



WORSHIP



GROW



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

JUNE 6, 2021

2nd Sunday after Pentecost



BETHLEHEM
LUTHERAN CHURCH

WEEKLY
star

As we prepare for worship this weekend, consider reading this week's lessons along with this reflection to ground yourself in the Word. This reflection comes from sundaysandseasons.com and is also printed on the back of the worship bulletin.

Baptismal Water Is Thicker than Blood

Many, perhaps most, subcultures in North America affirm the belief that “blood is thicker than water.” Even when our commitment to family is too often served through hand-wringing sentiment over the so-called decline of the family or pandered to by politicians seeking to prove their “family values” credentials, we like to think of ourselves as loyal to our own kin. Family comes first! In the gospel, Jesus sharply, alarmingly, contradicts the norm; he snubs his nuclear family, his blood.

We discover that Jesus' family is not defined by objective or biological categories—DNA tests, adoption records, or custody papers—but rather by *function*: Jesus' family consists of those whom God has called into mission and are engaged in that mission.

Bringing a child of God from birth to maturity of faith requires many things, among them food, shelter, new birth, story, discipline, catechism, and an enduring hope in the one who raised Jesus from the dead. It is a joy to be celebrated when these gifts are provided by those who live in one's own household—parents, grandparents, extended families. But Jesus reminds us (with an echo from Paul) that even when those nearest to us thwart God's purposes, we “do not lose heart” but trust that God will call and create a household “not made with hands,” where God's purposes for us will be nurtured and we will become like the one who “does the will of God.”

There is a strong challenge here to Christian communities to keep their focus on the mission of God and not be tempted to confuse God's mission with what's “best” for nations or communities or (even) nuclear families.

ARE YOU READY FOR SUNDAY WORSHIP?

Worship virtually at 8:30 am

1. [Facebook Live](#)
2. [Watch On YouTube](#) – Subscribe to our channel
3. [Livestream on the website](#)

Worship in-person at 10 am

Due to sanctuary capacity limits, reservations are required
([click here to save your seat\(s\)](#) or contact the office for assistance)

Worship the Living God

Lessons for Sunday, 6/6:

Psalm 130 and Mark 3:20-35

Lessons for Sunday, 6/13:

2 Corinthians 5:6-10, 14-17 and Mark 4:26-34

★ Thank you to Mike Koncilja, who will lead our worship music while Susan DePasquale is away

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

★ **Celebrate Communion on June 6:** Beginning June 6 there will be a slight change to the timing of our Communion celebration. The 8:30 am Livestream will continue to include the communion liturgy. ***Those who wish to receive communion are now invited to make their way to Bethlehem between 11 and 11:30 am (following the in-person worship service).*** Worshipers are asked to enter the front door on Perrin Street (or use the lift, if required). Ushers and members of the Altar Guild will be present to guide and assist you. When arriving at Bethlehem for the Eucharist, you are welcome to sit in the sanctuary before or after communing for private meditation, remembering to keep your masks on and maintain a safe distance from others. If you or a loved one would like to commune and you are not able to make your way to Bethlehem, please contact the church office to make arrangements to receive communion through a Eucharistic Minister.

Worship Schedule – Our two worship times each week are on Sunday – 8:30 am Livestream and 10 am In-Person worship ([reservations required](#)). As we live into this new schedule, we may need to make changes. We will communicate changes that we make in the weekly STAR and the other email communication. Look at the [Gathering Again](#) page on our website, for the latest updates.

