



*Sunday, October 19, 2025
19th Sunday after Pentecost*



BETHLEHEM
LUTHERAN CHURCH

48 Perrin Street, Fairport, NY ~ (585) 223-0634 ~ www.blcfairport.org

PRELUDE

Jesu, geh voran

Wilhelm Rudnick

(Jesus, still lead on)

from *30 Chorale Preludes*, op. 70/12

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pray always. Do not lose heart. This is Christ's encouragement in the gospel today. Wrestle with the word. Remember your baptism again and again. Come regularly to Christ's table. Persistence in our every encounter with the divine will be blessed.

GATHERING

Una versión en español de la orden de culto de hoy está disponible en el himnario azul All Creation Sings que comienza en la página 8.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, who creates, redeems, and sustains all of creation.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

To you, O God,

all hearts are open, to you all desires are known. We come to you, confessing our sins. Forgive us in your mercy, and remember us in your love. Show us your ways; teach us your paths; and lead us in justice and truth, for the sake of your goodness in Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

By water and the Holy Spirit God gives you a new birth, and through the death and resurrection of ☩ Jesus Christ, God forgives you all your sins. The God of mercy and might strengthen you in all goodness and keep you in eternal life.

Amen.

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

HYMN OF PRAISE



1 ¡Glo-ria a Dios, glo-ria a Dios, glo - ria en los cie - los!
1 Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo - ry in the high - est!



¡Glo-ria a Dios, glo-ria a Dios, glo - ria en los cie - los!
Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo - ry in the high - est!



¡A Dios la glo-ria por siem-pre! ¡A Dios la glo-ria por siem-pre!
To God be glo-ry for - ev - er! To God be glo-ry for - ev - er!



¡A - le - lu - ya! ¡A - mén! ¡A - le - lu - ya! ¡A - mén! ¡A - le - lu - ya! ¡A - mén!
Al - le - lu - ia! A - men! Al - le - lu - ia! A - men! Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!



¡A - le - lu - ya! ¡A - mén! ¡A - le - lu - ya! ¡A - mén! ¡A - le - lu - ya! ¡A - mén!
Al - le - lu - ia! A - men! Al - le - lu - ia! A - men! Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!



¡A - le - lu - ya! ¡A - mén! ¡A - le - lu - ya! ¡A - mén!
Al - le - lu - ia! A - men! Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. O Lord God, tireless guardian of your people, you are always ready to hear our cries. Teach us to rely day and night on your care. Inspire us to seek your enduring justice for all this suffering world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

HEARING GOD’S WORD

DISMISSAL TO WORSHIP FOR KIDS AND JOY!

*All kids ages 3 through elementary are welcome to a special time of hearing the Word, conversation and activity! Parents can remain in the sanctuary while the kids gather in designated spaces. **Worship for Kids** (Ages 3 – Grade 2) meets across the hall from the sanctuary and **JOY!** (Grades 3 – 5) meets downstairs. Kids will return during the offering so they can participate in Communion.*

READING: 2 Timothy 3:14—4:5

The writer of this letter continues his instruction of Timothy, his younger colleague in ministry, by emphasizing the importance of faithful teaching despite opposition.

¹⁴ But as for you, continue in what you have learned and firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it ¹⁵ and how from childhood you have known sacred writings that are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. ¹⁶ All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, ¹⁷ so that the person of God may be proficient, equipped for every good work.

^{4:1} 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: ² proclaim the message; be persistent whether the time is favorable or unfavorable; convince, rebuke, and encourage with the utmost patience in teaching. ³ For the time is coming when people will not put up with sound teaching, but, having their ears tickled, they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own desires ⁴ and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander away to myths. ⁵ As for you, be sober in everything, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, carry out your ministry fully.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION – Sung two times

A - le - lu - ya, a - le - lu - ya. A - le - lu - ya, a - le - lu - ya.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

A - le - lu - ya, a - le - lu - ya. El Se - ñor re - su - ci - tó.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Christ is ris - en, ris' n in - deed.

