



*Sunday, November 14, 2021*

*“Your roots will grow down into God’s love and keep you strong. And may you have the power to understand, as all God’s people should, how wide, how long and how deep his love is.”*

*Ephesians 3:17b-18 (NLT)*



48 Perrin Street, Fairport, NY ~ (585)

223-0634 ~ [www.blcfairport.org](http://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, November 14, 2021 ~ 25<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**  
**Anniversary Sunday**

100 YEARS Prelude:  
Praeludium in D Major, BuxWV 139

Dieterich Buxtehude  
(1637-1707)

*Dr. Catherine Rodland, Guest Organist*

100 YEARS *Along with welcoming special guests, Each anniversary Sunday celebration is an opportunity to recall a piece of music or form of worship that would have been common among those who came before us at Bethlehem Lutheran Church. The Lutheran Book of Worship (a.k.a. “the green hymnal”) was published in 1978 and served as the primary hymnal for our church body until it was replaced by Evangelical Lutheran Worship (a.k.a. “the red hymnal”), published in 2006. Today’s liturgy was included as Setting 1 in the Lutheran Book of Worship and Setting 3 in Evangelical Lutheran Worship, meaning that this liturgical music has shaped congregational worship for over forty years of our one hundred year history!*

*November begins with All Saints Day and ends in or near Advent, when we anticipate Christ’s coming again. It is fitting, then, that the readings today tell of the final resurrection and the end time. In the turmoil of hope, fear, and disbelief that these predictions provoke in us, Hebrews sounds a note of confident trust. Christ makes a way for us where there is no way, and we walk it confidently, our hearts and bodies washed in baptismal water, trusting the one who has promised forgiveness. The more we see the last day approaching, the more important it is to meet together to provoke one another to love.*

**SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION**

Anniversary Call to Worship:

Give thanks to the Lord, for God is good!

**God’s faithfulness endures from generation to generation.**

Lord, in your great faithfulness

**send our roots deep that we may continue to grow as we share Christ’s love.**

Lord, in your great faithfulness

**form us into people who embody justice and compassion, grace and mercy.**

Lord, in your great faithfulness strengthen us and the work we do in your name.

**Through your power help us witness how wide, how long, how high, and how deep is the love of Christ, our Lord.**

**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. Almighty God, your sovereign purpose brings salvation to birth. Give us faith to be steadfast amid the tumults of this world, trusting that your kingdom comes and your will is done through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

**WE HEAR GOD'S WORD**

Children's Moment: "It's Not About Time"

A Children's Anniversary Song

*Words: James Berner*

*Music: Robert Stock*

*Chorus:*

It's not about time, time, time

The train we ride all day,

It's about roots and growth and sharing God's love,

That leads us on our way.

**Reading: Hebrews 10:11-14 [15-18] 19-25**

*Images of worship and sacrifice are used throughout Hebrews to highlight what Christ has uniquely accomplished through his death. Because we have received forgiveness through Christ's death, we live with sincere hearts by trusting in God's promises and encouraging love and good works from each other.*

<sup>11</sup>Every priest stands day after day at his service, offering again and again the same sacrifices that can never take away sins. <sup>12</sup>But when Christ had offered for all time a single sacrifice for sins, "he sat down at the right hand of God," <sup>13</sup>and since then has been waiting "until his enemies would be made a footstool for his feet." <sup>14</sup>For by a single offering he has perfected for all time those who are sanctified. [<sup>15</sup>And the Holy Spirit also testifies to us, for after saying,

<sup>16</sup>"This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, says the Lord:

I will put my laws in their hearts,

and I will write them on their minds,"

<sup>17</sup>he also adds,

“I will remember their sins and their lawless deeds no more.”

<sup>18</sup>Where there is forgiveness of these, there is no longer any offering for sin.]

<sup>19</sup>Therefore, my friends, since we have confidence to enter the sanctuary by the blood of Jesus, <sup>20</sup>by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain (that is, through his flesh), <sup>21</sup>and since we have a great priest over the house of God, <sup>22</sup>let us approach with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. <sup>23</sup>Let us hold fast to the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who has promised is faithful. <sup>24</sup>And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, <sup>25</sup>not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation:

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the  
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

The gospel according to Mark.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

**Gospel: Mark 13:1-8**

*In the last week of his life, Jesus warned his disciples concerning trials that were to come upon them and upon the world. He exhorts the listener: Do not be alarmed.*

<sup>1</sup>As [Jesus] came out of the temple, one of his disciples said to him, “Look, Teacher, what large stones and what large buildings!” <sup>2</sup>Then Jesus asked him, “Do you see these great buildings? Not one stone will be left here upon another; all will be thrown down.”

