



WORSHIP



GROW



LIVE



CARE



SERVE

OCTOBER 18, 2020

20<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost



BETHLEHEM  
LUTHERAN CHURCH

WEEKLY

star



Evangelical Lutheran  
Church in America  
God's work. Our hands.

Life turns on a dime sometimes, doesn't it? Things can unravel at the drop of a hat - a diagnosis, an accident, a relationship dies, a job offer arrives, your house sells in 5 days - you get the picture. So in this week's gospel (Luke 19: 1-10), we find several unravelings. Zacchaeus, a Jew and a tax collector so an outcast among his people, wants to see Jesus and climbs a tree to be able to do so. When Jesus sees him, he calls him down because Zacchaeus was to be hosting Jesus in his home that night.

Some grumblers in the crowd complained that Jesus should not be hanging out with a traitor and a sinner. Apparently Zacchaeus heard and told Jesus that he would give half of his wealth to the poor and anyone he had defrauded, he would pay back four times as much. (It seems that tax collectors make their money by collecting taxes plus more for their "commission.") We don't get to know the rest of Zacchaeus's story after Jesus tells the grumblers that salvation has come to the tax man's house and after all, he came to reach sinners and the lost but it is likely that Zacchaeus's old life is unraveled and a new one is born.

But what about the grumblers? What unraveled for them? Perhaps they want Jesus to judge as they do and condemn those that they condemn. When he doesn't how should they respond? Maybe Jesus was not just referring to Zacchaeus when he reminded the crowd that he came for sinners and the lost. We know the rest of the story of Jesus's time on earth, of course, and so many of his followers were looking for a political leader and Jesus kept unraveling that assumption of him.

So then, who are we in this story? Are we chasing after Jesus because we want to hear him and change? Or are we the grumblers wanting divine intervention on those we don't like? I know I am more of a grumbler than a Zacchaeus but I keep trying. Jesus changed Z's life by recognizing him and by reminding the grumblers what his mission was on earth and thereby suggesting that the grace of God is available to all of us imperfect as we are. The challenge then and now is to allow grace to unravel us and re-ravel us in a new way. Alleluia!

~ Kris Kerr



## Worship the Living God

WORSHIP TIME:

SUNDAYS

8:30 AM WORSHIP  
(FACEBOOK LIVE)

This fall our worship centers around the sermon series *Unraveled: Seeking God When Our Plans Fall Apart*. In our unraveling, sometimes life surprises us with unexpected joy, love, and hope—with a new beginning we couldn't have imagined. Sometimes we need God to unravel us, for we long to be changed. Over the next few months, we'll explore stories of unraveled shame, identity, fear, grief, dreams and expectations. These are stories where God meets us in the spiraling, unraveling our plans—and us—into something new. As you prepare for worship this week consider reading the text and spending time asking these questions:

- What has unraveled and/or is unraveling in this text?
- What are the results of the unraveling?
- How is God working in the midst of the unraveling?
- What might we glean from this story of unraveling?

**Lessons for Sunday: 10/18:** Luke 19:1-10; **10/25:** Jeremiah 31:31-34, Psalm 46, John 8:31-36

★ Don't forget to look for this **Star Icon (★)** to easily identify the newest information each week

★ **Are you Ready for Worship?** There are now three ways to participate in our Livestream of Sunday worship.

1. [Facebook Live](#) - We encourage you to start your own watch party!
2. [Watch On YouTube](#)
3. [Livestream on the website](#)

You can always find these links on our website at [Share In Worship](#) along with a link to the bulletin (Order of Worship) and the Zoom logins (for Sunday morning gatherings that follow worship). We also send an email each Saturday with all the details to get you ready for worship! Please contact the church office at [office@blcfairport.org](mailto:office@blcfairport.org) if you are not receiving these emails and would like to be added to the distribution!

★ **Reformation Sunday... October 25, 2020 (next Sunday!)...** Wear RED and post a picture on BLC's Members and Friends Facebook group.

