



**Sunday, November 15 ~ 24<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**

*Her life has certainly not gone as planned—five husbands, societal shame, isolation. No one plans for that. And then Jesus finds her in the most unlikely of places—at the well at high noon—and invites her into a new world. The shame she'd known unravels. The isolation she lived unravels. Grace surprises her and offers her good news to proclaim.*

Prelude: from Sonata No. 2 in C Minor/Major  
Grave: Adagio

Felix Mendelssohn

Gathering Words and Welcome

### **SERVICE OF WORD AND PRAYER**

*If possible, prepare your worship space with a cup filled with water and an empty bowl. The presence of water reminds us of God's forgiveness that comes to us through the Sacrament of Baptism. During this time of continued physical distancing, we cling with confident hope to the promise that by God's love and grace, we are made one with Christ in baptism.*

Call to Worship and Confession:

We come here to draw water—

**Thirsty for new life.**

We come here to draw water—

**Bringing our past and our present, our messy truths and our deepest scars.**

We come here to draw water—

**Carrying shame, and in need of grace.**

Fortunately for us, God always meets us at the well. So breathe deeply and drink up.

**God is here. The water is clean.**

**Let us worship God.**

As we gather, we confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Gracious God,

**Have mercy on us. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone. Uphold us by your Spirit so that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

**Amen**

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

**Amen**

Giving thanks that we become brothers and sisters in Christ through the gift of baptism, we share God's peace with one another. May the peace of Christ be with you always.

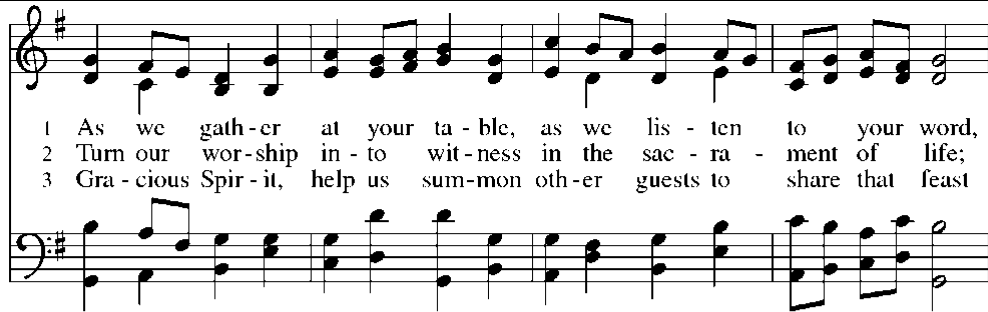
**And also with you.**

*Greet those with whom you worship physically with a sign of peace, extend the peace of Christ through the comments section or text to those who are at a distance.*

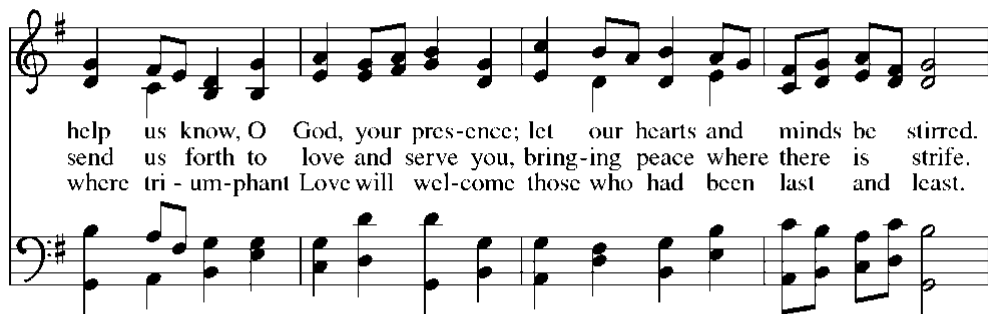
Gathering Hymn :

