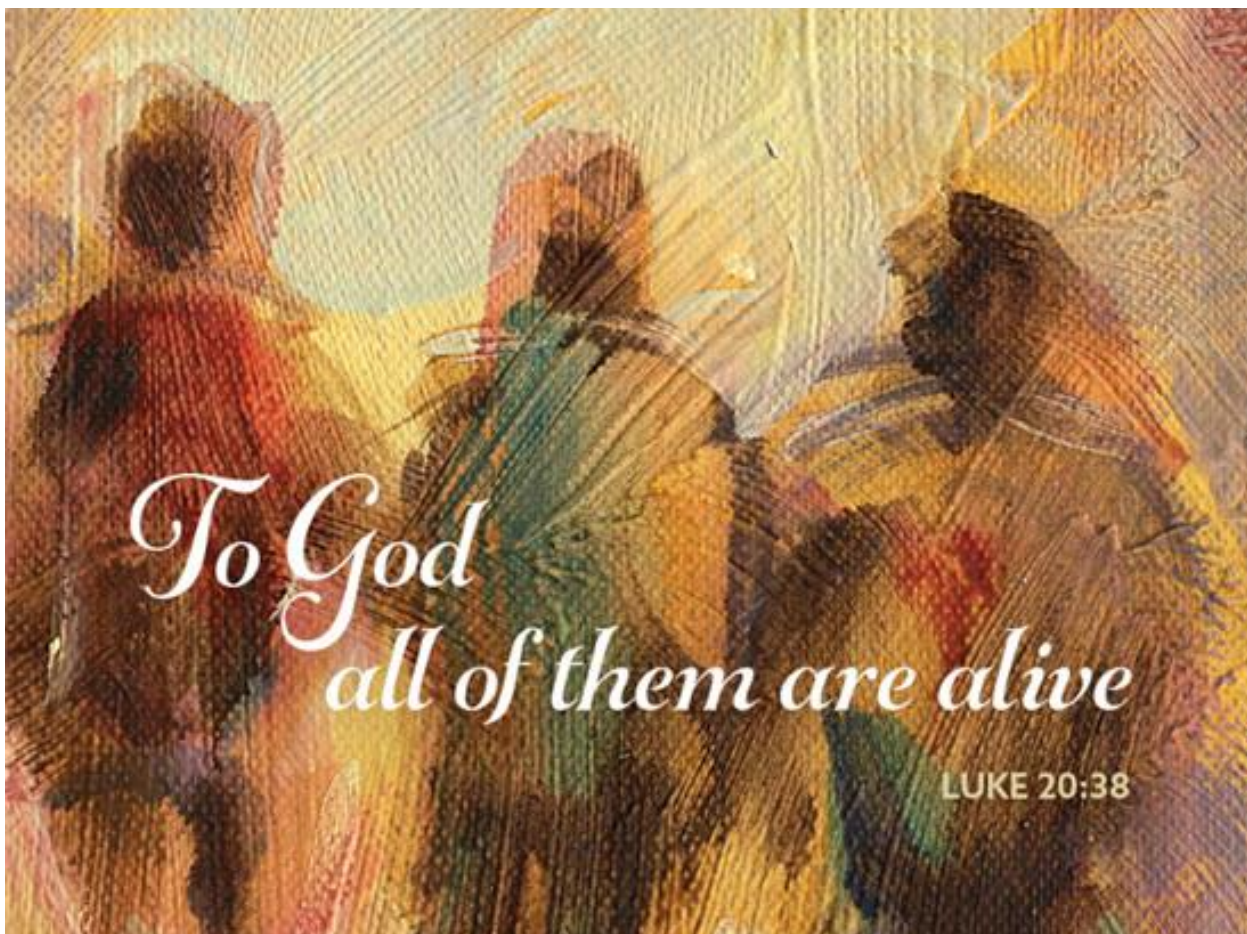




*Sunday, November 9, 2025
22nd Sunday after Pentecost*



BETHLEHEM
LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

PRELUDE

Gottes Sohn ist kommen
(Once He Came in Blessing)
incorp. DIVINUM MYSTERIUM

John Leavitt
tune, attr. Michael Weisse

“Burleigh”
(My Lord, What a Morning)

Richard Billingham
tune, African American spiritual

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Advent marks the ending and beginning of the church year and during this time, we return to our foundation – GOD MATTERS. God’s love and faithfulness endure through all our endings and beginnings. Our weekly scripture readings ground us in the stories of God whose was, who is, and who is to come.