<sup>3</sup>When he was sitting on the Mount of Olives opposite the temple, Peter, James, John, and Andrew asked him privately, <sup>4</sup>“Tell us, when will this be, and what will be the sign that all these things are about to be accomplished?” <sup>5</sup>Then Jesus began to say to them, “Beware that no one leads you astray. <sup>6</sup>Many will come in my name and say, ‘I am he!’ and they will lead many astray. <sup>7</sup>When you hear of wars

and rumors of wars, do not be alarmed; this must take place, but the end is still to come. <sup>8</sup>For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; there will be earthquakes in various places; there will be famines. This is but the beginning of the birth pangs.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

100  
YEARS Sermon

Pastor Greg Brown

100  
YEARS

Hymn of the Day:

Rooted in Christ

A Hymn on the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Bethlehem Lutheran Church

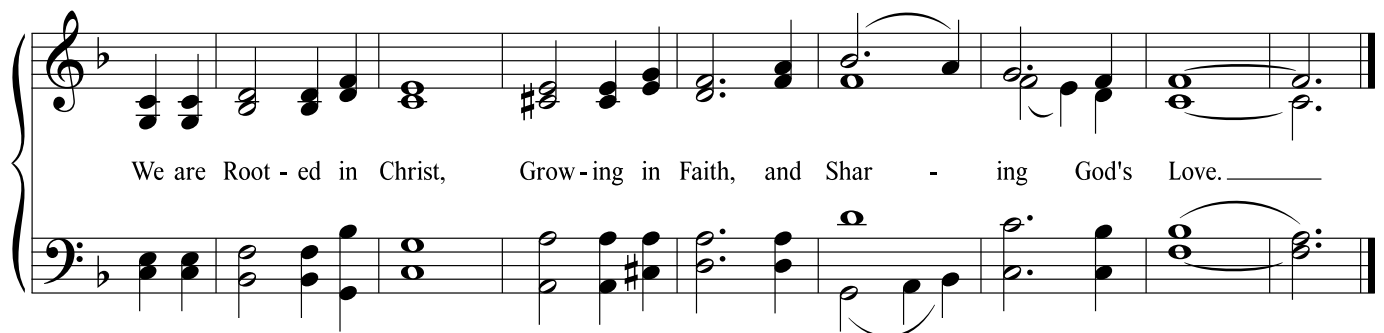
*Words and Music: Jim Jefferis*



1. One hund - red years of Lov - ing, and grace from God a - bove,  
2. One hun - dred years of grow - ing and stu - dy - ing God's word.  
3. We strive to be in - clu - sive, to bring the strang - er near.  
4. Our hi - sto - ry's im - por - tant. It shows from whence we came.  
5. Il - lu - min - ate the fu - ture. Un - ite us all in love.



Root - ed in God's right - eous - ness, we're saved \_\_\_\_\_ by God's love.  
Gos - pel shar - ing is our goal and tell - ing what we've heard.  
Car - ing, gen - tle, kind and warm. It's from our hearts so dear.  
Liv - ing for a God - ly plan should be our fu - ture aim.  
Love we find a - mong us now was sent from God a - bove.



We are Root - ed in Christ, Grow - ing in Faith, and Shar - ing God's Love. \_\_\_\_\_

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).*

Eternal God, you hold firm amid the changes of this world. Hear us now as we pray for the church, the world, and everyone in need.

*A brief silence.*

#1 God our creator, you show us the path of life. Bless faithful people everywhere with humility as they extend compassion to those who have experienced harm in religious spaces. Cultivate healthy congregations that tell of and enact your reconciling love. God, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**



#2 God our ruler, you write your law on human minds and hearts. Give wisdom to all elected leaders and officials to govern with insight and compassion. Make them mindful of the well-being of all people so that your world will flourish. God, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

#3 God our guide, you are greater than we can imagine. Surround congregations with your expansive inclusion. Be present in the midst of disagreements, differences, and questions. Unite people of diverse viewpoints in the love of Christ. God, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

God our connector, we give thanks that you knit us into one body through your Son, Jesus Christ. Today we pray especially for these members and friends of Bethlehem and their families: Paul & Gwen, Cheryl (Seth & Vanessa), Michael, Brooke & Cameron (Luke & Quinn), Chrissy & Robert. We also pray for our sisters and brothers in our twinned parish in Shurugwi, Zimbabwe. God, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

God our healer, you know our needs before we know or ask. Hear the prayers that we offer you now.

