



WORSHIP



GROW



LIVE



CARE



SERVE

APRIL 4, 2021

Easter Sunday



BETHLEHEM
LUTHERAN CHURCH

WEEKLY
star



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

Today's reflection is taken from the **BLC Lenten Devotional** shared in the Quarterly Mailer. If you did not receive a Quarterly Mailer in the mail or you would like additional paper copies of the devotional, please contact the church office. Consider reflecting each day during the season of Lent on one of the writings shared.

The Light of Friendship

About 10 months ago, schools closed and my husband and I didn't know where our children would go during the day while we went to work. It didn't feel safe to have our elderly parents help. Being a healthcare provider meant our jobs were more essential than ever. I felt lost for answers to keep my family safe, learning, and to continue to be able to perform my job to help others that needed it during this trying time. What will we do?

Within hours of schools closing, God answered our prayers. A close family friend reached out, unprompted, to help us. They told us they knew we had an important job to do and offered to allow our children to join their family during the day to learn together, play together, and be safe together. I saw the light in their selfless devotion to help my family in our time of need so we could continue to serve the community in its time of need. It was touching to see the kids help to teach one another and persevere in the challenging times. "Come my Light and illumine my darkness."

~ Shannon Oliverio

For this new morning with its light, For rest and shelter of the night, For health and food, For love and friends, For every gift Your goodness sends, We thank you, gracious Lord, Amen.

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

**WORSHIP TIME: SUNDAYS 8:30 AM WORSHIP
(FACEBOOK LIVE)**

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](#) – Subscribe to our channel
3. [Livestream on the website](#)

EASTER SUNDAY ~ 4/4
8:30 AM FACEBOOK LIVESTREAM WORSHIP
9:45 AM - 11:00 AM COMMUNION



Worship the Living God

Lessons for Sunday, 4/4: 1 Corinthians 15:1-11;
Mark 16:1-8 We see Jesus resurrected

Lessons for Sunday, 4/11: Acts 4:32-35;
Psalm 133; 1 John 1:1–22; John 20: 19-31

★ **Celebrate communion on April 4...**

Following the communion liturgy (online!), you are invited to make your way to Bethlehem before 11 am to receive the Sacrament. Enter by the front main entrance to the sanctuary (the Perrin Street accessible entrance will also be available for those

who need to use the lift). Ushers will direct you once you arrive. We ask all participants to wear a mask and practice physical distancing. We have taken every precaution to limit physical contact in our communion practice. [View Pastor Amy's video for more details!](#) *If you or a loved one would like to commune but can't make your way to BLC, please let Pastor Amy know.*



Grow in Faith and Discipleship

★ **Calling all Confirmation students!** Join us for an afternoon with your confirmation friends for a hike and a game of kickball! We will be meeting at Mendon Ponds Park Saturday, April 10th from 12 - 2 (rain date will be April 17th). Specific location details will be provided to those who RSVP. If you have any questions please contact Bethany Trippi at bethany.trippi@blcfairport.org. Sign up here <https://blcfairport.org/april-2021-confirmation-hike-sign-up/>

Share in BLC's Midweek Bible Study! Did you know that BLC has a Midweek Bible Study that continues to meet on Wednesdays at 9:30 am via Zoom? You are welcome to join weekly, for a specific series, or on occasion. We continue our journey through Holy Week using the study *One Week* which will focus on many scripture verses, background material and a series of questions. We'd love to have you join the conversation. Use the 'join now' button in the [Calendar of Events](#) to sign on. If you have questions, or would like more information, contact Kathy Moragne - kathymoragne@gmail.com



Live Our Faith in Daily Life

★ **Last Call for BLC Scholarship – Applications are due on 4/4! Attention Graduating Seniors!** In anticipation of graduation and looming college applications and scholarships, please consider applying for the BLC Senior Scholarship. The application has been sent to all known seniors via email, and there are hard copies available from the office by request. If you do not receive one electronically, or have any questions, please contact John Schmeelk at jpschmeelk@gmail.com.

The William Shortz Memorial Scholarship is available to all Lutheran high school seniors in the Rochester area. (Many BLC-ers have received it in recent years!) William Shortz was a beloved pastor of St. John's Lutheran Church in Irondequoit, New York from 1976 through 1994. The scholarship was established in his memory and honor in 1996 to support Lutheran youth in the Rochester area. The scholarship awards are \$500 each and the deadline is **April 12**. For guidelines and additional information, please call or email Barbara Mittak, (315-946-4759 or bbmittak@yahoo.com).



Care for One Another

★ **Care for one another in April:** In these days, our list of BLC friends and family that are currently not able to physically attend worship has grown (right now, it includes us all)! We encourage you to reach out to one another by phone or email (in lieu of postal mail at this time). It seems that with Spring around the corner, Hope abounds! It will take time, but togetherness is coming! There is one birthday in April, Grace Lindahl on the 16th. Grace is not homebound but so enjoys hearing from her Bethlehem family! Easter also sings of hope! An Easter greeting to our homebound reminds them they are thought of and loved by us and Our Risen Savior! Take care, enjoy the change of seasons! Blessings! For further information on our list of homebound members, please contact Donna Berner at donnaberner@yahoo.com.



