



Sunday, November 22 ~ *Christ the King*

On this final Sunday of the church year our gospel is Jesus' great story of judgment. In the end, the faithful are those who served Christ by ministering to those who are poor, hungry, naked, sick, or estranged. We gather this day to celebrate the reign of Christ and his victory over death, yet we await the consummation of all things yet to come. Acknowledging Christ as our merciful ruler, we go forth that his reign may be known in our loving words and deeds.

Prelude: Prelude on "Lift High the Cross"

David M. Cherwien

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:

Gracious God, we bring you the broken parts of ourselves.

Hem us in before and behind.

Creator God, we bring you the joyful parts of ourselves.

Weave us together in hope and praise.

God of new life, we bring you doubt and faith knotted up in our hearts.

Unravel our doubt. Weave faith into our hearts. Draw us together and point us toward you.

We worship you and we bow down.

We kneel before the Lord, our Maker!

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 :

Christ is the King

#662



1 Christ is the king! O friends, re - joice; broth - ers and sis - ters,
2 Oh, mag - ni - fy the Lord, and raise an - thems of joy and
3 O Chris - tian wom - en, Chris - tian men, all the world o - ver,
4 Let Love's all - rec - on - cil - ing might your scat - tered com - pa -
5 So shall the church at last be one; so shall God's will on



with one voice let the world know he is your choice.
ho - ly praise for Christ's brave saints of an - cient days.
seek a - gain the Way dis - ci - ples fol - lowed then.
nies u - nite in ser - vice to the God of light.
earth be done, new lamps be lit, new tasks be - gun.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Text: George K.A. Bell, 1883-1958, alt.

Music: BEVERLY, Charles R. Anders, b. 1929

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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:

O God of power and might, your Son shows us the way of service, and in him we inherit the riches of your grace. Give us the wisdom to know what is right and the strength to serve the world you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

Reading: Ephesians 1:15-23

¹⁵I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason ¹⁶I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. ¹⁷I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, ¹⁸so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, ¹⁹and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. ²⁰God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, ²¹far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. ²²And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, ²³which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation:



The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: Matthew 25:31-46

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ³¹“When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. ³²All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, ³³and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. ³⁴Then the king will say to those at his right hand, ‘Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; ³⁵for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, ³⁶I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.’ ³⁷Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? ³⁸And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? ³⁹And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?’ ⁴⁰And the king will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you,

just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family you did it to me.’
⁴¹Then he will say to those at his left hand, ‘You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; ⁴²for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, ⁴³I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.’ ⁴⁴Then they also will answer, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?’ ⁴⁵Then he will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.’ ⁴⁶And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.”

The Gospel of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Sermon

Hymn:

For the Fruit of All Creation

#679

1 For the fruit of all cre - a - tion, thanks be to God.
 2 In the just re - ward of la - bor, God's will is done.
 3 For the har - vests of the Spir - it, thanks be to God.

For these gifts to ev - 'ry na - tion, thanks be to God.
 In the help we give our neigh - bor, God's will is done.
 For the good we all in - her - it, thanks be to God.

For the plow - ing, sow - ing, reap - ing, si - lent growth while we are sleep - ing,
 In our world - wide task of car - ing for the hun - gry and de - spair - ing,
 For the won - ders that as - tound us, for the truths that still con - found us,

fu - ture needs in earth's safe - keep - ing, thanks be to God.
 in the har - vests we are shar - ing, God's will is done.
 most of all, that love has found us, thanks be to God.

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903–2000
 Music: AR HYDY NOS, Welsh traditional; arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958
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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:

Fairest Lord Jesus

German, 17th Century Tune, Silesian Folksong

arr. Faber & Faber

Charlotte Finkbeiner, piano



The musical score is written on five staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below each staff. The lyrics are: '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 thank you, Lord, we thank you, Lord, for all your love.'

Offertory Prayer:

Let us pray. God of all goodness,

generations have turned to you, gathered around your table, and shared your abundant blessings. Number us among them that, as we gather these gifts from your abundance, and give thanks for your rich blessings, we may feast upon your very self and care for all that you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Sovereign and Servant. 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.

As God's people called to love one another, let us pray for the needs of the Church, the human family, and all the world.

God of compassion, you are the world, you are the people. Grant us the virtue of treating all as we would treat you walking among us. God of mercy,
hear our prayer.

God of Wisdom, be with our scientists, researches, doctors, nurses and all who are working to eradicate the virus causing so much pain for our world. God of mercy,
hear our prayer.