GATHERING

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God, whose home is heaven and earth, whose salvation is sure.

Amen.

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

Long-expected God,
to you 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.

God judges us not as we deserve, but according to God’s own righteousness.
✠ You are freed and forgiven, saved by grace, and ready to welcome the Savior.
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.

KYRIE



Lord, have mer - cy on your peo - ple. Christ have mer - cy on us.
Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. Chri - ste e - le - i - son.



Shine your light in to our dark - ness. Fill us with your ho - ly love.
Heal all con - flicts be - tween na - tions. Teach us how to live as one.



Be our strength in times of trou - ble. Set us free from chains that bind.
Show us how to love our neigh - bor. Run to those who cry for help.



Breathe new life in - to our spir - its. Pu - ri - fy our hearts and minds.
Word made flesh who lives a - mong us; Christ our Lord, Em - man - u - el.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. O God, our eternal redeemer, by the presence of your Spirit you renew and direct our hearts. Keep always in our mind the end of all things and the day of judgment. Inspire us for a holy life here, and bring us to the joy of the resurrection, 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: Job 19:23-27a

Job suffers the loss of children, wealth, and health. Accused by his companions of wrongdoing, he knows himself to be innocent. Here, in the midst of his suffering, Job clings to the radical hope that his vindicator, his redeemer, lives; and that one day he himself will see God.

²³ “O that my words were written down!

O that they were inscribed in a book!

²⁴ O that with an iron pen and with lead
they were engraved on a rock forever!

²⁵ For I know that my vindicator lives
and that in the end he will stand upon the earth;

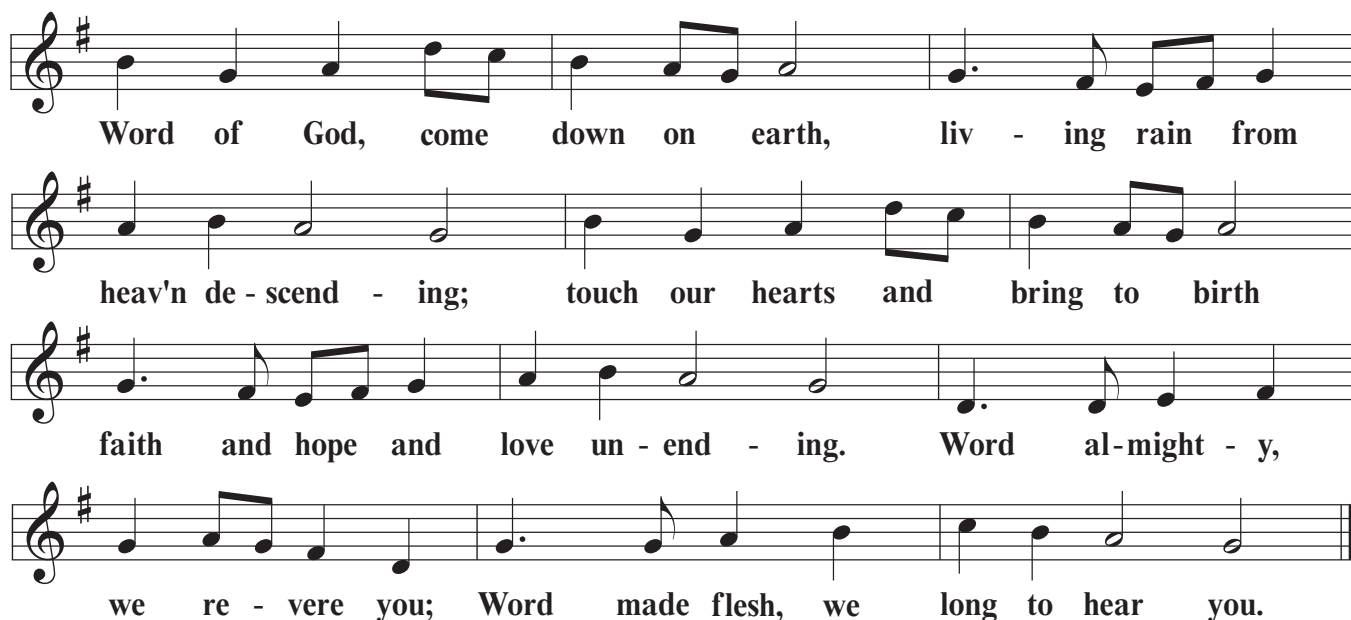
²⁶ and after my skin has been destroyed,
then in my flesh I shall see God,

