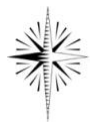




I've been
meaning
to ask....

where does it hurt?

Sunday, September 26, 2021



BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN CHURCH

48 Perrin Street, Fairport, NY ~ (585)

223-0634 ~ www.blcfairport.org

The Rev. Abigail Zang Hoffman and The Rev. Amy Walter-Peterson, co-Pastors

Welcome!

We are so glad to have you share in worship at Bethlehem today. If you are visiting, please introduce yourself to one of the pastors – they would love to greet you personally! At this time, we ask all worshipers to wear masks in worship.

Today's service will be recorded and live-streamed. Our camera operators take care to focus on worship leaders and don't regularly film worshipers. In the movement of the service, glimpses of people may occur. Please speak with a pastor if you have concerns.

Communicate with us: Share more about who you are, request further information, or leave a prayer request or comment through our website - <https://blcfairport.org/share-in-worship/> - scroll down the page to request or share information.

Children are welcome and encouraged to participate in worship. We have designated space within the sanctuary (underneath the window of Jesus, the Good Shepherd) that is reserved for families who may need additional space for strollers or carriers for children who cannot yet wear masks. If there is a way we can make worship a more hospitable environment for your family, please speak to a pastor or leave a comment through our website (see above).

Hearing assistance: Our sound system is equipped with personal hearing loop devices. Please ask an usher for a loop device.

Holy Communion: All are welcome to share in Christ's meal of forgiveness and grace. Children who do not yet commune are welcome to come forward for a blessing. (If you feel your child is ready to receive or have additional questions, please speak with one of our pastors.) Please see additional notes about the Sacrament in the service portion of the bulletin.

Our Perrin Street entrance is accessible. Please ask an usher or greeter for help if you need assistance operating the lift.

Please silence your cell phones: As a courtesy to others, we ask that you please silence your cell phones during worship.

Today's Worship Team

We all contribute to worship: lifting our voice in prayer and song, bowing our heads in prayer, opening our ears to hear the Word, and extending our hands to receive the Sacrament. Are you willing to serve in one of these additional roles to contribute to worship this week? Put your name on the sign-up in the narthex and grab the corresponding bulletin so we know the role is filled by you!

Acolyte: *Lights the altar candles during the prelude and extinguishes altar candles during the final hymn, bringing the light of Christ out into the world! May robe and sit on the chancel or sit within the congregation during worship. All ages who can safely handle fire and reach the candles are welcome to serve!*

Glass Washer: *Washes communion glasses either immediately following worship or after Faith Formation for All. Instructions are posted in the sacristy. Many hands make light work so grab a friend to help! (This is also a great opportunity for a household to serve together!)*

Offering: *Sit in the congregation and bring the offering trays from the entrance of the sanctuary forward to the altar during the offertory, giving our congregation's gifts to the glory of God! Pair up with a child if you'd like, so they can have a hands-on role in worship!*

Communion Assistants (2): *Sit in the congregation and come forward at the time of communion (when the congregation begins to sing "Lamb of God") to serve the wine/grape juice for communion. Must be able to hold a tray steady and speak the words, "Blood of Christ shed for you!"*

Intercessory Prayer Readers (3): *From your seat, speak the highlighted petition as part of the intercessory prayers on behalf of the congregation.*

Thank you also to those serving as Assisting Minister, leading the Children's Sermon, providing Special Music, and serving on Altar Guild, Bread Guild, Wine Guild, Hospitality Team (Usher, Greeter and Fellowship Hosts) and Livestream Team! For more information about any of these roles or to sign up to serve, please contact Beth in the church office or one of the Pastors.

Thank you for your participation and your overflowing grace and encouragement to one another as we work together to bring worship to life each week!

Sunday, September 26, 2021 ~ 18th Sunday after Pentecost

Prelude:

Be Still, My Soul

FINLANDIA

Tune: Jean Sibelius

setting by David Cherwien

I've been meaning to ask...where does it hurt? In order to cultivate connection, we must first get curious about the pain others carry and the pain we carry ourselves. In 1 Samuel, Hannah's pain is ignored, diminished, and mocked. Yet, Hannah vulnerably and courageously bears all of herself before God, which transforms Eli's perspective. She finds release by being fully seen and known by God.

SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

Call to Worship:

Here in this space,

we wear our hearts on our sleeves.

There is no use in filters or walls.

This space is an authentic space.

This space is a brave space.

For when it comes to God,

we are always invited to bring our full selves into the room.

So come into this space with your hurt and your joy,

your prayers and your dreams.

All of God's children are welcome here.

Let us worship Holy God.

Gathering Hymn:

Gather Us In

#532

(Guitars: Jim Berner, Rich Towsley; Tambourine: Donna Berner)

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.

Let us pray. Jesus, you asked questions as much as you answered them. You never shied away from conversation. You were always sparking curiosity, opening people's minds, and engaging in the art of connection with everyone around you.

As we come to your Word and gather in this company of saints, give us the same curiosity, openness, and connection, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

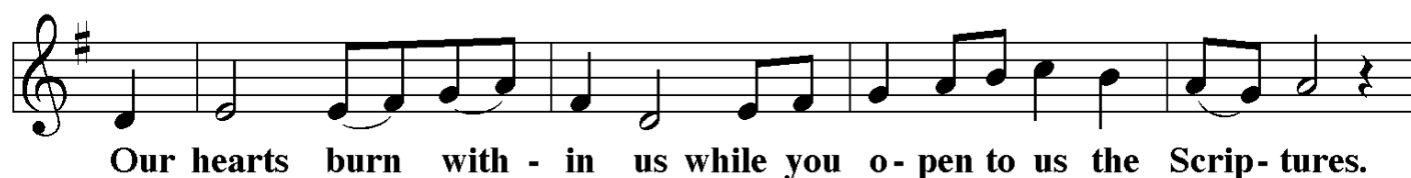
WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

Children's Moment

Jim Berner

Please stand as you are able.

Scripture Song:



As part of this worship series, we focus on only one reading from Scripture each week. While the reading does not always come from a Gospel, it is God's holy Word, speaking life and pointing us to the truth.

Reading: 1 Samuel 1:1-18

A reading from 1 Samuel.

There was a certain man of Ramathaim, a Zuphite from the hill country of Ephraim, whose name was Elkanah son of Jeroham son of Elihu son of Tohu son

of Zuph, an Ephraimite. ²He had two wives; the name of the one was Hannah, and the name of the other Peninnah. Peninnah had children, but Hannah had no children. ³Now this man used to go up year by year from his town to worship and to sacrifice to the Lord of hosts at Shiloh, where the two sons of Eli, Hophni and Phinehas, were priests of the Lord. ⁴On the day when Elkanah sacrificed, he would give portions to his wife Peninnah and to all her sons and daughters; ⁵but to Hannah he gave a double portion, because he loved her, though the Lord had closed her womb. ⁶Her rival used to provoke her severely, to irritate her, because the Lord had closed her womb. ⁷So it went on year by year; as often as she went up to the house of the Lord, she used to provoke her. Therefore Hannah wept and would not eat. ⁸Her husband Elkanah said to her, “Hannah, why do you weep? Why do you not eat? Why is your heart sad? Am I not more to you than ten sons?” ⁹After they had eaten and drunk at Shiloh, Hannah rose and presented herself before the Lord. Now Eli the priest was sitting on the seat beside the doorpost of the temple of the Lord. ¹⁰She was deeply distressed and prayed to the Lord, and wept bitterly. ¹¹She made this vow: “O Lord of hosts, if only you will look on the misery of your servant, and remember me, and not forget your servant, but will give to your servant a male child, then I will set him before you as a nazirite until the day of his death. He shall drink neither wine nor intoxicants, and no razor shall touch his head.” ¹²As she continued praying before the Lord, Eli observed her mouth. ¹³Hannah was praying silently; only her lips moved, but her voice was not heard; therefore Eli thought she was drunk. ¹⁴So Eli said to her, “How long will you make a drunken spectacle of yourself? Put away your wine.” ¹⁵But Hannah answered, “No, my lord, I am a woman deeply troubled; I have drunk neither wine nor strong drink, but I have been pouring out my soul before the Lord. ¹⁶Do not regard your servant as a worthless woman, for I have been speaking out of my great anxiety and vexation all this time.” ¹⁷Then Eli answered, “Go in peace; the God of Israel grant the petition you have made to him.” ¹⁸And she said, “Let your servant find favor in your sight.” Then the woman went to her quarters, ate and drank with her husband, and her countenance was sad no longer.