Serve Our Neighbor

M&SC stands for the Mission and Social Concerns Committee. As part of the Serve Ministry, we reach out to the world for the purpose of serving our neighbors near and far, especially those who are marginalized and easily forgotten. We continue to meet virtually and invite you to join us for one meeting or many – we welcome you in whatever way you may contribute! Meetings are typically held the 2nd Tuesday of every month beginning at 6 pm. Please check the BLC calendar of events and join via the Zoom link.

Lutheran World Hunger: Throughout the Lenten and the Easter seasons, M&SC will offer ways to learn more about and act on World Hunger. BLC's member contribution to World Hunger will be dedicated at the Synod Assembly in June.

DID YOU KNOW? Since the pandemic, 50,000,000 people are food insecure and 17,000,000 are children. Your contribution makes a difference!

Please visit <https://blcfairport.org/world-hunger-appeal/>

Donate through Tithe.ly or by check to BLC.

View monthly calendars with recipes, prayers, activities, and reminders!

Yay for Hunger Activists! Families, groups, or individuals have signed up for one week each. Hunger never ends. Thanks for helping! Due to overwhelming interest, a second sign up has been created to allow a second family or individual to also provide 20 items a week. Double the impact! **Sign up at the link to be the SECOND Hunger Activist for a week.** [M&SC: Hunger Activists 2 \(signupgenius.com\)](https://blcfairport.org/signupgenius.com). Be sure to scroll all the way to the bottom of the sign-up page to complete your reservation. There are still opportunities available for you in March through May.

Each Hunger Activist will collect 20 or more of the designated weekly items. You can purchase, ask for donations, or use other legal, creative methods for obtaining the items. Deliver the items anytime during your week to the mini-food pantry. To find the cupboard: Enter by either Pines of Perinton entrance (Rt 250 or Whitney Rd) and stay on the road that loops around the apartments. Look for the outside BLUE wood and chicken wire mini cupboard by the maintenance shed. It is open 24/7. Take a picture of yourself by the cupboard and post it on the [BLC family and friends Facebook page](#) if you like! Or check out photos posted by your BLC family.

You can contribute by doing a contactless delivery of items to the homes of those who have signed up (you may want to email or call first). Think of it as a reverse scavenger hunt!

HUNGER NEVER ENDS – if you see a * next to a date, WE NEED YOU

- April 4 – cans of vegetables – #1 The Allen Family, #2 Julie Thon, Brad and Cameron
- April 11 – peanut butter – #1 Desiree Wolf, #2 David Gerhardt
- April 18 – soup – #1 Paulette Costanza, #2 Bob and Phyllis Stock
- April 25 – soup – #1 Ruth and Jeff Hedin, #2 Cathy Gottermeier
- May 2* – toilet paper – #1 Marcy Adams
- May 9* – toilet paper – #1 Lil Lassen Ward
- May 16* – Anything! – #1 GerryAnn Westcott

Contact Beth Walker (315) 945-5539 or rbowsend@rochester.rr.com with questions or help.

Racial Justice – Continuing our Learning: White children are not taught about race and racial injustice with the same frequency or at the same early age as their peers of color. Reading diverse, cross-cultural books is a great place to start having conversations. Consider exploring recommendations and expanding your bookshelves at home.

Hope! Did you plant hyacinth or daffodil bulbs for God's Work Our Hands week of service last fall? The bulbs should be rejoicing in spring's arrival by showing new green growth! Feel free to share pictures of your bulbs as they grow and bloom on the [BLC family and friends Facebook page](#). If you are near church, look for the many bulbs that were planted there!

With gratitude from our neighbors:

Open Door Mission: "The generous gifts from Bethlehem Lutheran Church are a tremendous testimony of your compassion for the poor and homeless at this critical time in our Rochester community."

Saving Grace Ministries of Rochester: "Your gift to this ministry has resulted in transformed lives, restored families and renewed hope for those experiencing dark places. We are expressing the heart of God to serve a needy segment of our society and let love be our voice...Words cannot express how much we appreciate your prayers and support as we partner together to change our community one life at a time."

Perinton Food Shelf: "Thank you for your generous donation...monetary donations are especially helpful during the Coronavirus crisis...The Perinton Food Shelf provides food assistance to 56 families per month on average which amounts to over 1660 individuals in the past year. On behalf of those in need in our community, we thank you for your generous donation."

Fairport Good Neighbor Fund: "We thank you for your generous contribution to assist Fairport Good Neighbor Fund help many families with needs. It is because of this donation we can continue to help those at their difficult time. In doing this we are all sharing Christ's presence in their lives."