**All Saints' Sunday... Sunday, November 1...** The church remembers those who have lived and died in the faith, having been entrusted to God for care and keeping. In the Apostles' Creed, we confess that we believe in the communion of saints, and this Holy Day is one of the ways that we remember the faithful departed who have joined the Church Triumphant. If you would like to acknowledge a family member or a friend who has died since last All Saints' Sunday (November 3, 2019) please call the church office (585) 223-0634 or send an email to [office@blcfairport.org](mailto:office@blcfairport.org)

**Celebrating Communion** - Council has approved a plan to begin sharing communion on a monthly basis on the first Sunday of the month. Mark your calendars for **Sunday, November 1**, All Saints Sunday, when we'll have an opportunity to share communion as part of worship. Our livestreamed worship that morning will include our communion liturgy as well as including the names of those saints, known to us, who have died since November 2019.

## **Grow in Faith and Discipleship**

**Faith Formation for Pre-school through High School!** All ages: Weekly - we will post the children's moment (the same one that is shared in worship on Sunday), and additional ways to engage <https://blcfairport.org/faith5-at-home/>

- Confirmation (grades 6-8): Weekly - Mondays at 7 pm via Zoom. Please contact Pastor Amy if you have questions about your child's involvement.
- LYO (grades 9-12): Weekly - Sundays at 7:30 pm via Zoom. If you have any questions, please contact Bethany Trippi at [Bethany.trippi@blcfairport.org](mailto:Bethany.trippi@blcfairport.org).

As always, please contact the church office, Marcy Adams, Bethany Trippi or Pastor Amy if you are looking for additional support around your faith formation in the home.

**Midweek Bible Study:** Midweek Bible Study will continue studying the Book of Acts. Please consider joining us as we begin Paul's journeys (chapter 13). Bring your Bible and your questions as we continue to work our way through the book for the next several weeks. Please consider joining us in our Zoom conversations - Wednesdays at 9:30 am. Please join us! Questions - contact [Kathy Moragne](#).

## **Live Our Faith in Daily Life**

**Love You Like a Sister (LYLAS)** program for women will be starting a new season this November! The LYLAS program is like a prayer secret Santa- each participant will be given another participant to keep in their prayers throughout the year and in turn, will have someone praying for them. The partners are kept anonymous until a final reveal at the end of the year. You can also send cards or a small gift for major holidays, birthdays, or other important dates for your assigned partner (though not required!) If you are interested in participating for the 2020-2021 year, please complete the [LYLAS information form](#) so your partner will be able to get to know you better. You can submit it directly through the website, or send it to [Sarah Morrisette](#) or the church office (48 Perrin Street, Fairport, NY 14450) **by October 31**. If you'd like a hard copy mailed to you, please let us know! During this time of isolation and quarantine, LYLAS could be a great way to stay connected and involved!

**Corn Maze:** BLC is planning a corn maze trip to Wickham Farms on Saturday, **October 17** for our LYO and Confirmation groups. Check back for more info and let us know if you are an adult who is willing and able to help chaperone. The following details will apply:

- You can purchase your tickets through this link [https://wickhamfarms.ticketleap.com/fallharvest2020/dates/Oct-17-2020\\_at\\_1000AM](https://wickhamfarms.ticketleap.com/fallharvest2020/dates/Oct-17-2020_at_1000AM). Choose the barnyard admission for the 5 pm slot.
- All kids must drive separately unless they are coming from the same house, no carpooling because of COVID

- Everyone must wear masks, even when outside during the maze
- We will be showing up at Wickham Farms at 5pm for corn maze festivities! Tickets are \$15. If you need financial assistance, please do not hesitate to reach out to me or Pastor Amy.
- Tell us you're coming! Please RSVP on BLC's Calendar of Events Page <https://blcfairport.org/event-directory/>

★ **Last call for Work Camp Deposit!** Any youth interested in attending Work Camp in Woonsocket, Rhode Island July 18 - July 24, 2021 must submit an initial deposit in the amount of \$50 to secure a spot **by Sunday, October 25** (send checks to BLC or make an electronic payment through Tithe.ly on our website). Please contact [Bethany Trippi](mailto:Bethany.Trippi@blcfairport.org) with any questions.