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

(To the tune of ELW 613)

*Rebuilding starts with weeping, with tears that fall like rain,
With full and honest grieving for years of loss and pain,
For suffering and sorrow that never had to be.
Rebuilding starts with weeping for all who are not free.*

*Rebuilding starts with praying, with hopes allowed a voice,
With visions for our country, with reason to rejoice.
We offer up our spirits, our hearts and minds and hands.
Rebuilding starts with praying for strength to heal our land.*

*Rebuilding starts with loving, with care for every soul,
With yearning in compassion that all may yet be whole,
That enemy and neighbor may know a better day.
Rebuilding starts with loving, for love will show the way*

Apostles' Creed:

With the whole church, let us 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.**

The Prayers of the People:

Our prayers are always offered on behalf of the whole community; our prayers in this service are offered from among the congregation (voices #1-3).

God of connection, listen to the prayers of your people.

A brief silence.

#1 God of community, we pray for the church around the world. Unite us in our love for you. Give wisdom to all bishops, all pastors, and all church councils. Help us hear your Word and find ways to build each other up. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

#2 God of creation, thank you for all you provide. Help us to encourage each other in being good stewards of all that is around us. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

#3 God of relationship, let us come to you without restraint and allow us to unburden ourselves upon you. Shed us of our bitterness and anguish. Help us to rededicate our lives to you in faithfulness and action. Open our hearts so that we can boldly ask “**I’ve been meaning to ask...where does it hurt?**” Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We give thanks that you see us and know our needs. Today we pray for these members and friends of Bethlehem and their families: Elizabeth & Mike (Olivia & Ryan), Linda, Kim, Al & Marcy, Lou & Marshall. We also pray for our sisters and brothers in our twinned parish in Shurugwi, Zimbabwe. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

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

We pray for those in need of healing, especially:

- Meredith (daughter in law of Jeff & Ruth) who is experiencing a difficult pregnancy
- Dave who is recovering from surgery on 9/17
- Rose (grandmother of Andrea)
- Kris who is recovering from surgery on 9/20

- Celia who is recovering from surgery on 9/14
- Linda as she recovers from a fall on 9/12
- Jim (father of Hans) who has been diagnosed with leukemia and has transitioned to hospice care
- Connie who is continuing to heal following a severe fall on 8/25
- Sandra (sister of Jan) as she continues chemotherapy
- Erin (daughter of Kathy & Joe) as she faces challenges in her recovery from spinal surgery and emergency abdominal surgery
- 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

Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

With confidence that you hear all our prayers – whether spoken or not – we pray through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
Amen.

WE SHARE GOD’S MEAL:

The Peace:

P The peace of Christ be with you always.
 C **And also with you.**

Greet those with whom you worship physically with a sign of peace. At home, extend the peace of Christ through the comments section or text to those who are at a distance.

Offering

Our worship is complete when we bring all of our resources to receive God’s blessing and fulfill God’s purpose. We celebrate the opportunity to share our abundance – of compassion, of time, and of material resources.



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. Those worshipping in person may leave their offerings in the basket in the narthex.