^{27a} whom I shall see on my side,
and my eyes shall behold, and not another.”

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Word of God, come down on earth, liv - ing rain from
heav'n de - scend - ing; touch our hearts and bring to birth
faith and hope and love un - end - ing. Word al-might - y,
we re - vere you; Word made flesh, we long to hear you.

The holy gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL: Luke 20:27-38

Some Sadducees, who do not believe in the resurrection of the dead, try to trap Jesus. They formulate the convoluted case of a serial widow who marries a succession of seven brothers. Jesus responds by teaching about God to whom all are alive and in whom all relationships are fulfilled.

²⁷ Some Sadducees, those who say there is no resurrection, came to [Jesus] ²⁸ and asked him a question: “Teacher, Moses wrote for us that if a man’s brother dies leaving a wife but no children, the man shall marry the widow and raise up children for his brother. ²⁹ Now there were seven brothers; the first married a woman and died childless; ³⁰ then the second ³¹ and the third married her, and so in the same way all seven died childless. ³² Finally the woman also died. ³³ In the resurrection, therefore, whose wife will the woman be? For the seven had married her.”

³⁴ Jesus said to them, “Those who belong to this age marry and are given in marriage, ³⁵ but those who are considered worthy of a place in that age and in the resurrection from the dead neither marry nor are given in marriage. ³⁶ Indeed, they cannot die anymore, because they are like angels and are children of God, being children of the resurrection. ³⁷ And the fact that the dead are raised Moses himself showed, in the story about the bush, where he speaks of the Lord as the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob. ³⁸ Now he is God not of the dead but of the living, for to him all of them are alive.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

On Jordan’s Stormy Bank I Stand

ELW 437

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.

In our waiting and watching, we come to you in prayer, O God, trusting your promise to renew the church, the nations, and the whole creation.

A brief silence.

#1 God our Redeemer, bless your church universal and its leaders. Set all hearts on you from generation to generation in anticipation of Christ's return. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

#2 God of life, we give thanks for the fruits and grains of harvest, for rivers and streams, for all that is made of rock and iron. Renew the earth's natural resources and the lands from which they come. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

#3 God of justice, we give thanks for the service of our veterans and pray for those needing support for wounds of any kind. Strengthen those charged with the governance and protection of vulnerable populations. Bring an end to war throughout the world. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

We pray for Veterans, giving thanks for their service to their country and acknowledging the wounds they carry on our behalf and for our siblings in faith in our twinned parish in Shurugwi, Zimbabwe. May our partnerships remind us of your abundance. God of grace,
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 who grieve, especially the family and friends of:

- Volker H, especially his daughter, Doris H, who died on 10/29
- Francis M, aunt of Amy W-P, who died on 10/25

We pray for those in need of healing, especially:

- Ginny S, who is recovering from anticipated surgery
- Penny L, sister of Kathy F, who is recovering from arm fractures following a fall
- Tom S who is recovering from a recent hospitalization
- Nick, young friend of the Merges family, who is entering hospice care
- Doug, father of Julie M, who is recovering from a fall
- Jennifer R, niece of Pat E, who is recovering from anticipated back surgery
- David P, friend of Nancy P and Chrisanne G, who is recovering from a fall

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

Silence for individual prayer.