*As We Gather At Your Table*

#522



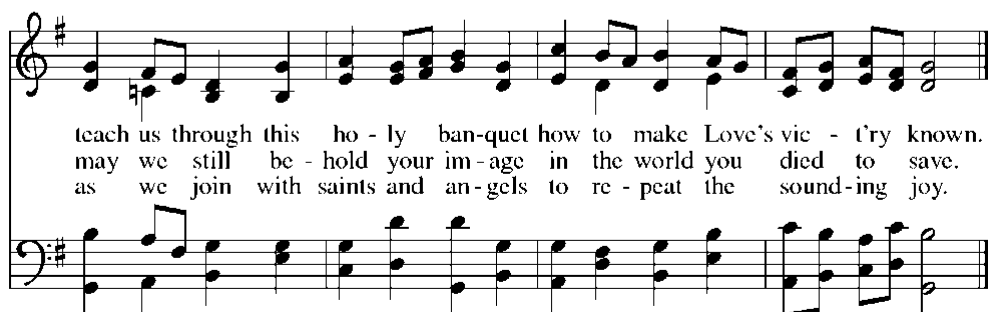
1 As we gath-er at your ta-ble, as we lis-ten to your word,  
2 Turn our wor-ship in-to wit-ness in the sac-ra-ment of life;  
3 Gra-cious Spir-it, help us sum-mon oth-er guests to share that feast



help us know, O God, your pres-ence; let our hearts and minds be stirred.  
send us forth to love and serve you, bring-ing peace where there is strife.  
where tri-um-phant Love will wel-come those who had been last and least.



Nour-ish us with sa-cred sto-ry till we claim it as our own;  
Give us, Christ, your great com-pas-sion to for-give as you for-gave;  
There no more will en-vy blind us nor will pride our peace de-stroy,



teach us through this ho-ly ban-quet how to make Love's vic-t'ry known.  
may we still be-hold your im-age in the world you died to save.  
as we join with saints and an-gels to re-peat the sound-ing joy.

Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944

Music: IN BABILONE, *Oude en Nieuwe Hollandse Boerenliedjes en Contradansen*, 1710; arr. Julius Röntgen, 1855–1932  
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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.**

Prayer of the Day:

Let us pray. O Lord God, unravel our shame, O God, with the promises that we are always loved and forever worthy. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen**

Children's Moment

## **WE HEAR GOD'S WORD**

Song of Thanksgiving

ELW 508, vs 1

As rain from the clouds will your word come to earth, as snow from the heav-ens re -

fresh-ing the land. Then soft-en our soil that the good seed may grow and rip - en rich

fruit to re - turn to your hand. We praise you, our God, for the dew of your word; we

thank you, good gar-d'ner, for your ten - der toil. We bless you, best farm-er, for

hun - dred - fold yield, for har - vest of grace in our once - bar - ren soil.

The musical score is written on five staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and suitable for children's voices. The lyrics are printed below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes.

**Reading:** John 4:1-29

4Now when Jesus learned that the Pharisees had heard, “Jesus is making and baptizing more disciples than John” <sup>2</sup>—although it was not Jesus himself but his disciples who baptized— <sup>3</sup>he left Judea and started back to Galilee.

<sup>4</sup>But he had to go through Samaria. <sup>5</sup>So he came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. <sup>6</sup>Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon. <sup>7</sup>A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." <sup>8</sup>(His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) <sup>9</sup>The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?" (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) <sup>10</sup>Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water." <sup>11</sup>The woman said to him, "Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water?" <sup>12</sup>Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?" <sup>13</sup>Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, <sup>14</sup>but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life." <sup>15</sup>The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water." <sup>16</sup>Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come back." <sup>17</sup>The woman answered him, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no husband'; <sup>18</sup>for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!" <sup>19</sup>The woman said to him, "Sir, I see that you are a prophet. <sup>20</sup>Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem." <sup>21</sup>Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. <sup>22</sup>You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. <sup>23</sup>But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. <sup>24</sup>God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth." <sup>25</sup>The woman said to him, "I know that Messiah is coming" (who is called Christ). "When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us." <sup>26</sup>Jesus said to her, "I am he, the one who is speaking to you."

<sup>27</sup>Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, "What do you want?" or, "Why are you speaking with her?" <sup>28</sup>Then the woman left her water jar and went back to the city. She said to the people, <sup>29</sup>"Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?"

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

Sermon



1 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "Come un - to me and rest;  
 2 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "Be - hold, I free - ly give  
 3 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "I am this dark world's light;



lay down, O wea - ry one, lay down your head up - on my breast."  
 the liv - ing wa - ter, thirst - y one; stoop down and drink and live."  
 look un - to me, your morn shall rise, and all your day be bright."



I came to Je - sus as I was, so wea - ry, worn, and sad;  
 I came to Je - sus, and I drank of that life - giv - ing stream;  
 I looked to Je - sus, and I found in him my star, my sun;



I found in him a rest-ing-place, and he has made me glad.  
 my thirst was quenched, my soul re - vived, and now I live in him.  
 and in that light of life I'll walk till trav-'ling days are done.