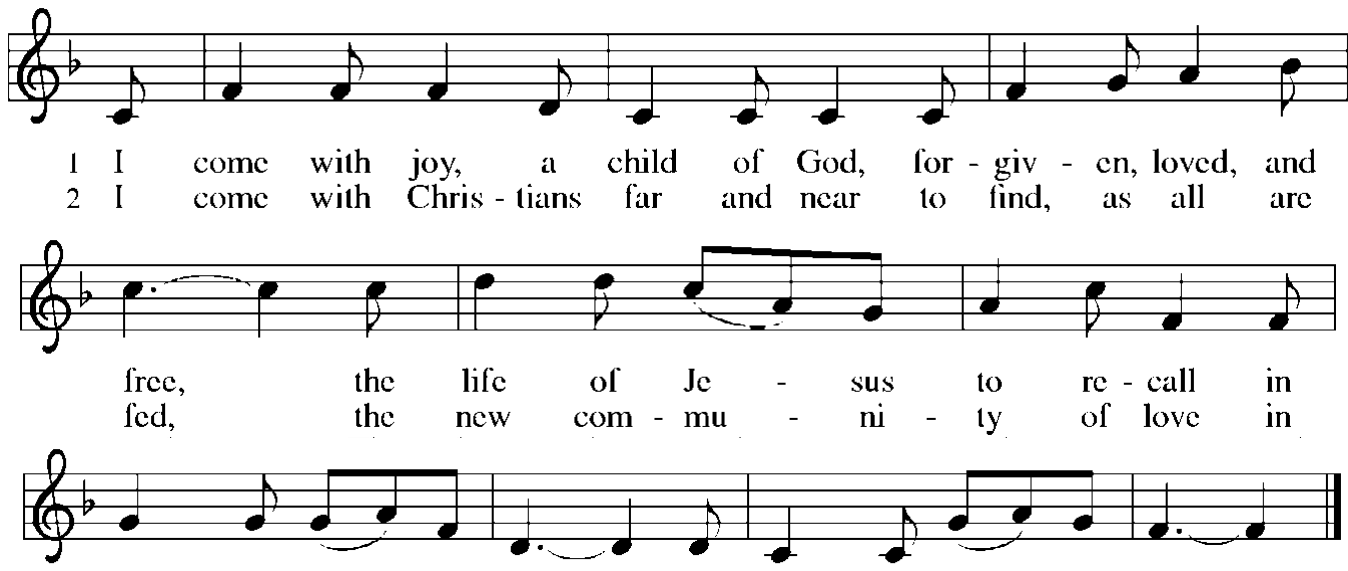
Whatever form your offering takes, we give thanks to God for you and your generosity.

Offering of Music:
Capriccio

Tarquinio Merula

Organist

Offertory:



1 I come with joy, a child of God, for - giv - en, loved, and
2 I come with Chris - tians far and near to find, as all are
free, the life of Je - sus to re - call in
fed, the new com - mu - ni - ty of love in
love laid down for me, in love laid down for me.
Christ's com - mu - nion bread, in Christ's com - mu - nion bread.

Text: Brian A. Wren, b. 1936

Music: DOVE OF PEACE, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835

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Offertory Prayer:

Let us pray. God of abundance,
**you formed us in the dirt, creating us in your image. You gathered us to be
your people always. Accept the gifts you have first given us. Unite them with
the offering of our lives to nourish the world you love so dearly; through
Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

Words of Institution:

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

You are the God who sees and knows all pain.
You are the God ready to welcome to your table.
Be among us in the bread and wine.
Draw us closer to one another, and closer to you. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer:

