

## Sunday, January 10 ~ *Baptism of Our Lord*

*Our re-creation in baptism is an image of the Genesis creation, where the Spirit of God moved over the waters. Mark's gospel makes it clear that it is the Spirit's movement that distinguishes Jesus' baptism from John's. The Spirit has come upon us as upon us, calling us God's beloved children and setting us on Jesus' mission to re-create the world in the image of God's vision of justice and peace.*

Prelude: Prelude on "King's Lynn"  
Wade in the Water

(ELW #301) arr. David Cherwien  
African American spiritual/arr. Barbara Harbach

Gathering Words and Welcome

### SERVICE OF WORD AND PRAYER

*If possible, prepare a worship space in your home with a bowl of water. 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.*

Confession and Forgiveness:

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God, the Creator, the Beloved One, the Comforter.  
**Amen.**

Beloved in the Lord: we confess our sin, trusting in the abundant grace of God.

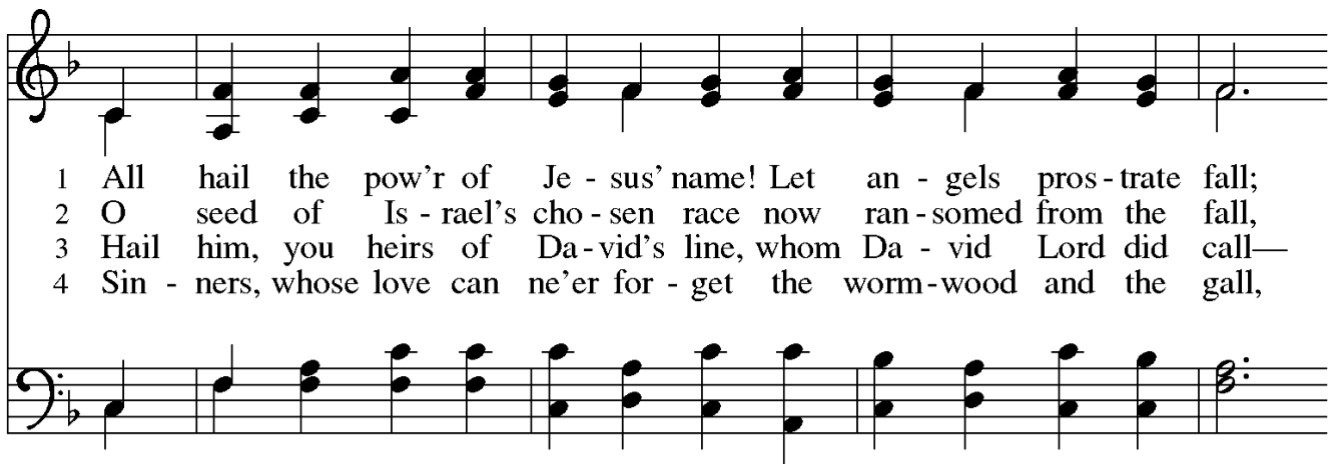
*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Gracious God,