## Care for One Another

★ **Did you know...** that **October** is Pastor Appreciation Month? Reach out - phone, text, email or postal mail and let pastors in your life know how much they mean to you!

★ **Thank you!** *A note to Thank you... Dear BLC Family, Thanks a bunch! Thanks for the many birthday cards, prayers and best wishes. We hope all are safe and in good health. We pray for a time when life is somewhat back to normal. With much love and deep affection, Connie Helbig (and Erich too)*

**BLC Amazing Race** - Get ready to "race" around town and compete in challenges to earn bragging rights as the first winners of the BLC Amazing Race. Family fun for all ages. Put together your team and join your BLC family on November 21. Gather at Center Park (lower lot) at 12:30 pm. The race will begin at 1:00 pm and will finish by 5:00. Watch your email and the BLC website for details on how to register and more information as it becomes available!

**BLC Story Book:** During our 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary we will be compiling a booklet that includes stories about you and BLC. So far, we have the story of how Advent House came to be, the adventures of 3 BLC members as they traveled to Zimbabwe and some stories from Rev Dallas Adler's sons and the times they spent at BLC. Final story copy is due by the end of November. Prayerfully consider writing a story! If you have a story to tell, please let the office or Bob Stock know and we will include it in the booklet.

★ **Narthex Chats** will be added to in our Sunday Worship beginning October 18. They will be inserted near the postlude so be sure to listen to the end. Each will begin with a prerecorded generic greeting. Each greeting will be followed by a response from someone, perhaps you. We will be sending directions for recording this week to a sampling of families. If you are not part of the first trial group, but would like to be included in the next, please send an email to [office@blcfairport.org](mailto:office@blcfairport.org). Watch for these to begin within the next few weeks.



## Serve Our Neighbor

**M&SC** stands for the Mission and Social Concerns Committee. M&SC Committee members: Cathy Gottermeier, Pat Kurtz, Julie Owen, Carolyn Straub, Beth and Rick Walker, Pastor Amy Walter-Peterson, and Desiree Wolfe. **Visitors are always welcome at meetings to ask questions or provide suggestions.** The next M&SC meeting is **November 11, 2020**, 6 pm via Zoom. If you would like to attend but are not part of the committee, please contact [Beth Walker](mailto:Beth.Walker@blcfairport.org) for the zoom link.

**The mission focus for October is mission within and without.** We tend to be more keyed into the needs of others when we have had similar experiences.

Those who have experienced homelessness, hunger, disability, addiction or depression for themselves, or someone they love, possess a shared connection and potential empathy for others in those situations. Loss of a loved one, moving to a new place, isolation, illness, new parenthood, job loss or a host of other life situations reveal aspects of our own human need and how others can best support us.

How does ministry and mission *to us* become ministry and mission *to others*? If a specific struggle is not a shared experience, how does empathy resist becoming sympathy and ministry avoid coming from a position of judgement, superiority or power?

**Where's the coffee?** The Fair Trade coffee and hot chocolate for sale in the narthex has been given to the food pantry. Coffee will be restocked when the church building is more active. You can still purchase ground or whole bean coffee, and coffee drinks at one of the two Coffee Connection locations or online: In the South Wedge 681 South Ave, Rochester or The Greenhouse Café 2271 E. Main St. Rochester. <https://www.ourcoffeeconnection.org/>

The Coffee Connection empowers women on their journey to recovery from addiction. They create jobs and train women for employment as a not-for-profit business selling fair trade, organic, and sustainably farmed coffee to retail and wholesale customers.