Text: Horatius Bonar, 1808–1889  
 Music: KINGSFOLD, English folk tune

### Apostles Creed:

In Christ, you have heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation.

**We believe in him and are marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit.**

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.**

### Offering

*Though we meet virtually, the ministry of God's people at BLC continues. Our worship is complete when we bring all of our resources to receive God's blessing and fulfill God's purpose. This time of uncertainty and reduced physical contact gives us ever more opportunities to share our abundance – of compassion, of time, and of material resources. If you are able, please continue your financial commitment to BLC.*

*If you would like to make a one-time gift electronically, scan the QR (quick response) code on the right and you'll be brought to BLC's mobile giving page. For recurring gifts, download the Tithe.ly app. Checks may also be mailed to Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 48 Perrin Street, Fairport, NY 14450.*



*Whatever form your offering takes, we give thanks to God for you and your generosity.*

Offering of Music: *O Christ The Same (WOV 778)* Traditional Irish Tune  
Text by Timothy Dudley-Smith, Arr. By Linda G. Thomas and Larry Conger  
*BLC Folk Group (Director, Rich Towsley)*

### Offertory:

### *We Plow the Fields and Scatter*

#681 vs. 3

Musical notation for the offertory song. It consists of four staves of music in G major (one sharp). The lyrics are written below the notes.

We thank you, our cre - a - tor, for all things bright and good, the seed-time and the  
har - vest, our life, our health, our food. No gifts have we to of - fer for  
all your love im - parts, but what you most would trea - sure, our hum - ble, thank-ful  
hearts. All good gifts a - round us are sent from heav'n a - bove. We



Offertory Prayer:

Let us pray. Merciful God,

**we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us—our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord.**

**Amen.**

The Prayers of the People:

*In the silences of our prayer you are encouraged to remember those whose needs are known to us listed below. You may also lift up the name of someone in need of prayer in the comments of our worship livestream.*

Dear God our constant companion, we ask that you hear our concerns this morning as we invite the congregation of Bethlehem and all friends joining us virtually, to come together now in prayer for the needs of the whole church, the world, and all people.

*Silence*

Heavenly Father, we ask that you help us to be strong and faithful in this time of immense changes and tragedy: a raging deadly virus; hatred and violence in our streets; intolerance and blindness toward one another. Please help us to open up our hearts and minds to those not like us; to those who have few resources; to those who are sick in body and mind. Hear us O God,  
**Your mercy is great.**

God of Grace, we pray for our Bethlehem congregation and friends. Please help us to heal our wounds: physical and spiritual. We pray for the people of all nations that they are included in your great compassion. We pray for our sisters and brothers in our twinned Parish of Shurugwi, Zimbabwe. Hear us O God,  
**Your mercy is great.**

God of Eternal Life, may we remember it is through You and the example of Jesus, that we will find the sustaining Life of your spiritual waters. Help us O God to be faithful followers. Hear us O God,  
**Your mercy is great.**

God of Strength, we pray for all in our Fairport faith community, especially: Nick and Sharon, Karl, Rolf and Margaret, Duncan, Dan. Hear us O God,  
**Your mercy is great.**

God of compassion, you know our needs better than we ourselves, Hear these prayers that we offer:

*We pray for those in need of healing, especially:*

- Penelope (sister of Kathy), recently diagnosed with AFIB
- The congregation of Zion Lutheran, Cobleskill who had a fire in their sanctuary the weekend of 11/6
- Evelyn & Willard (parents of Kay) who have moved into assisted living
- Bishop John who is recovering from gallbladder surgery on 11/6
- Marshall who is recovering from back surgery on 11/6
- Brian as he awaits test results
- Florence (mother of David) who is in ICU following a stroke and emergency surgery
- Chris (son of Learning Links tutor) who is in Neuro-ICO following a fall
- Meg (20-year-old daughter of Learning Links tutor) who is recovering from Oral Cancer surgery and relearning to talk
- Lawson (toddler friend of Learning Links family) who has fought cancer for over a year
- 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
  - Jean (mother of Mary's friend Linda)
  - Willis (brother-in-law of Kathy)

Hear also the prayers we raise individually in our hearts or on our lips. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Receive all these prayers and those too deep for words through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer:

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

**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**

## **WE LEAVE TO SERVE:**

Benediction:

The God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus.

**Amen.**

The God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

The God of all grace bless you now and forever.

**Amen.**

|               |                                                                       |      |
|---------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|------|
| Sending Hymn: | <i>O Jesus, Joy of Loving Hearts</i><br>(music on the following page) | #658 |
|---------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|------|

Dismissal:

Go in peace. Christ is with you.