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

- Jeffrey (nephew of Bob & Becki, cousin of Karl) who died on 11/8
- Jim (father of Hans) who died on 10/29

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

- Rick as he recovers at home following cardiac surgery on 11/8
- Jerry as he returns home following hospitalization for cancer treatment
- 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

Hear also these prayers we raise to you silently or aloud.  
God, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

God our hope and strength, we entrust to you all for whom we pray. Remain with us always, through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

**Amen.**

**WE SHARE GOD'S MEAL:**

The Peace:

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**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.*

100  
YEARS

Offering of Music:           Rooted and Growing

  Chancel Choir (Director, Jim Jefferis)

  Words: Kathleen Forney, inspired by Ephesians 3: 17-18

  Music: Jim Jefferis

Offertory:

Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of  
 bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be  
 fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u -  
 nite them with the prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your  
 pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980  
 Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923  
 Text and music © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

### Offertory Prayer:

Let us pray. Holy God,  
**the earth is yours and everything in it, yet you have chosen to dwell among  
 your creatures. Come among us now in these gifts of bread and wine, and  
 strengthen us to be your body for the world through Jesus Christ our 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.

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.

100 Hymns sung during communion:  
YEARS

*O Day Full of Grace*

ELW #627

This hymn is a favorite of our guest today, Pastor Greg!

*Precious Lord, Take My Hand*

ELW #773

This hymn is a BLC favorite!

Table Blessing:

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

**Amen**

Post-Communion Prayer:

Blessed Jesus, at this table, you have been for us both host and meal. Now send us forth to extend our tables and to share your gifts until that day when all feast together at your heavenly banquet.

**Amen**

## **WE LEAVE TO SERVE:**

Benediction:

People of God, you are Christ's body, bringing new life to a suffering world. The holy Trinity, † one God, bless you now and forever.

**Amen.**

100 YEARS Sending Hymn: *O God beyond All Praising* ELW #880  
This hymn is a BLC favorite!

Dismissal:

Go in peace. The living Word dwells in you.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Please remain seated for today's postlude.*

100 YEARS Postlude:  
"Finale" Charles-Marie Widor  
(from Organ Symphony No. 2 in D Major, op. 13, no.2) (1844-1937)  
*Dr. Catherine Rodland, Guest Organist*

100 YEARS **Welcome to Pastor Greg Brown and Dr. Catherine Rodland**, who are visiting BLC as part of our 100th Anniversary celebration and sharing leadership of worship today. Their presence reminds us that we are connected to each other and BLC, even though we may be separated by time and miles. Read more about our guests in the insert and plan to greet them at the reception in the Fellowship Hall following worship.

**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 (11/14):**

### ***100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Sunday!***

- 8:55 am Worship with weekly communion with guests Pastor Greg Brown and Catherine Rodland, organist (Livestream or In-person!)
- Reception following worship in the Fellowship Hall
- 10:15 am Faith Formation for pre-K through LYO
- 10:55 am Final Blessing for Everyone (Fellowship Hall)
- 11:15 am Children's Choir
- 12:30 pm 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday Dinner Ministry (delivery only)

## Rev. Gregory S. Brown



Pastor Greg is a native of Greenwood, SC. At age 17, he enlisted in the South Carolina Army National Guard. After completing his initial entry training, he enrolled at Lander University in Greenwood where he received his undergraduate degree in vocal performance.

While at Lander, he met Leah Collier; they were married on June 9, 2010. During his senior year of seminary, the Browns welcomed their first children, twins Jackson and Reagan, born in March 2013.

Shortly thereafter, he began the call process that would bring him to Fairport to serve as Associate Pastor at Bethlehem Lutheran Church. This was his first call upon graduation from the Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary of Lenoir-Rhyne University, Columbia, SC in May 2013.

Pastor Greg began his ministry at Bethlehem in August of 2013. His primary area of involvement was Christian Education – exploring ways to grow our faith and live as disciples of Jesus. In addition to serving the people of Bethlehem, Pastor Greg also served in the New York Army National Guard as a chaplain for 2nd Battalion, 108th Infantry Regiment headquartered in Utica. He was given the support of the congregation in order to fulfill both his military and BLC ministerial responsibilities.

In March of 2016, Pastor Greg left BLC, accepting a call as pastor of St. Stephen's Lutheran Church in Hickory, NC. He then returned to the South Carolina Army National Guard where he continues to serve as a chaplain.

The Browns welcomed Tucker, a healthy baby boy, into the family in February 2019. The following June, Pastor Greg answered a call to become the pastor of St. David Lutheran Church in West Columbia, SC, the same church where he completed his pastoral internship during seminary.

Leah works as a registered nurse, specializing in women's health, labor and delivery, and postpartum care. Now back in her home city of Columbia, she is the Nurse Educator for the Women's Health department at Prisma Health Baptist Hospital in downtown Columbia.





## Dr. Catherine Rodland



Dr. Rodland was organist and choir director at BLC from 1990 - 1992.

Dr. Rodland, whose playing has been described as "transcendent" (*The American Organist*), is Artist in Residence at St. Olaf College in Northfield, MN. She graduated cum laude with departmental distinction in organ performance from St. Olaf in 1987. She received both Master of Music and Doctor of Musical Arts degrees from the Eastman School of Music in Rochester, NY where she was a student of Russell Saunders.