Council News

★ **We're Listening!** After so much time physically distanced, we will be holding a number of in person, outdoor listening sessions in April to connect to one another and hear from each other. Help us plan for a return to in-person congregational life at Bethlehem. Your presence and voice at these listening sessions matters! Dates include 4/11, 4/13, 4/15, 4/18, 4/20, 4/21 (via Zoom) & 4/25. Sign up early for the greatest option of dates and times! Register at <https://blcfairport.org/listening-sessions/>

★ **Re-Opening Team** continues to meet bi-weekly. We are seeking assistance with some simple but important tasks to ready our sanctuary for in-person worship. If you have an hour or more that you or your household could devote to these tasks, please let the office or Pastor Amy know. In addition, capacity limits have been increased for in-person gatherings at church. Contact the church office for the most up-to-date information. The Re-Opening team meets next on Tuesday, **April 13** at 6:30 pm. Members include: Matt Beutel, Brian Edwards, Margie Gaul, Kristina Henry, Julie Owen, Bob Stolze, Rick Walker, and Pastor Amy Walter-Peterson

Community News

★ **The GRCC Cross Walk website is live.** Made up of 7 "stops" with a brief speaker followed by a prayer, this year's virtual Cross Walk connects the 7 last words of Christ with race as it intersects daily life in Rochester: healthcare, education, the arts, hunger, violence, environment, and hunger. Featured are Joe Prude (Daniel Prude's brother), the Community Garden Project, Bethany House, urban mural artists, Food Link, Nativity Preparatory School, and the Gandhi Institute. You may engage them all at once, or perhaps one a day as a spiritual walk to the cross. Here's the website where you will find the video. Note that it's a different web address than the one on the flyer.

<https://www.canva.com/design/DAEZfb-NpDM/1w51Mn3BExeN8pmfoT6KTW/view?website#2>

40 Days+40 Miles+40 Dollars: Walking to End Hunger

Sunday, April 4, 2021 2:00 PM

Upstate New York Synod 5811 Heritage Landing Drive East Syracuse, NY, 13057

#UNYSWalkingToEndHunger #40days40miles40dollars #ELCAWorldHunger

Get out those walking shoes or boots or sneakers or snowshoes! Through the season of **Lent**, join the **virtual walk with Bishop Macholz and others throughout the synod while learning more about issues of hunger and what we can do to help.** <https://upstatenysynod.org/new-events/2021/2/17/40-days40-miles40-dollars-walking-to-end-hunger>

We Ask Your Prayers: *We pray for those whose thanks or needs are known to us.*

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

- Cheryl Maggio (wife of Gerry, longtime friend of Bob Stolze) who died on 3/22

We pray for those in need of healing, especially:

- Michele Zelaya, niece of Toni Thompson, recovering from surgery on 3/23
- Waverly, friend of Phyllis Stock as she seeks 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 or recovering from Coronavirus, and their caregivers

★ **We Pray for Each Other** – Each Sunday in worship we give thanks and offer prayers for those in our community whose celebrations or needs are known to us. Requests for prayers are shared in our monthly prayer listing as well, with updates available the first Sunday of each month. If you have a prayer request or an update of an existing prayer need for yourself, a family member, or friend, you can easily submit them digitally via the “pew card” at <https://blcfairport.org/share-in-worship/>. Alternately they can be shared by contacting the church office or a pastor.

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

Calendar for week of April 4 – April 11

(Last updated on 3/31/21 at 12 noon, visit <https://blcfairport.org/event-directory/> for updates)

Sunday, April 4 **Easter Sunday**

8:30 am Facebook
Livestream
Worship followed by Holy
Communion – the sanctuary
will be open for people to
receive communion until 11 am
No LYO

Monday, April 5 **Church Office Closed***

No Virtual Youth Choir
No GFL Confirmation
6:30 pm BSA Troop 208

Tuesday, April 6

Wednesday, April 7

9:30 am Zoom* Bible Study
([Join](#) or use ID 943 3691 2942)
9:30 am Education Planning
Meeting
([Join](#) or use ID 871 8823 9638)
1:00 pm Zoom* Men's Lunch
([Join](#) or use ID 874 8853 3240)
6:30 pm Chancel Bells
7:30 pm Zoom* Chancel Choir
Rehearsal
([Join](#) or use ID 869 2314 9200)

Thursday, April 8

6:30 pm Zoom* BLC Officer's
Meeting

Friday, April 9

Pastor's Sabbath

No Folk Group Rehearsal
3:00 pm Dulcimer Group
Rehearsal

Saturday, April 10

9:30 am Property Committee
12:00 noon Confirmation Hike &
Kick Ball at Mendon Ponds

Sunday, April 11

8:30 am Service with the Upstate
New York Synod
10:00 am Listening Session at
Egypt Park (registration
required)**
7:30 pm Zoom* LYO
([Join](#) or use ID 818 2417 6546)

***The church office will be closed in observance of the Easter holiday.**

****April Listening Sessions:** Help us plan for a return to in-person congregational life at Bethlehem. Your presence and voice at these listening sessions matters! Dates include 4/11, 4/13, 4/15, 4/18, 4/20, 4/21 (via Zoom) & 4/25. Sign up early for the greatest option of dates and times! Register at <https://blcfairport.org/listening-sessions/>

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 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.**

Announcements for the STAR should be submitted through the office by Wednesday morning at 9am. Visit 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



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