God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Draw near to us, O God, as we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy through Jesus Christ, Emmanuel.
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.



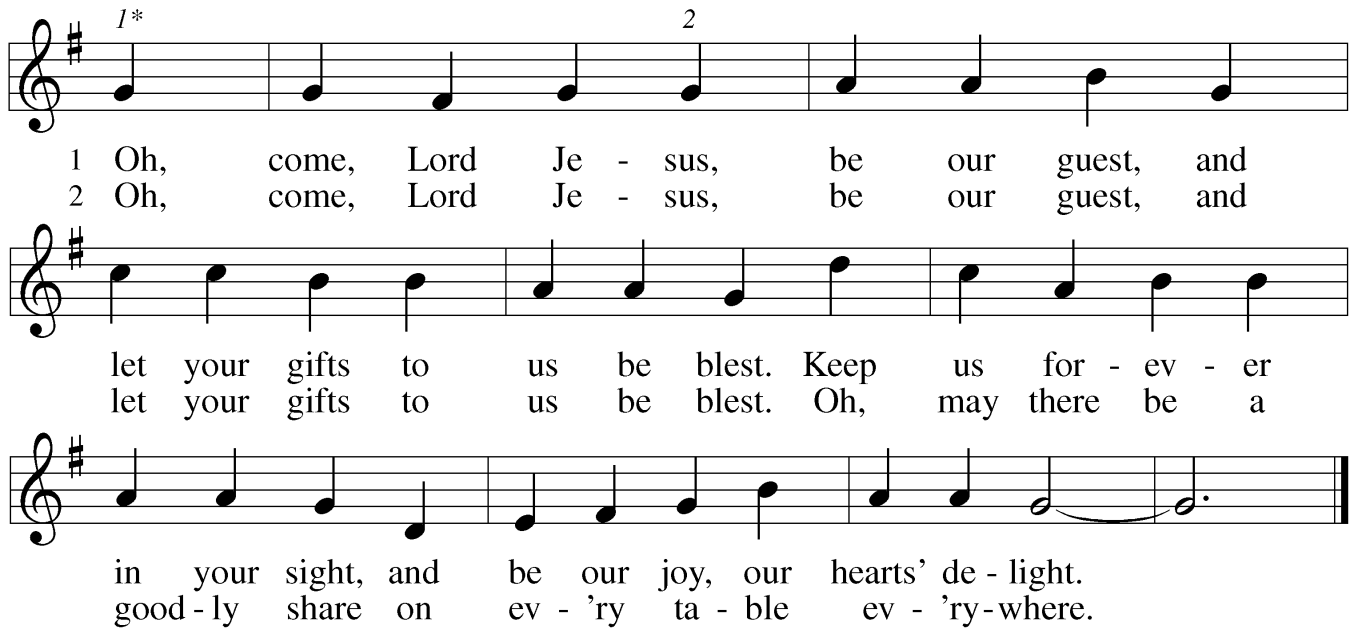
OFFERING OF MUSIC

Abound in Hope
(based on Romans 15:13)
incorp. MELITA

words, Herb Frombach
music, Mark Hayes
tune, John B. Dykes

The Chancel Choir

OFFERTORY



1 ^{1*} Oh, come, Lord Je - sus, be our guest, and
2 Oh, come, Lord Je - sus, be our guest, and
let your gifts to us be blest. Keep us for - ev - er
let your gifts to us be blest. Oh, may there be a
in your sight, and be our joy, our hearts' de - light.
good - ly share on ev - 'ry ta - ble ev - 'ry - where.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray. Nourishing God,
you are water in the wilderness and streams in the desert. Through this meal, satisfy our parched places, that we may rejoice and be for the world signs of your kingdom come. Amen.