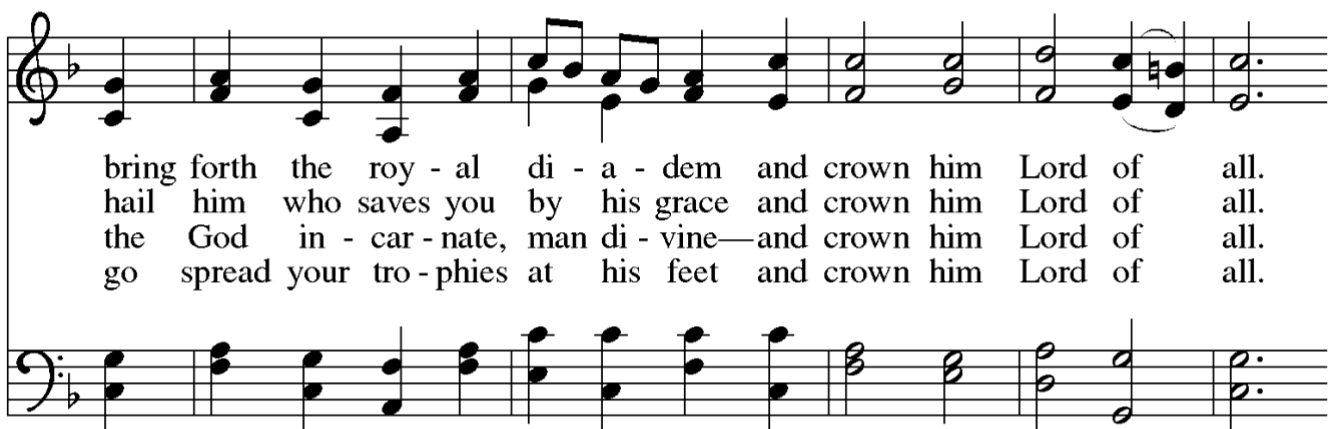
**We acknowledge that we are sinners and we confess our sins – those known to us that burden our hearts, and those unknown to us but seen by you. We know that before you nothing remains hidden, and in you everything is revealed. Free us from the slavery of sin; liberate us from the bondage of guilt; work in us that which is pleasing in your sight; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

How vast is God's grace! Through the power and promise of ✠ Christ Jesus, our sins are washed away and we are claimed as God's own beloved. Indeed, we are forgiven. In the wake of God's forgiveness, we are called to be the beloved community living out Christ's justice and the Spirit's reconciling peace.

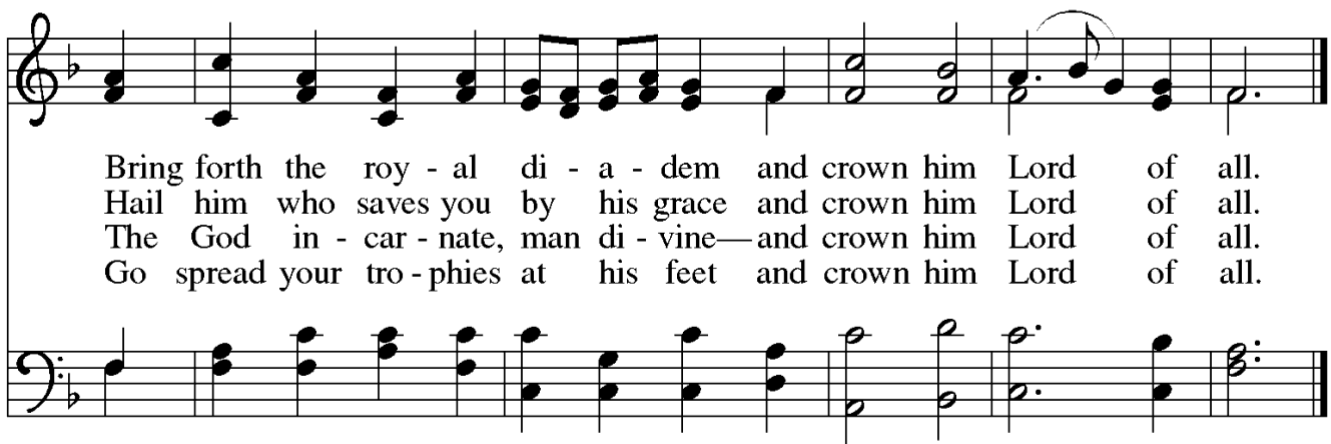
**Amen.**



1 All hail the pow'r of Je - sus' name! Let an - gels pros - trate fall;  
 2 O seed of Is - rael's cho - sen race now ran - somed from the fall,  
 3 Hail him, you heirs of Da - vid's line, whom Da - vid Lord did call—  
 4 Sin - ners, whose love can ne'er for - get the worm-wood and the gall,



bring forth the roy - al di - a - dem and crown him Lord of all.  
 hail him who saves you by his grace and crown him Lord of all.  
 the God in - car - nate, man di - vine—and crown him Lord of all.  
 go spread your tro - phies at his feet and crown him Lord of all.