**Upstate NY Synod Resolution on Racism** - The Mission and Social Concerns committee is committed to learning more about systemic racism this fall and winter and then sharing learning opportunities and resources with the congregation. You may be interested to know that the Upstate NY Synod has a Racial Justice Task Force. The Upstate NY Synod Resolution on

Racism can be found here

<https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5973c70be45a7cc661a8af66/t/5f6b4b4557092b40e21c79a4/1600867141472/Upstate+NY+Synod+Resolution+on+Racism+Final+Draft.pdf>

## Council News

**Save the Date: Sunday, October 25 at 10 am** – we will gather for our annual congregational meeting at 10:00 am. It is important that you participate. If we do not have a legal quorum of 10% of our voting members we cannot vote on a budget, council members or synod assembly representatives. We will be offering three ways to participate in the annual meeting:

1. A Zoom conference call. This is our preferred method as it ensures social distancing while providing easy access using a video call. (you can access the Zoom call directly from the [Calendar of Events listing](#) on our website, RSVP is for in-person only!)
2. If you are unable to access zoom from a computer or other smart device, there is an option to call into the meeting and participate by phone.
3. We will have a limited capacity for in person attendance in our fellowship hall. Because this will be very limited, we ask that only members who do not have electronic access or experience difficulty in using electronic access attend in person. Directions on how to reserve a seat for in person participation will be provided in advance of the annual meeting.

★ **A Modern Way to Give**...a charitable donor-advised fund account is a simple, tax-smart investment solution for charitable giving. You just set up an account with an investment broker who offers donor-advised funds and then contribute cash, securities, or appreciated assets. You'll be eligible for a current-year tax deduction and can be more strategic about your giving decisions. It is a smart way to bundle a contribution in order to create a larger tax deduction and then distribute your gifts over multiple years. If you'd like more information, contact [Andy Gates](#), BLC Finance Committee Chair.

**Giving Statements:** Year-end BLC giving statements will be available in January. Thank you for your generosity so far this year. If you are planning your giving for the remainder of the year and would like a preliminary statement to check on your status, feel free to contact the financial secretary, Dave Wideman. You can ask me in person, call 585-309-3618 or email [Dave Wideman](#).

## Community News

★ **PathStone Presents –Provok'ing Thought**, is an exciting opportunity for Western New York community builders of all kinds to hear local and national thought leaders around one of the most compelling and difficult issues of our time – poverty. We hope to be able to feature trends, innovations and policy topics to provoke new ways of thinking about poverty and to stimulate partnerships to address the challenges that poverty brings to the creation of a vibrant and healthy community. The goal of PathStone Presents! is to create a forum where key issues and hot-button topics affecting all citizens in the region are discussed. The series will feature both local and nationally recognized speakers from a wide variety of venues involved in addressing the impacts of poverty. PathStone hopes to bring attention to the struggles and issues all industries face that are inherent with working to alleviate the impacts of poverty be they nonprofits or for-profits involved with workforce development, education, health, housing, racial diversity and/or economic development. Our format for PathStone Presents! is flexible in order to support involvement by as many people and organizations as there are diverse opinions, profound insights and fascinating discussion on this topic. Pulitzer Prize winners, community builders, local activists, political figures, distinguished journalists, authors and other celebrated personalities will present and stimulate our audience. Each event will be followed by a Call to Action to either showcase and continue the good work already being done by groups and/or to form new partnerships to tackle issues. <https://pathstonepresents.org/>

**NEW Weekly worship offering:** *The Upstate New York Synod has introduced a new weekly worship offering for people across our synod.* Prayer, Visual Liturgy and Conversation, Every Wednesday from 9:09-9:39 pm. Be together at a virtual table of prayer and conversation. Each week we will have a time of prayer, share a brief visual liturgy and have guided, reflective conversation. Those who participate will be encouraged to use this time as a way to enter into the great silence of the night rooted in connection with God and one another. [WEDNESDAY ZOOM LINK](#) (Meeting ID: 811 6603 7554, Passcode: 766659) If you long for a quiet, midweek opportunity for prayer and conversation, this opportunity is intended for you.

**Announcements for the STAR** should be submitted through the office by Wednesday morning at 9am. Visit [www.blcfairport.org](http://www.blcfairport.org) and to sign up for reminders and special announcements (including the STAR!)



48 Perrin Street, Fairport, NY ~ (585) 223-0634 ~ [www.blcfairport.org](http://www.blcfairport.org)



<https://www.facebook.com/BLCfairport/>

## **We Ask Your Prayers:**

### **For those whose thanks or needs are known to us:**

We lift up prayers of thanksgiving for:

- The birth of Arianna in Shurugwi, Zimbabwe. Arianna means “most holy”. She is the daughter of Tendai and Challenge.