We pray for the congregation of Bethlehem and for your church around the world. Today we pray for these members and friends of Bethlehem and their families: Ed & Donna, Chris & Lisa (Dan & Rachel), Ron & Kitty, Christopher & Kathryn (Blakely), Wes & Gretchen. We also pray for our sisters and brothers in our twinned parish in Shurugwi, Zimbabwe. God of mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of compassion, you know our needs better than we ourselves. Hear the prayers we offer now.

We pray for those in need of healing, especially:

- Jim (father of Hans) whose cancer has stopped responding to chemotherapy
- Wayne (father-in-law of Mary) recently hospitalized with sepsis and now receiving daily treatment
- Glen who will have surgery on 11/24, followed by cancer treatment
- Penelope (sister of Kathy) who just learned she has AFIB
- The congregation of Zion Lutheran, Cobleskill who had a fire in their sanctuary the weekend of 11/6
- 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)
 - Malinda (sister of Kathy)
 - Willis (brother-in-law of Kathy)

Hear also these prayers we raise to you in our hearts or on our voice. God of mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Receive these prayers, O God 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 will 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>Now Thank We All Our God</i> <i>(music on the following page)</i>	#840
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Go in peace. Christ is with you.

Thanks be to God.

Narthex Chats with Jim Flanagan, Bob Stock and other guests

Announcements – watch for slides during the Postlude

Postlude: Improvisation on “Lord, Enthroned in Heavenly Splendor” (ELW #475) Paul Manz




1 Now thank we all our God with hearts and hands and voices,
2 Oh, may this bounteous God through all our life be near us,
3 All praise and thanks to God the Father now be given,



who wondrous things has done, in whom this world rejoices;
with ever joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us,
the Son, and Spirit blest, who reign in highest heaven,



who, from our mothers' arms, has blest us on our way
and keep us all in grace, and guide us when perplexed,
the one eternal God, whom earth and heav'n adore;



with countless gifts of love, and still is ours to-day.
and free us from all harm in this world and the next.
for thus it was, is now, and shall be evermore.

Calendar for week of November 22 – November 29

(Updated on 11/18/20 at 12 noon, visit <https://blcfairport.org/event-directory/> for updates)

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 in School
District Lot
7:30 pm Zoom* LYO
([Join](#) or use ID 818 2417 6546)

Monday, November 23

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

Tuesday, November 24

Church Office Closed
6:30 pm BSA Troop 2019

Wednesday, November 25

Church Office Closed
9:30 am Zoom* Bible Study
([Join](#) or use ID 943 3691 2942)
No Chancel Bells on 11/25
No Chancel Choir on 11/25

Thursday, November 26

**Thanksgiving Day - Church
Office Closed**

Friday, November 27

**Thanksgiving Holiday –
Church Office Closed**
No Folk Group or Dulcimer
Group 11/27

Saturday, November 28

Sunday, November 29

First Sunday in Advent
8:30 am Facebook
Livestream
Worship
11:00 am Zoom* Coffee (NOTE
THE NEW TIME) with a
Pastor & Guest
([Join](#) or use ID 823 7018 2058)
7:30 pm Zoom* LYO
([Join](#) or use ID 818 2417 6546)

In order to provide additional vacation time for both Pastor Amy and Beth this holiday week, the church office will be closed Tuesday – Friday. In the event of a Pastoral Emergency (i.e. death, family or individual crisis) please contact Pastor Korey Finstad at 585-402-8451.

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

****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.***

Reflection

Christ the King Sunday – the last Sunday of the liturgical church year. And what a year it has been!

Wednesday morning Bible Study has been working our way through the book of Acts. We've been learning about the early church and its struggles. Most of the book is about Paul and his 3 missionary journeys. One of the places he visited, lived and taught was the young church in Ephesus – our lesson this week from Ephesians is a letter he wrote to the people after he had moved on. He gives thanks for them and remembers them in his prayers. A lesson we all can follow on this week before Thanksgiving.

Included in this prayer of thanksgiving, he writes "that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you." He – that Christ the King whom we celebrate this week. He - The Christ who reminds us to care for our neighbor. Paul is caring for the people of Ephesus by giving them hope. The hope to which our Lord and Savior has called them and us. Martin Luther wrote "Everything that is done in the world is done by hope." We have much to do in our world, in our nation, in our cities, in our neighborhoods and in our families. We cling to hope as we finish 2020 and begin a new year. May we uplift each other the way Paul uplifted the people of Ephesus.

New hope begins every day when we wake up – and in the church year, it begins next week with Advent. Peace be with you all as you cling to hope!

~ Kathy Moragne

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