Grow in Faith and Discipleship

★ **Wednesday morning Bible Study has gone hybrid!** Join us weekly at 9:30 am in person in the Fellowship Hall at BLC or on Zoom - use the 'join now' button in the [Calendar of Events](#) to join via Zoom. For the summer, we will be studying the lessons for the upcoming Sunday. They are usually posted on the first page of the Star. That makes it easy for you to join us as you are able without missing related content (though we're also happy for you to join us **every** week!) If you have questions, or would like more information, contact Kathy Moragne - kathymoragne@gmail.com

Live Our Faith in Daily Life

★ **Men's Lunch (no longer virtual!)** Gather with the men of BLC to share good food and informal Christian fellowship. The group will meet on the 1st Wednesday of the month at 8 am (note the new time!) at the Landmark Restaurant in East Rochester, and the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 1 pm at the Penfield Wegmans. For further information, contact Marshall Kurfiss at mnkurfiss@yahoo.com or Jim Berner at jamesberner1@yahoo.com

★ **Work Camp Leader needed!** Here's the ask: We have a very specific prayer request that we are raising with you today. We are in GREAT need of a **male adult leader** to accompany our BLC Work Group to Work Camp in Erie, PA in July. You already know the kids are first rate! You don't have to have specific building or carpentry skills to participate in a work camp, you will be taught what you need to know to do a skill. You do have to be willing to offer yourself in a spirit of service and love. Everyone who has ever participated in this work has loved it and been deeply moved by this experience. Maybe this is the opportunity you've been waiting for! Bethany Trippi will be serving as the female adult leader. She is an experienced Work Camp leader who can share more about the experience with you if you have questions. The dates are **July 18-24, 2021**. The location is Erie, PA. You must be 21 by the time of the trip to serve as an adult leader. You will be asked to complete a background check by BLC before you go. If you have questions about this or are being moved by the spirit to learn more, please reach out to Bethany Trippi. (585-683-1487)

LYO has returned to in-person gatherings!! LYO will meet on Sundays through July. They will start at 7:30 pm, in the courtyard for youth group! Please dress according to the weather, bring a lawn chair, a mask, and a personal snack to munch on! If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Bethany Trippi at Bethany.trippi@blcfairport.org

BLC On the Go: Currently scheduled dates include **6/6** Letterboxing with the Berners, **6/20** Wacky Kickball with Marcy Adams and **6/17** Quilt tying for Lutheran World Relief with GerryAnn Westcott (future dates for quilt tying to follow!). Do you enjoy local hikes, playground meet-ups or other outdoor activities that you'd like to invite your BLC community to participate in? Please submit the details using the [online form](#) and we will help you spread the word and invite others to participate with you. Watch the BLC [calendar of events](#) and your email for a weekly update!



Care for One Another

★ **Thank you so much** for all your prayers, support and cards as I recover from surgery. I am so very blessed to be part of such a caring, supportive and loving community. Your thoughtfulness and kindness is so very much appreciated and helped my spirits so very much. Blessing to you all. ~ Cathy Gottermeier

Support Group for caregivers: If you are caregiving for a loved one, an elderly parent, spouse, relative or other loved one, feel free to join us! We meet on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month at 2 pm in person in the courtyard at BLC (weather permitting, with a backup of the Fellowship Hall). The next scheduled date is **6/8!** The participants will learn from each other; this is not a lecture or class! Please RSVP to Lisa so she can plan and adhere to COVID guidelines. If you have ANY questions, please contact Lisa Rosenbauer (585) 698-6189.



Serve Our Neighbor

As part of the Serve Ministry, **Missions and Social Concerns (M&SC)** reaches out to the world for the purpose of serving our neighbors near and far, especially those who are marginalized and easily forgotten. Our vision includes actively advocating for justice (Micah 6:8: What does the Lord require of us but to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with our God"). Who are our neighbors? How might we recognize those who are marginalized and easily forgotten? What does actively advocating for justice mean? We invite you to explore these questions and more! The M&SC Committee continues to meet virtually and invites you to join us for one meeting or many – we welcome you in whatever way you may contribute! If you have questions or feedback, please contact Julie Owen at jowen@heritagechristianservices.org or 585-766-8728.