HOLY COMMUNION

As we gather at Christ's table of mercy, the Spirit and the church cry out:

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

All those who await his appearance pray:

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

The whole creation pleads:

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Long-expected Jesus, we come to your table and ask you to meet us here.

Open our hearts to believe that you come to us in this meal of grace. Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

In fervent hope, we raise our voices in prayer 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

Here is life. God is with us. Come, receive what God has promised.

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



O Lamb of God you take a-way our sin; have mer-cy on us, give_ us your
peace. Pre-pare us to re- ceive_ your grace and teach us how to fol - low your ways. Re-
joice! Re- joice! E - man - u - el has come to you, O Is - ra-el.

HYMNS FOR COMMUNION

When We Are Living

ELW 639

Jerusalem, My Happy Home

ELW 628

TABLE BLESSING**POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

God our host, at this table you have fed us with joy and gladness. Send us forth, eager to share the feast, welcome the stranger, and bear good fruit in the name of Jesus.

Amen.**LEAVING TO SERVE****BENEDICTION**

May God who comes among us, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, grant you patience in waiting, peace in the darkness, and good news to share today and always.

Amen.**SENDING HYMN**

Oh, Happy Day When We Shall Stand

ELW 441

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Make your heart ready.

Thanks be to God.**POSTLUDE**

“Consolation”

(The King Shall Come)

David N. Johnson

tune, A. Davidson, *Kentucky Harmony*, 1816

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:

Richard DePasquale, trumpet

Special Thanks to Susan DePasquale, organist/pianist, for assisting us with today's worship.

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

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“Kyrie” – based on Jefferson; Music: W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835; Text: adapt. David Eck; Text © 2011 David Eck
“Word of God, Come Down on Earth” Text: James Quinn; Music: Johann R. Ahle
Text © James Quinn, SJ, (adm. Selah Publishing Co., Inc.)
“Come, Lord Jesus” Text: traditional table prayer, adapt. Susan Briehl; Music: tallis’ canon, Thomas Tallis
Text © 1996 Augsburg Fortress
“Lamb of God” – based on VENI, EMMANUEL; Music: French processional, 15th cent.
Text: adapt. David Eck; Text © 2011 David Eck
Gottes Sohn ist kommen - (Once He Came in Blessing) Music: John Leavitt;
Tune: attr. Michael Weisse – DIVINUM MYSTERIUM © 1998 Augsburg Fortress
“Burleigh” - (My Lord, What a Morning) Music: Richard Billingham; Tune: African American spiritual © 1996 Augsburg Fortress
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“Consolation” – The King Shall Come Tune: A. Davidson, *Kentucky Harmony*, 1816
Music: David N. Johnson © 1973 Augsburg Publishing House

Second Sunday Dinner Ministry

BLC prepares and delivers hot meals on the 2nd Sunday each month to those in need in our community.



Contact the church office to help with cooking or deliveries!

between sundays 



Find episodes of our
podcast here!

Let's Talk Resurrection

When the Sadducees encounter Jesus with a technical question, he responds by humanizing and placing divine value upon each character in the Sadducees' hypothetical scenario. Jesus' response is about resurrection and about naming people as children of God and of light. The answer Jesus gives the Sadducees is about God, whose presence means life. This is about God's promise of resurrection in the face of death, and about life in the face of and in spite of death. Like Job, who was surrounded by the remnants of his lost life and still proclaimed hope, Jesus is in the midst of palpable tension that very soon will lead him to his own death, and yet he proclaims life. The author of this hope is God, whose very naming of a person brings that one to life. These texts proclaim hope in the face of hopelessness, and urge us to do the same.