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

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

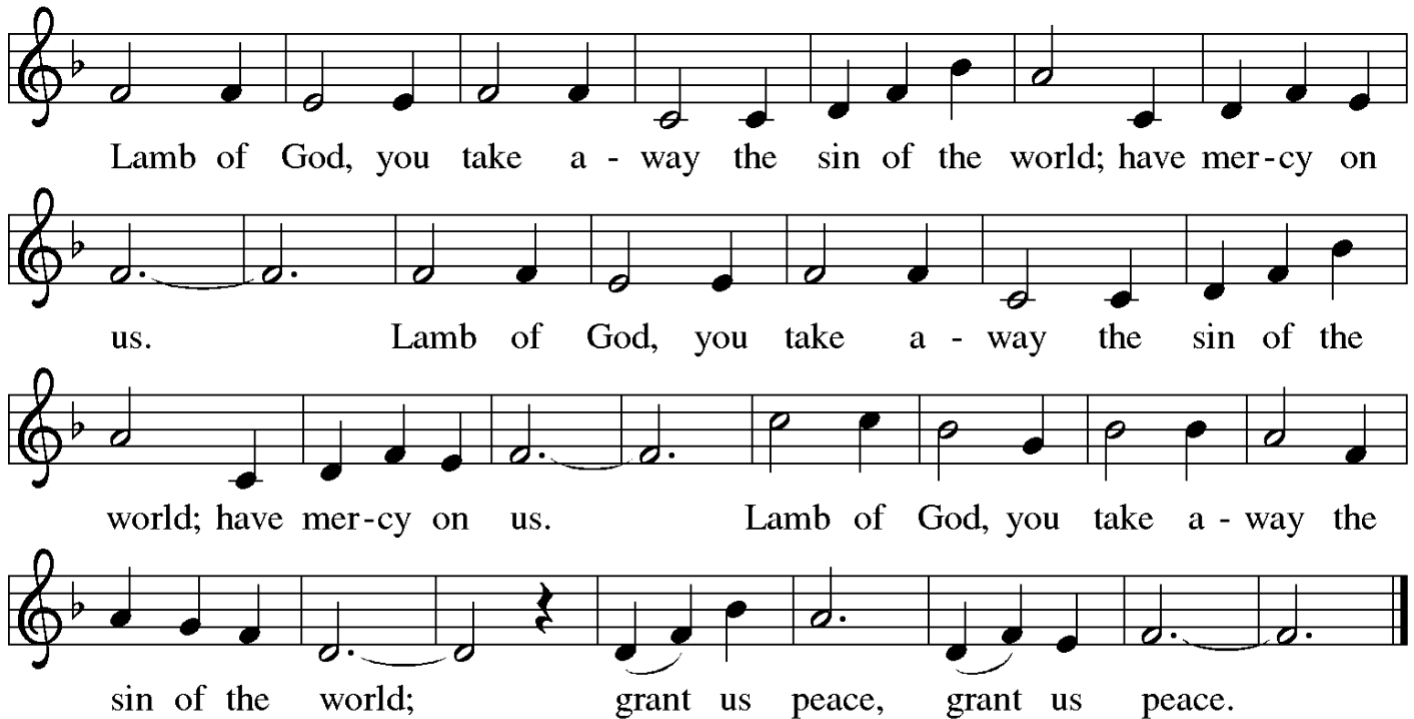
Invitation to Communion:

All who hunger and thirst, come. The table is ready.
Thanks be to God!

Distribution of Communion:

Please come forward at the direction of the worship leaders. All are welcome to share in Christ's meal of forgiveness and grace. Children who do not yet commune are welcome to come forward for a blessing. (If you feel your child is ready to receive or have additional questions, please contact one of the Pastors.) Gluten-free wafers and grape juice are available; please indicate your need to the pastor or communion assistant. You may lower your mask as you receive communion. If you worship through the Livestream and wish to receive communion, please reach out to one of the pastors.

The Communion:



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on
us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

Music: *Bread of Life*, Jeremy Young, b. 1948
Music © 1995 Augsburg Fortress.

Hymns sung during communion:

Be Still My Soul to the tune of ELW #887

I Want Jesus to Walk with Me ELW #325

“Be Still My Soul”

Public Domain.

Words: Kathrina von Schlegel, trans. Jane Borthwick (1855)

Tune: FINLANDIA

*1 Be still, my soul! for God is on your side;
bear patiently the cross of grief or pain:
leave to your God to order and provide,
who through all changes faithful will remain.
Be still, my soul! your best, your heav’nly Friend
through thorny ways leads to a joyful end.*

*2 Be still, my soul! for God will undertake
to guide the future surely as the past.
Your hope, your confidence, let nothing shake;
all now mysterious shall be clear at last.
Be still, my soul! the waves and winds still know
the voice that calmed their fury long ago.*

*3 Be still, my soul! the hour is hastening on
when we shall be forever in God's peace;
when disappointment, grief, and fear are gone,
love’s joys restored, our strivings all shall cease.*

Table Blessing:

May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in God’s grace.

Amen

Kick-off/Blessing for GW-OH

WE LEAVE TO SERVE:

Benediction:

The blessing of God, whose teaching is life, whose presence is sure, and whose love is endless ☩ be upon you now and forever.

Amen.

Sending Hymn:	<i>O Living Bread from Heaven</i>	ELW #542
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Dismissal:

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude:

“O Gott, Du frommer Gott”

Johann Ludwig

Krebs

(O God, Thou Faithful God)

Thank you to all those who participated in worship this Sunday! If you would like to learn more about participating in a worship role, please speak to one of the co-pastors or contact the church office!