★ **Conversation about the Role of Women in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Zimbabwe (ELCZ) with a member of the ELCZ (Sunday, June 13, 2021 from 1-2pm via Zoom)** Zvipozvashe Ngwenya, a member of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Zimbabwe (ELCZ), is currently studying at Syracuse University. She has graciously offered to spend time with members of the UNYS discussing the role of women in the ELCZ and answering questions. Zoom with our Global Companion and discover common ground! Please contact the UNYS Global Mission Chair, Beth Walker, at rbowsend@rochester.rr.com to receive a link for this call. **A new BLC opportunity against hunger!** BLC and Moll Farms, Williamson are partnering to provide fresh fruit and vegetables to those in need.

- What: Four Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) Bounty Baskets will be delivered to BLC, biweekly
- When: Every other Tuesday beginning mid-June
- What you can do to help: BLC members will pick up the boxes and take them to the Pines Mini Food Cupboard, open them, and stay with the boxes for one hour as community members stop by to “shop”. Any food remaining is yours to use or share.
- Why: Food pantries do not often provide fresh food resulting in food deserts. CSAs support local and sustainable agriculture.
- More information to come as Moll Farms sets their delivery schedule.
- M&SC will be sure to advertise when fresh food will be available and encourage Fairport and the Pines community member to come and partake.

Moll Farms (<https://mollfarms.com>) is a family owned and operated farm in Wayne County. Weekly and biweekly subscriptions are available if BLC members are interested in ordering for themselves. Weekly or bi-weekly baskets are delivered to your doorstep. If you have questions, please contact Beth Walker, rbowsend@rochester.rr.com

Stay Tuned for these ways you can use your AAA (Advocacy, Allyship & Activism) membership:

- We will be collecting school supplies for the Learning Links tutoring program this summer. Details are forthcoming for specific items and ways to purchase.
- Continuing the conversation: Book study – “Jesus and the Disinherited” by Howard Thurman. Details on dates and times of virtual meetings coming soon!
 - *“In this classic theological treatise, the acclaimed theologian and religious leader Howard Thurman (1900-1981) demonstrates how the gospel may be read as a manual of resistance for the poor and disenfranchised. Jesus is a partner in the pain of the oppressed and the example of His life offers a solution to ending the descent into moral nihilism. Hatred does not empower—it decays. Only through self-love and love of one another can God’s justice prevail.”*



Council News

★ **COVID-19 update** from our Council President, Rick Walker. A communication was shared on 5/26. [View & print the letter here](#). Visit our [Gathering Again Page](#) anytime for the most recent updates.

★ **Pastor Amy on Medical Leave** – Pastor Amy is recovering from knee replacement surgery on May 26. She will have an extended time away in order to devote her energy to the recuperation and physical therapy necessary to recover fully. Pastor Amy will be away from work from May 26 – June 8. She intends to work a reduced schedule from June 9 – June 22, provided that her recovery is progressing, and then will be on vacation June 23 – July 6. While she is away, Pastor David Gerhardt has graciously agreed to provide worship leadership on Sunday mornings. Pastor Hoffman will coordinate pastoral care and provide ministry support during Pastor Amy's absence.

★ **Re-Opening Team** – The team continues to monitor recommendations made by our local and state governments and will adapt our practices as needed. Look for the most current information on the [Gathering Again page](#) on our website. The Re-Opening team meets next on Tuesday, **June 15** 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

★ **House of Mercy Charity Golf Outing** – Saturday, **July 10**. Reserved tee times beginning at 1 pm. \$75 per golfer. Deerfield Country Club in Brockport, golf cart and sleeve of House of Mercy golf balls. Please visit <https://givebutter.com/HOMGolf> to purchase tickets by June 30.

