



We Want to See Jesus

Bethlehem Lutheran, Fairport, NY | Lent 2021

Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, "Sir, we wish to see Jesus." (John 12:20-21)

The request of the visitors in Jerusalem some 2000 years ago still lives on our lips: we also wish to see Jesus. We wish to see him in our sacred spaces and shared sacraments, but many of us have been separated from those familiar grounds for nearly a year. Since March 2020, we have been seeking and seeing Jesus in new ways. This Lent, in community with our sisters and brothers in Christ at Bethlehem and across the Genesee Finger Lakes Conference, we turn our eyes upon Jesus. Together, we'll look for the places he appears in Scripture and ask where those places might be in our world today.

All Bethlehem worship services will be available for viewing at the times indicated or at a later time convenient to your household. Worship can be viewed on Facebook, YouTube, or through our BLC website.

Ash Wednesday, February 17 at 7 pm

(For)Give me Jesus. Honest confession of our sin and our mortality mark the start of Lent and our observance of Ash Wednesday. Face-to-face with our need for mercy, we seek forgiveness and ask Jesus himself to be present with and for us. Households are encouraged to gather some dirt or ash from your home in preparation for worship. (Matthew 16:1-21)

Sunday Worship, Livestreamed at 8:30 am

February 21 – We see Jesus in the wilderness (Mark 1:9-15)

February 28 – We see Jesus on the cross (Mark 8:27-38)

March 7 – We see Jesus in the temple (John. 2:13-22)

Worshippers may come to Bethlehem this morning to receive communion following the livestream until 11 am.

March 14 – We see Jesus in the shadows (John 3:1-21)

March 21 – We see Jesus in loss (John 12:20-33)

Adult Book Study, Sundays on Zoom

Pastor Dave Gerhardt leads a book/Bible study on *Love Is the Way, Holding On To Hope In Troubling Times*, by Bishop Michael Curry, who is the Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church. This book study begins Sunday, February 14 at 11 am and continues on February 21, 28, March 14, 21, and 28 at 9:45 am. (NOTE: No session on March 7 due to Communion Sunday.) Purchase this book through a book seller of your choosing.

Each Tuesday and Saturday, we share information about our upcoming worship in the Ready for Worship email we send out. If you are not currently receiving our Ready for Worship emails and wish to, please sign-up at <https://blcfairport.org/>, or contact office@blcfairport.org.

Wednesdays in Lent – Created for Community at 7 pm on Zoom

We are one community in Christ, disciples who grow and pray together, even when separated by distance. This year for Lent, we will live out that community connection in a bigger way, by joining together with congregations across the Genesee Finger Lakes Conference over Zoom for a midweek Lenten series.

Drawing from the Sunday texts and stories from Mark's Gospel, we will reflect together on the various ways we are called to be community: with creation, with the saints, with our neighbor, with those on the margins, and with Christ. Each **Wednesday at 7pm**, we will join in worship together around a different theme, led by pastors across the conference in a simple liturgy of word and prayer. At 7:30, those who wish, may continue with an option to grow deeper in community, either through conversation around the day's text, or through learning a new prayer practice that expands upon the week's theme.

Each congregation will also participate in a shared commitment to address hunger relief or food insecurity in their local community. Look for opportunities to be a Hunger Activist at Bethlehem this Lent.

The link for each Wednesday service will be located on the Calendar of Events on our BLC Website and emailed each Tuesday in our Ready for Worship email.

February 24: *In Community with Creation*

Worship led by: Pr. Aileen Robbins, Pr. Johanna Rehbaum, Sem. Lisa Frauens
Prayer practice: Praying in Color

March 3: *In Community with the Saints*

Worship led by: Pr. Amy Walter-Peterson, Pr. Debbie Johnson, Pr. Andrew Gookin
Prayer practice: Praying the Psalms

March 10: *In Community with Our Neighbor*

Worship led by: Pr. Eric Madsen, Pr. Korey Finstad, Pr. Steve Meyer
Prayer practice: Meditative Virtual Prayer Walk

March 17: *In Community with Those on the Margins*

Worship led by: Pr. Imani Olear, Pr. Gail Swanson, Pr. Craig Swanson
Prayer practice: Prayer through (Chair) Yoga

March 24: *In Community with Christ*

Worship led by: Pr. Matthew Nickoloff, Pr. Jonathan Deibler
Prayer practice: Praying the Examen

Holden Evening Prayer

Worship and pray with Lutherans around the Genesee Finger Lakes Conference with this beloved liturgy. Each week a different congregation will lead the liturgy which we will share for you to listen to on your time frame. Link will be provided in the Tuesday Ready for Worship email each week.

Holy Week/Easter Sunday Worship Schedule

Palm/Passion Sunday, March 28 – We see Jesus honored as Lord, a threat to those in power and all who long for the peace of the status quo. But in Jesus, God has torn open all boundaries between God and the world, even the boundary of death. (Mark 11:1-11 and Mark 14:1-15:47)

Maundy Thursday, April 1 – **We see Jesus with friends** and remember his command to love and serve. Watch for more information in the weekly STAR and the Ready for Worship email about this interactive service that will invite you into the story of Jesus final meal with his friends.

Good Friday, April 2 – **We see Jesus crucified** and gather at his cross to pray for this world that God so loves. In worship and prayer we bring the cross to the many places we spend our days. Watch the weekly STAR and the Ready for Worship email for more information.

Easter Sunday, April 4 – **We see Jesus resurrected** just as he promised! How will we respond? Will our voice cry Alleluia? What will the rest of the story be? (Mark 16:1-8)