Bring forth the roy - al di - a - dem and crown him Lord of all.  
 Hail him who saves you by his grace and crown him Lord of all.  
 The God in - car - nate, man di - vine—and crown him Lord of all.  
 Go spread your tro - phies at his feet and crown him Lord of all.

5 Let ev'ry kindred, ev'ry tribe  
 on this terrestrial ball  
 to him all majesty ascribe  
 and crown him Lord of all.

6 Oh, that with yonder sacred throng  
 we at his feet may fall!  
 We'll join the everlasting song  
 and crown him Lord of all.

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.**

*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.*

Prayer of the Day:

Let us pray. Holy God, creator of light and giver of goodness, your voice moves over the waters. Immerse us in your grace, and transform us by your Spirit, that we may follow after your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

Children's Moment

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

### **Reading: Genesis 1:1-5**

*Out of chaos, God brings order. Out of the formless void, God brings light. This familiar story was good news for the Israelites, who experienced much chaos in their history. It remains good news for us. God created and continues to create new life.*

<sup>1</sup>In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, <sup>2</sup>the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. <sup>3</sup>Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. <sup>4</sup>And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. <sup>5</sup>God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **Psalm: Psalm 29**

<sup>1</sup>Ascribe to the LORD, O heavenly beings,  
ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.

<sup>2</sup>Ascribe to the LORD the glory of his name;  
worship the LORD in holy splendor.

<sup>3</sup>The voice of the LORD is over the waters;  
the God of glory thunders,  
the LORD, over mighty waters.

<sup>4</sup>The voice of the LORD is powerful;  
the voice of the LORD is full of majesty.

<sup>5</sup>The voice of the LORD breaks the cedars;  
the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon.

<sup>6</sup>He makes Lebanon skip like a calf,  
and Sirion like a young wild ox.

<sup>7</sup>The voice of the LORD flashes forth flames of fire.

<sup>8</sup>The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness;  
the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.

<sup>9</sup>The voice of the LORD causes the oaks to whirl,  
and strips the forest bare;  
and in his temple all say, "Glory!"

<sup>10</sup>The LORD sits enthroned over the flood;  
the LORD sits enthroned as king forever.

<sup>11</sup>May the LORD give strength to his people!  
May the LORD bless his people with peace!

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **Gospel Acclamation: Love Has Come #292, vs 3**

Love has come and nev-er will leave us! Love is life ev-er - last-ing and free. Love is

Je - sus with - in and a - mong us. Love is the peace our hearts are seek - ing. Love!

Love! Love is the gift of Christ-mas. Love! Love! Praise to you, God on high! \_\_\_\_\_

The Holy Gospel according to Mark.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

### **Gospel: Mark 1:4-11**

*Mark's gospel reports the story of Jesus' baptism with some irony: the one on whom the Spirit descends is himself the one who will baptize others with the Holy Spirit.*

<sup>4</sup>John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. <sup>5</sup>And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. <sup>6</sup>Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. <sup>7</sup>He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. <sup>8</sup>I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

<sup>9</sup>In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. <sup>10</sup>And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the

Spirit descending like a dove on him. <sup>11</sup>And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

Hymn of the Day:

*Baptized and Set Free*

#453



1 We are peo - ple cre - at - ed, cho - sen by God.  
2 We are fed and we're nour - ished, filled and re - freshed.  
3 We are nour - ished by wa - ter, all liv - ing things,  
4 Now with praise and thanks - giv - ing, we join the song.



Then we're washed, ev - er gent - ly, in mer - cy and love.  
Then our hun - ger re - turns and a - gain we are blessed.  
and by life that the Spir - it a - bun - dant - ly brings.  
All are wel - come! We gath - er to sing loud and strong.