★ **Perinton Concert Band to perform Outdoor Concert on July 1, 2021** at 7:00 pm, the Perinton Concert Band will perform a free outdoor concert in Perinton Park, 99 O'Connor Rd, Fairport. After more than a year without music, we look forward to performing together for you again. Please join us outside on the lawn in Perinton Park as we perform light summer music. This concert is free and sponsored by the Town of Perinton Recreation and Parks. This concert is contingent on New York State regulations. For more information, contact 585-490-4751, or find us online at <http://www.perintonconcertband.org/> or on Facebook at: [Perinton Concert Band](#).

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:

- Richie (friend of Chris Meetze) who died of a heart attack on 5/18
- Bryon Schmidt (family friend of David & Marsha Gerhardt) who died in a boating accident over Memorial Day weekend

We pray for those in need of healing, especially:

- Abby Teasdale who is recovering from brain surgery on 6/3
- Nancy Malik (mother of Colleen Sousa) who is recovering after a recent hospitalization and continuing treatment for lung cancer
- Dick DePasquale as he recovers from surgery on 6/1 to repair his bicep following an injury
- Pastor Amy Walter-Peterson as she continues to recover from knee replacement surgery on 5/26
- Waverly, who continues to face multiple health challenges
- 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 June long-term prayer listing](#) – or contact the church office for a copy!

Calendar for June 6 – June 12

(Last updated on 6/2/21 at 12 noon, visit <https://blcfairport.org/event-directory/> for updates)

Sunday, June 6

Communion Sunday

8:30 am Facebook
Livestream Worship
10:00 am In-person Worship
([Reservation required](#))
11:00 – 11:30 am - the
sanctuary will be open
for Livestream worshipers to
receive communion
2:00 pm *BLC on the Go!*
Letterboxing with the Berners
at Harris Hill Park
3:00 pm Senior Voice Recital
for Paul O'Malley (invitation
only)
7:30 pm LYO

Monday, June 7

9:30 am 100th Anniversary
Committee Mailing assembly
7:00 pm BSA Troop 208

Tuesday, June 8

2:00 pm Support Group for
Caregivers
6:30 pm BSA Troop 2019

Wednesday, June 9

9:30 am Bible Study
([Join](#) or use ID 943 3691 2942)
9:30 am Education Planning
Meeting
([Join](#) or use ID 871 8823 9638*)
6:00 pm M&SC Meeting
([Join](#) or use ID 812 1431 6292*)
1:00 pm Men's Lunch at Penfield
Wegmans (note the change from
Zoom)

Thursday, June 10

BLC Office Closed **

1:00 pm 2nd Sunday Dinner
Ministry Planning Meeting
6:30 pm BLC Officers Meeting
via Zoom

Friday, June 11

3:00 pm Dulcimer Group
Rehearsal

Saturday, June 12

9:00 am Eagle Scout Bike
Restoration Project
9:15 am Property Committee

Sunday, June 13

8:30 am Facebook
Livestream Worship
10:00 am In-person Worship
([Reservation required](#))
7:30 pm LYO

***Pr. Amy will be on medical leave** through June 8 as she continues to recuperate from knee replacement surgery on May 26. She hopes to work a reduced schedule beginning June 9. Pastor Hoffman will coordinate pastoral care and provide ministry support during Pastor Amy's absence. In the event of a pastoral care emergency (i.e. death, family or individual crisis), please contact the church office and leave a message on the Pastoral Care line.

****Beth Schoenfeld will be out of the office for planned time away** on Thursday, June 10.

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.

Worshipping In-Person: To accommodate our sanctuary capacity limits, we are currently requiring reservations for worship. You may [reserve space here](#) (the link is also available on BLC's [Share in Worship page](#)). If you need assistance making a reservation or don't have internet access, please contact the church office.

Zoom Meetings at BLC: The easiest way to join is to use the direct link available in the [Calendar of Events](#) on our website. If you don't see your meeting in the Calendar of Events or have questions, please contact your group leader or the church office for assistance or additional details!

Announcements for the STAR should be submitted through the office by Wednesday morning at 9 am. Visit www.blcfairport.org and to sign up for reminders and special announcements (including the STAR!)



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