*We pray for the people who are struggling in body, mind or spirit:*

*Those who are grieving, especially the family and friends of:*

- Paula Hitchings who died on 10/13
- Rick Nelson, son of Herb and Sue Nelson, who died on 10/2
- Glen Bastian (friend of Becki & Bob Purvis) who died on 10/4

*Those in need of healing, especially:*

- Trace Antonoff (3 year old grandson of Jan & Howard Sharp) who is scheduled to have surgery on 10/22
- Cathleen Todd (sister of Sue Towsley)
- Waverly (friend of Phyllis Stock) recovering at home and still seeking a kidney donor
- Those impacted by fires, hurricanes and other disasters
- Those who are involved with the ongoing work of caregiving for loved ones
- Those who are infected with the Coronavirus and their caregivers

We also fulfill our commitment to pray for one another by remembering these members & friends of Bethlehem and their families Roger & Rosemarie Kolker, Ron & Sandy Komarek, Mike & Elizabeth Koncilja (Ryan & Olivia), Linda Koskie, Kim Kulik, and our brothers and sisters in our twinned parish in Shurugwi, Zimbabwe. Additional ongoing prayer concerns can be found in the monthly prayer listing.

[Click here to view and print the October long-term prayer listing](#) – or contact the church office for a copy!

## Calendar for week of October 18 – October 25

(Updated on 10/14/20 at 12 noon, visit <https://blcfairport.org/event-directory/> for updates)

### Sunday, October 18

8:30 am Facebook  
Livestream  
Worship (recording  
available following worship)  
9:45 am Zoom\* Coffee with a  
Pastor  
([Join](#) or use ID 823 7018 2058)  
7:30 pm Zoom\* LYO  
([Join](#) or use ID 818 2417 6546)

### Monday, October 19

6:00 pm Virtual Youth Choir  
([Join](#) or use ID 816 9461 2911)  
7:00 pm Zoom\* GFL  
Confirmation  
([Join](#) or use ID 859 4816 8778)

### Tuesday, October 20

6:00 pm BSA Troop 2019 Court of  
Honor at BLC

### Wednesday, October 21

9:30 am Zoom\* Bible Study  
([Join](#) or use ID 943 3691 2942)  
1:00 pm Zoom\* Men's Lunch  
(Beth will add ID INFO)  
6:30 pm Chancel Bells  
7:30 pm Zoom\* Chancel Choir  
Rehearsal  
([Join](#) or use ID 869 2314 9200)

### Thursday, October 22

### Friday, October 23

**Pastor's Sabbath**  
10:00 am Folk Group Rehearsal  
2:30 pm Dulcimer Group  
Rehearsal

### Saturday, October 24

### Sunday, October 25 *Reformation Sunday*

8:30 am Facebook  
Livestream  
Worship (recording  
available following worship)  
10:00 am Annual Congregational  
Meeting  
7:30 pm Zoom\* LYO  
([Join](#) or use ID 818 2417 6546)

**For additional details** about any of the meetings, events and activities listed above contact the church office!

**Church Office Hours:** We continue to hold remote office hours M-F from 9 am to 12 noon. During these times, please call (585) 223-0634 to reach us directly, otherwise you may continue to email us at [office@blcfairport.org](mailto:office@blcfairport.org) and we'll respond as we're able. For further assistance or urgent pastoral care needs outside of office hours, please call the office and leave a message on the pastoral care line. Pastor Amy remains available by phone and email at other times.

**\*To join any of our BLC Zoom meetings, use the ID provided or contact the church office and/or group organizer.**

**\*Zoom Options:** For recurring meetings, the info will remain the same each time. Participants can join with the link provided (above where applicable, or via email), or by using the Meeting ID and manually enter the password (the 10-digit BLC phone number with area code, no spaces or hyphens). **Please contact the group leader or the church office for assistance or additional details! If you have trouble accessing a Zoom meeting in real-time, you can call or text (585) 364-2129 for assistance.**

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