Sin has pow - er no more. Je - sus o - pened the door  
For what - ev - er the need, God is great - er in - deed:  
As we jour - ney toward home, may your pres - ence be known:  
Not en - slaved, but set free! From now on, all will be



to a foun - tain bring - ing heal - ing, and whole - ness and more.  
end - less o - cean, al - ways deep - er than all of our need.  
pre - cious riv - er, ev - er - flow - ing, now car - ry us home.  
one in Je - sus, one in wa - ter, bap - tized and set free!

Text: Cathy Skogen-Soldner, b. 1956

Music: BAPTIZED AND SET FREE, Cathy Skogen-Soldner

Text and music © 1999 Augsburg Fortress.

The Apostles' Creed:

Together 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.

#### Installation of Church Council Members

#### 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

Invention No. 1 in C Major

J.S. Bach

*Julia Finkbeiner, Piano*

Offertory:

*We Plow the Fields and Scatter*

#680 vs. 3





#### Offertory Prayer:

Let us pray. O God,

**receive these gifts as you receive us: like a mother receives her child, with arms open wide. Nourish us anew in your tender care, and empower us in faithful service to tend to others with this same love, through Jesus Christ, our saving grace. 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.

Out of chaos, God brings order. Out of the formless void, God brings light. Our Christmas light has come. We pray O God, for our world, our country and our personal sphere of existence. Shout at us from your presence in our souls to guide us to love and compassion. God of compassion,  
**hear our prayer.**

We pray for Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Fairport, our Upstate synod, the ELCA and all churches, synagogues, mosques and all places of worship that have the common tenets of love and peace. We pray for our twinned parish in Shurugwi, Zimbabwe. We pray for guidance of calm and compassion to us all. We pray for Bishop Macholz, Pastors Walter-Peterson and Hoffman for strength to shepherd our flock through the tough time of a world pandemic and political unrest. God of compassion,  
**hear our prayer.**

We pray for our BLC family and specifically, today, we call out aloud: Anastasia, Dorothy, Jason & Kristen (Kaitlynne), Brendan & Vera, John & Terri as well as all of our families in our community and those whom we wish to be part of our community. We pray for our brothers and sisters in need of healing and comfort, we pray for;

*We pray for those who are grieving, especially the family and friends of:*

- Judy Buck, mother of Mary Osgood's friend who died on 1/7
- John Adler, son of former BLC pastor Dallas Adler who died on 1/2

- Bob Paoni, father of Sherry & Jim Cook's son-in-law who died on 12/27
- Marjorie Miller who died on 12/20

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

- Joanne Goethals, mother of Vicki Beutel who is recovering from a recent stroke
- Bernice Stevens, mother of Kathy Moragne who is recovering after a recent hospitalization
- Anne, aunt of Marja Roney who is starting chemotherapy following a recent lung cancer diagnosis
- 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 or recovering from Coronavirus, and their caregivers
  - Walter Zagorski, father of Glen Zagorski
  - Olive Jameson, mother of Jackie Stivers
  - Waverly, friend of Phyllis Stock
  - Clare & George, parents of Waverly

And all others we mention aloud or keep silent in our hearts. God of compassion,  
**hear our prayer.**

God of all, we pray for Peace. God of compassion,  
**hear our prayer.**

Receive these petitions, 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:

God the creator strengthen you; Jesus the beloved fill you; and the Holy Spirit the comforter ✠ keep you in peace.

**Amen.**



1 God, whose al - might - y word cha - os and dark - ness heard  
 2 Christ, who once came to bring, on your re - deem - ing wing,  
 3 Spir - it of truth and love, life - giv - ing, ho - ly dove,  
 4 Ho - ly and bless - ed three, glo - ri - ous Trin - i - ty,

and took their flight: hear us, we hum - bly pray, and where the  
 heal - ing and sight; health to the trou - bled mind, sight where il -  
 speed forth your flight; move on the wa - ter's face bear - ing the  
 Wis - dom, Love, Might: bound - less as o - cean's tide, roll - ing in

gos - pel day sheds not its glo - rious ray, let there be light.  
 lu - sions blind; oh, now to hu - man-kind let there be light.  
 lamp of grace, and in earth's dark - est place let there be light.  
 full - est pride, through the earth, far and wide, let there be light.