Happening today (9/26):

- 8:55 am Worship with weekly communion! (Livestream or In-person!)
- 10:00 am Fellowship (outside)
- 10:15 am Faith Formation for All!
 - 6th-8th grade gathers in the Confirmation room
 - 9th-12th grade gathers in the LYO Room
 - Everyone else gathers in the Fellowship Hall!
- 10:55 am Final Blessing for Everyone (Fellowship Hall)
- 11:00 am GWOH Clothing & Coat Give-Away (Fellowship Hall)
- 11:00 am GWOH College Care Package assembly (Fellowship Hall)

Portions of the liturgy adapted from prayers by Rev. Sarah Are, A Sanctified Art LLC, sanctifiedart.org
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Calendar for September 26 – October 3

(Last updated on 9/22/21 at 12 noon, visit <https://blcfairport.org/event-directory/> for updates)

Sunday, September 26

God's Work. Our Hands. Week of Service begins!

8:55 am Worship with
Communion (in-person
and livestream)
10:00 am Fellowship
10:15 am Faith Formation for All
11:00 am GWOH Clothing
& Coat Give-Away
11:00 am GWOH College Care
Package assembly

Monday, September 27

7:00 pm Q&A Session (via
Zoom) for BLC Investment
In Ministries Fund
([Join](#) or use ID 875 5556 4411)

Tuesday, September 28

10:00 am GWOH Open Door
Mission Project
2:00 pm Support Group for
Caregivers
6:30 pm BSA Troop 2019

Wednesday, September 29

9:30 am Bible Study - Hybrid
(In-person or [Join](#) via Zoom –
ID 943 3691 2942)
5:30 pm Pines of Perinton
Produce Give Away
6:00 pm Chancel Bell rehearsal
6:15 pm Folk Group Rehearsal
7:30 pm Chancel Choir rehearsal

Thursday, September 30

7:00 pm GWOH Quilt Tying

Friday, October 1

Pastor's Sabbath

2:30 pm Dulcimer Group
Rehearsal

Saturday, October 2

9:00 am GWOH Flower City
Habitat Event in Rochester
11:00 am Gates/Price
Wedding

Sunday, October 3

Welcome New Members

8:55 am Worship with
Communion (in-person
and livestream)
10:00 am Fellowship
10:15 am Faith Formation for All

GWOH Canned Food Drive collection boxes will be at the Hedin Home and in the Narthex all week!

Beth Schoenfeld will be out of the office on Monday, September 27 for planned time away.

100th Anniversary Photo Sessions: Starting in September, the Anniversary Committee will have slots available for you and your family to update your BLC Photo Directory Photos before and after worship. Please contact GerryAnn Westcott if you'd like to volunteer or Bob Stock to sign up!

Church Office Hours: We continue to hold remote office hours M, W, Th & F from 9 am to 12 noon. Our co-Pastor's schedules vary from week to week. Both are available for scheduled appointments.

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!

In-Person Meetings at BLC: To help us schedule and plan for our increased facility use requests, we now require scheduling with this simple form (found at <https://blcfairport.org/blc-facility-request/>) for each planned meeting, event and activity at BLC. Please complete the form so that we can check for availability, reserve the space, and plan accordingly. If you have any questions, or do not hear back within 3 business days of submitting a form, please call the church office to check on the status of your request.

This week, we kick off a week of service, celebrating "God's Work. Our Hands." with ELCA congregations across the country. The following hymn was written for this annual celebration.

God's Work, Our Hands

If you want to sing this poetry, it fits the tune of "Earth and All Stars"!

God's work, our hands: working together,
building a future, repairing the world,
raising up homes, planting new gardens,
feeding the hungry and shelt'ring the cold.
Bless, God, our hands as we work in your name,
sharing the good news of your Gospel.

God's work, our feet: trav'ling together,
following Jesus to places unknown,
walking as friends, marching for freedom,
running the race with God's future the goal.
Bless, God, our feet as we follow your way,
sharing the good news of your Gospel.

God's work, our voice: singing together,
praising, proclaiming to all who will hear,
praying for peace, shouting for justice,
claiming God's love for the lost and the least.
Bless, God, our voice as we speak in your name,
sharing the good news of your Gospel.

God is at work in and around us:
seedlings are sprouting and bread's on the rise!
Washed and set free, humbled and honored,
gifted by grace, we respond in God's love.
Bless, God, our lives as we answer your call,
sharing the good news of your Gospel.

Text: Wayne L. Wold

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