christmas season offers an opportunity not only to purchase flowers for the Altar, but to sponsor other decorations that adorn our church at this special time of year. If you would like to contribute, please complete this form and return it to the church office. You can place your completed form in the offering plate or mail it to:

***Bethesda Church Office
178 Elm Street, Suite 5
Saratoga Springs, NY 12866***

I would like to purchase:

_____ Poinsettia for \$25 each.

I would like to contribute towards the following:

_____ Greenery and trees \$ _____

Given By: _____

In Honor of: _____

In Memory of: _____

Please return form to the church office before 10 December.



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 _____

The Reverend Charles Wallace, Rector

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