Text: John Marriott, 1780–1825, alt.

Music: ITALIAN HYMN, Felice de Giardini, 1716–1796

Go

in peace beloved ones. Be the light of Christ.

**Thanks be to God.**

Narthex Chat

Postlude: "Hail to the Lord's Anointed

(ELW #311)

arr. Henry V. Gerike

## Calendar for week of January 10 – January 17

(Last updated on 1/6/21 at 12 noon, visit <https://blcfairport.org/event-directory/> for updates)

### Sunday, January 10

#### **Baptism of Our Lord**

8:30 am Facebook

Livestream

Worship

9:45 am Zoom\* Coffee & Crucial

Conversation hosted by the

Pastors

([Join](#) or use ID 823 7018 2058)

7:30 pm Zoom\* LYO

([Join](#) or use ID 818 2417 6546)

### Monday, January 11

6:00 pm Virtual Youth Choir

([Join](#) or use ID 816 9461 2911)

6:30 pm BSA Troop 208

7:00 pm Zoom\* GFL

Confirmation

([Join](#) or use ID 859 4816 8778)

### Tuesday, January 12

#### **BLC Office Closed\*\***

10:00 am Worship Committee

Meeting

([Join](#) or use ID 821 5644 5330)

6:30 pm Zoom\* Re-opening Team

([Join](#) or use ID 824 6235 3239)

6:30 pm BSA Troop 2019

### Wednesday, January 13

9:30 am Zoom\* Bible Study

([Join](#) or use ID 943 3691 2942)

3:00 pm Education Planning

Meeting

6:00 pm Zoom\* Mission & Social

Concerns

6:30 pm Chancel Bells

7:30 pm Zoom\* Chancel Choir

Rehearsal

([Join](#) or use ID 869 2314 9200)

### Thursday, January 14

### Friday, January 15

#### **30 Hour Famine 1/15 – 1/17**

No Folk Group Today

3:00 pm Dulcimer Group

Rehearsal

### Saturday, January 16

#### **30 Hour Famine 1/15 – 1/17**

9:15 am Property Committee

### Sunday, January 17

#### **30 Hour Famine 1/15 – 1/17**

8:30 am Facebook

Livestream

Worship

9:45 am Zoom\* Coffee & Crucial

Conversation hosted by the

Pastors

([Join](#) or use ID 823 7018 2058)

6:30 pm Zoom\* Story time for

pre-K through 5<sup>th</sup> grade and

families

([Join](#) or use ID 815 7566 9638)

7:30 pm Zoom\* LYO

([Join](#) or use ID 818 2417 6546)

**\*\*Beth Schoenfeld will be out of the office** on Tuesdays from January 5 – March 10. Pastor Amy remains available on Tuesdays and can be reached by phone when she is not in the office.

**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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## Breath of God

Breath figures frequently in Scripture. God's breath or Spirit hovers over the chaos in creation in Genesis. Breath or Spirit enters the nostrils of the created in the story. Breath and Spirit is breathed onto the disciples by Jesus when he appears to them after his resurrection. In the gospel text, as Jesus rises from the waters, the Spirit, the breath of God, descends like a dove. Jesus, having held his breath under the water, rises as a model of death and life for us, breathing in the life of the Spirit. He is a risen and claimed by God as the beloved with whom God is pleased.

Of course, breathing is two things, breathing in and breathing out. You can hold your breath, but there is no way to hold it forever. Consider how this reflects the Spirit's power in Jesus and then in our baptism. In baptism, the gift is not just one of repentance and forgiveness, but, as the Acts text emphasizes, also involves the Spirit living and acting in the baptized. While it is a gift for our own lives, like the gift of breathing in, it is also encouragement and life, a breathing out of the Spirit into the world. Baptism is both for our own sake and for the world. In our baptism, we breathe in forgiveness and reconciliation and breathe out the Spirit in our life and works. That's the full life of the baptized disciple.

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