The holy gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL: Luke 18:1-8

Jesus tells a parable of an unjust judge who is worn down by a widow's pleas. Jesus is calling God's people to cry out for justice and deliverance. For if an unethical judge will ultimately grant the plea of a persistent widow, how much more will God respond to those who call.

¹ Then Jesus told them a parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heart. ² He said, "In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor had respect for people. ³ In that city there was a widow who kept coming to him and saying, 'Grant me justice against my accuser.' ⁴ For a while he refused, but later he said to himself, 'Though I have no fear of God and no respect for anyone, ⁵ yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will grant her justice, so that she may not wear me out by continually coming.' " ⁶ And the Lord said, "Listen to what the unjust judge says. ⁷ And will not God grant justice to his chosen ones who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long in helping them? ⁸ 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 to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY	There Is a Longing in Our Hearts	ACS 1078
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Stanzas 1: Choir

2, 3, 4: All

APOSTLES' CREED

Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Our prayers are always offered on behalf of the whole community.

Gracious God, we come to you in prayer for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

#1 We pray for the church universal. O God, who unites the church across the globe, bring unity and peace to a world divided by hatred and opposition. Turn our hearts toward the gospel of Jesus Christ. God of mercy,
hear our prayer.

#2 We pray for creation. O God, who made heaven and earth, draw us to the beauty of the whole creation. Turn us toward a right relationship with the entire cosmos. God of mercy,
hear our prayer.

#3 We pray for all nations, states, cities, and towns. O God, you rule over all the earth. Grant our elected officials humility in their decision-making for the sake of the entire world. God of mercy,
hear our prayer.

We pray for ministries that unite people in serving our neighbors and demonstrating God's love; and for our siblings in faith in our twinned parish in Shurugwi, Zimbabwe. May our partnerships remind us of your abundance. God of mercy,
hear our prayer.

We know that all people matter in your eyes and you know their cares and concerns, their hopes and joys. We pray for those whose needs are known to us.

We pray for those in need of healing, especially:

- Scarlett E, mother of Justin E, who is recovering from surgery
- Paulette C, who fell on 10/2 and is recovering at home
- Anita T who is hospitalized

Hear the names of those we raise to you in our hearts or on our voice.

Silence for individual prayer.

God of mercy,
hear our prayer.

We entrust these prayers to you, O God, in the name of Jesus Christ, our redeemer and friend.
Amen.

SHARING GOD'S MEAL

THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Share the peace in a way that cares for friend and neighbor. If you worship virtually, share the peace through the comments section or text.

OFFERING

Thank you for your offerings that support the ongoing ministry that we share.

Information about supporting Bethlehem's ministry with your offerings is available in the Welcome insert in your pew rack or by visiting blcfairport.org/support-our-ministry or scan the QR (quick response) code on the right and you'll be brought to BLC's mobile giving page.



OFFERING OF MUSIC

Loving God, Hear Us

words, Nancy Grundahl

music, Gabriel Fauré / adapt. N. Grundahl

The Chancel Choir

OFFERTORY



God, bless the la - bor we bring to serve you, that with our



neigh - bor we may be fed. Sow - ing or till - ing, we would work



with you, har - vest - ing, mill - ing for dai - ly bread.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray. Holy God, gracious and merciful,
**you bring forth food from the earth and nourish your whole creation. Turn
our hearts toward those who hunger in any way, that all may know your care;
and prepare us now to feast on the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and
Lord. Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

Blessed are you, O God, creator of heaven and earth. You rescued your covenant people, led them on all their journeys, and taught them by the prophets. You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Pour out your Holy Spirit in this meal,

**and make us one in this community of faith and with your people throughout
the world.**

Glory and praise to you, O God,

Author of life, Word made flesh, Power of the Most High, now and forever.

Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Spirit, we pray as Jesus taught us:

Our Father in heaven,
 hallowed be your name,
 your kingdom come,
 your will be done,
 on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins
 as we forgive those who
 sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial
 and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,
 and the glory are yours,
 now and forever. Amen

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

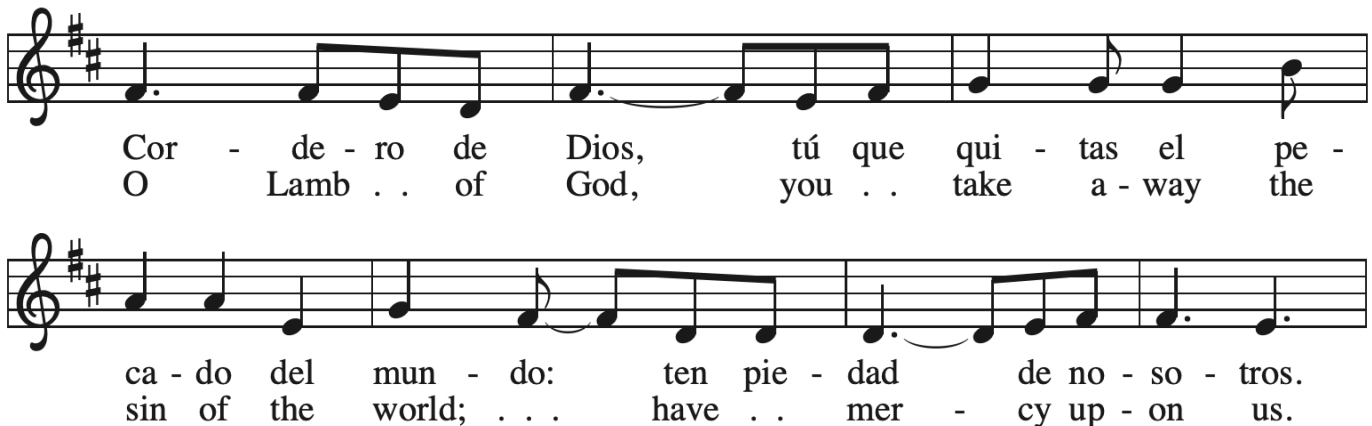
Jesus welcomes sinners and eats with them. Come to this meal of mercy.

Thanks be to God!

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

Our communion bread is gluten-free, unless noted by the pastor. Grape juice is available; indicate your need to the communion assistant.

THE COMMUNION



Cor - de - ro de Dios, tú que qui - tas el pe -
O Lamb . . of God, you . . take a - way the
ca - do del mun - do: ten pie - dad de no - so - tros.
sin of the world; . . . have . . mer - cy up - on us.

Cor - de - ro de Dios, tú que qui - tas el pe -
O Lamb . . of God, you . . take a - way the

ca - do del mun - do: ten pie - dad de no - so - tros.
sin of the world; . . . have . . mer - cy up - on us.

Cor - de - ro de Dios, tú que qui - tas el pe -
O Lamb . . of God, you . . take a - way the

ca - do del mun - do: ten pie - dad de no -
sin of the world; . . . have . . mer - cy up -

so - tros, ten pie - dad de no - so - stros.
on us, have . . . mer - cy up - on us.

Da - nos tu paz. A - mén.
Grant us your peace. A - mén.

HYMNS FOR COMMUNION

Eternal Spirit of the Living Christ

ELW 402

O Master, Let Me Walk with You

ELW 818

TABLE BLESSING

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE



En - via - do soy de Dios, mi ma - no lis - ta es - tá
The Lord now sends us forth with hands to serve and give,

pa - ra cons-truir con él un mun - do fra - ter - nal.
to make of all the earth a bet - ter place to live.

Los án - ge - les no son en - via - dos a cam - biar
The an - gels are not sent in - to our world of pain

un mun - do de do - lor por un mun - do me - jor;
to do what we were meant to do in Je - sus' name;

me ha to - ca - do a mí ha - cer - lo rea - li - dad.
that falls to you and me and all who are made free.

A - yú - da - me, Se - ñor, a ha - cer tu vo - lun - tad.
Help us, O Lord, we pray, to do your will to - day.