**Thanks be to God.**

Narthex Chats

Announcements – watch for slides during the Postlude

Postlude: from Sonata No. 2 in C Minor/Major  
Allegro maestoso e vivace

Felix Mendelssohn

1 O Je - sus, joy of lov - ing hearts, the fount of  
 2 We taste you, ev - er - liv - ing bread, and long to  
 3 For you our rest - less spir - its yearn, wher - e'er our  
 4 O Je - sus, ev - er with us stay! Make all our

life, the light of all: from ev - 'ry bliss that earth im -  
 feast up - on you still; we drink of you, the foun - tain -  
 chang - ing lot is cast; glad, when your smile on us you  
 mo - ments fair and bright! Oh, chase the night of sin a -

parts we turn, un - filled, to hear your call.  
 head; our thirst - ing souls from you we fill.  
 turn, blest, when by the faith we hold you fast.  
 way! Shed o'er the world your ho - ly light.

Text: attr. Bernard of Clairvaux, 1091–1153; tr. Ray Palmer, 1808–1887, alt.  
 Music: WALTON, W. Gardiner, *Sacred Melodies*, 1815

## Calendar for week of November 15 – November 22

(Updated on 11/11/20 at 12 noon, visit <https://blcfairport.org/event-directory/> for updates)

### Sunday, November 15

8:30 am Facebook  
Livestream  
Worship  
9:45 am Zoom\* Coffee with a  
Pastor  
([Join](#) or use ID 823 7018 2058)  
10:00 am Zoom\* 3<sup>rd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup>  
Grade Monthly Meet-Up  
([Join](#) or use ID 890 1964 4442)  
7:30 pm Zoom\* LYO  
([Join](#) or use ID 818 2417 6546)

### Monday, November 16

6:00 pm Virtual Youth Choir  
([Join](#) or use ID 816 9461 2911)  
6:30 pm BSA Troop 208  
No Confirmation 11/16 or 11/23

### Tuesday, November 17

4:30 pm Zoom\* Education  
Planning Meeting  
6:30 pm BSA Troop 2019

### Wednesday, November 18

9:30 am Zoom\* Bible Study  
([Join](#) or use ID 943 3691 2942)  
6:30 pm Chancel Bells  
7:30 pm Zoom\* Chancel Choir  
Rehearsal  
([Join](#) or use ID 869 2314 9200)  
1:00 pm Zoom\* Men's Lunch  
([Join](#) or use ID 874 8853 3240)

### Thursday, November 19

6:30 pm Zoom\* Church Council

### Friday, November 20

#### **Pastor's Sabbath**

10:00 am Folk Group Rehearsal  
3:00 pm Dulcimer Group  
Rehearsal

### Saturday, November 21

9:30 am Zoom\* Women's Brunch  
Bunch  
([Join](#) or use ID 860 6550 2067)

### Sunday, November 22

8:30 am Facebook  
Livestream  
Worship  
9:45 am Zoom\* Coffee with a  
Pastor  
([Join](#) or use ID 823 7018 2058)  
10:30 am – 12 noon Advent Bag &  
Advent Log pick-up  
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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## Reflection

Unraveled: Seeking God When Our Plans Fall Apart has been our theme the past couple months. I've been recalling something Anne Lamott wrote in her book, *Stitches*. I hope you don't mind if I simply share it with you here. Anne writes:

*"Most good families in the 1950's had wooden darning eggs...an egg-shaped piece of wood, stone or ceramic, that fits inside most socks. You may not have heard the word "darning" in years. Darning is to send parallel threads through the damage in socks and sweaters, in and out, in and out, back and forth, over and under, and somehow, you have a piece of fabric again – such as the heel of a sock, that's good enough again, against all odds. This is sort of a miracle – good enough again. Wow. You're weaving, in effect, starting with raggedy edges, going back a bit to the one spot that can still hold new thread.*

*It definitely helps to have a darning egg as you go through life. Trust me on this.*

*I have found that my tiny church (Lamott's St. Andrew Presbyterian) has given me a shape to work against – a darning egg – for the last 30 years, what with all these holes."*

That is what I have been thinking about through this Unraveled series. The miracle of weaving our raggedy edges back to a spot that can still hold and how it sure helps to have a darning egg in life...what with all these holes.

(from *Stitches: A Handbook on Meaning, Hope and Repair* by Anne Lamott – Riverhead Books, 2013)

~ Ruth Gates

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