LEAVING TO SERVE

BENEDICTION

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine upon you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

Amen.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Do not lose heart.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Rejoice in the Lord

James Mansfield

BLC Pastors

The Rev. Abigail Zang Hoffman and The Rev. Amy Walter-Peterson, co-Pastors

BLC Musicians

Raelynn Clare, Music Director and Organist

Chrisanne Gates, Chancel Choir Director

Rich Towsley, Director of The Folk Group and BLC Dulcimers

Additional musical leadership provided by:

Percussion: Margie Gaul, Neil Vokes, Dave Wideman

Thank you to all those who participated in worship this Sunday! Want to learn more about what roles are needed in worship or sign-up for a pre-scheduled role? Talk with one of the pastors following worship or send an email to volunteersupport@blcfairport.org and we'll follow up!

Communicate with us: Share more about who you are, request further information, or leave a prayer request or comment through our website - <https://blcfairport.org/share-in-worship/> - scroll down the page to request or share information.

What's happening at BLC this week? Visit the Calendar of Events at www.blcfairport.org. Zoom links for virtual meetings are also found there. If you would like to schedule a meeting or event, please email the church office at office@blcfairport.org or visit <https://blcfairport.org/blc-facility-request/>

Church office hours: Sandy Squires holds office hours on Wednesdays from 9-1 and is responsive to phone and email Monday through Friday during usual business hours. Please communicate your needs through the church office by phone (585) 223-0634 or by email office@blcfairport.org. Our co-Pastors are available Sunday – Thursday and on-call for emergencies. Contact them directly to schedule an appointment either by calling the church office or emailing pastor.hoffman@blcfairport.org or pastor.amy@blcfairport.org

BETHLEHEM
Building
LUTHERAN
Lasting
CHURCH
Community

that follows Jesus

Annual Meeting- Oct. 26th, 10:15am
in-person only

MOONLIGHT CORN MAZE

AT LONG ACRE FARMS

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 24TH

6:00 – 10:00 PM

GRADES 6TH – 12TH YOUTH

RSVP TO PATTY BY 10/17

ADMISSION: \$22

includes admission, donuts and cider

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“Gloria a Dios” Music: anonymous, Peru © 2020 Holy Communion, Setting 11 (adm. Augsburg Fortress)

“Aleluya” Music: anonymous, Honduras © 2020 Holy Communion, Setting 11 (adm. Augsburg Fortress)

“Praise and Thanksgiving” Text: Albert F. Bayly; Music: Gaelic tune (BUNESSAN)

Text © Oxford University Press; Music (arr.) © 2006 Augsburg Fortress

“Cordero de Dios” Music: Rudy Espinoza © 2020 Holy Communion, Setting 11 (adm. Augsburg Fortress)

“The Lord Now Sends Us Forth” – Enviado soy de Dios, Text: Anonymous, Central America; tr. Gerhard M. Cartford

“Jesu, geh voran” – from *30 Chorale Preludes*, op. 70/12 Music: Wilhelm Rudnick

“Loving God, Hear Us” Words: Nancy Grundahl; Music: Gabriel Fauré / adapt. Nancy Grundahl

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“Rejoice in the Lord” Music: James Mansfield © 1982 Lorenz Publishing Co.

Kyrie eleison: Persistence in Prayer

Scripture teaches us about persistence in prayer. In Genesis 32:22–31, Jacob is the devious brother who tricked his twin, Esau, out of his birthright and their father's blessing, and Jacob was himself duped on his wedding night by his father-in-law, Laban. In Luke 18:1–8, a widow acquainted with grief, one among many marginalized and vulnerable people, dares to stand her ground in her quest for justice. On the banks of the river Jabbok, Jacob wrestles with the angel and limps away with a blessing and a new identity. The unnamed widow repeatedly appeals for justice and finally is vindicated. Many have known persistent prayer as a kind of wrestling with God. Many have pleaded with God for justice and mercy. Today God's grace and mercy is known in the blessing of baptismal remembrance and our identity as beloved children of God.