While at Eastman, Dr. Rodland received the prestigious Performer's Certificate and the Ann Anway Award for excellence in organ performance. She is a prizewinner in several competitions including the 1994 and 1998 American Guild of Organists Young Artists Competition, the 1994 Calgary International Organ Competition, and the 1988 International Organ Competition at the University of Michigan, for which she received first prize. Catherine has concertized extensively throughout the United States and Canada, and has been featured often on the syndicated radio program "Pipedreams" on National Public Radio.

At St. Olaf College, Dr. Rodland teaches a full studio of organ students as well as music theory and ear training classes. She performs regularly at St. Olaf, having dedicated the Holtkamp organ in Boe Memorial Chapel in 2007, and performing as a featured soloist with the St. Olaf Orchestra and the St. Olaf Band. These performances were recorded and released as CDs through St. Olaf Records.

Dr. Rodland has presented a series of recitals featuring the complete organ symphonies of Louis Vierne, after having spent a sabbatical leave researching organs in Paris. In 2010 she released a CD, *Dedication* on the newly installed Nichols and Simpson Organ at West Side Presbyterian Church in Ridgewood, NJ.

Dr. Rodland has been the organist of the Colonial Church of Edina since September, 2016. She is married and has one daughter who also studied at the Eastman School of Music.

## The Rodland Duo:

The daughters of professional musicians, Dr. Rodland and her sister, Carol, began making music together as children. Their individual careers as award-winning performers and teachers have taken them all over the world. They began performing together professionally as the Rodland Duo in 2002, with Catherine on the organ and Carol playing the viola. Rodland Duo performances have included recitals at the Luna Nova New Music Festival in Memphis, TN and the 38<sup>th</sup> International Viola Congress in Cincinnati, OH, as well as at Indiana University, the University of Michigan, and the University of North Carolina School of the Arts.



Actively engaged in commissioning new works for their unusual combination of instruments as well as creating their own arrangements of existing compositions, their repertoire ranges from the Baroque to the contemporary. Critics have called The Rodland Duo's performances "stunning" and "beyond praise." *American Weavings*, their recording released in 2010 on the Crystal Records label, led Gramophone to declare viola and organ "an awesome combination."

## Calendar for November 14 – November 21

(Last updated on 11/10/21 at 12 noon, visit <https://blcfairport.org/event-directory/> for updates)

### Sunday, 11/14

#### *100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Sunday*

8:55 am Worship with  
Communion with

guests

Pastor Greg Brown and  
Dr. Catherine Rodland,  
Organist (in-person and  
livestream) with  
reception following  
(Fellowship Hall)!

10:15 am Faith

Formation for pre-K  
through LYO

11:15 am Children's  
Choir

12:30 pm 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday

Dinner Ministry  
(delivery only)

### Monday, 11/15

### Tuesday, 11/16

6:30 pm BSA Troop 2019  
Meeting

### Wednesday, 11/17

9:30 am Bible Study –  
Hybrid (In-person or  
[Join](#) via Zoom –  
ID 943 3691 2942)

1:00 pm Men's Lunch at  
Penfield Wegmans

6:00 pm Chancel Bells

6:15 pm Folk Group

7:30 pm Chancel Choir

### Thursday, 11/18

6:30 pm Council ([Join](#) via  
Zoom

– ID 818 7910 2136)

7:00 pm BLC Quilters

### Friday, 11/19

#### *Pastors' Sabbath*

2:30 pm Dulcimer Group  
Rehearsal

### Saturday, 11/20

7:00 pm LYO Lock-in

### Sunday, 11/21

#### *Christ the King Sunday*

8:55 am Worship with  
Communion with guest

Pastor David Nevergall  
(in-person

and livestream) with  
reception following

(Fellowship Hall)

10:15 am Faith

Formation for pre-K  
through LYO

11:15 am Children's  
Choir

Pastor Hoffman is on vacation November 17 - 28.

**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.

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## 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Reflection from Beth Walker

I am a gardener. I am familiar with roots. Roots appear first when a seed grows. They push down into the soil seeking nourishment to fuel the plant, pushing it upwards into the world. Without the roots, there is no plant.

The plant is not sustained entirely by the roots. The plant interacts with the world using sun for energy, CO<sub>2</sub> for food, and insects for propagation. Without the plant growing above the ground, the roots die. Foundational soil anchors both roots and plant. When the life of the plant is complete, it decomposes and becomes one with the soil.

The soil does not judge the seed. Seeds and plants do not judge each other. A rose cannot force a pumpkin to change. Each flourish as they were meant to. Each plant, with its roots, has a unique relationship to the soil and the world. Each plant blooms when the time is right.

This is the lesson of the garden:

- ❖ The soil is the Sacred, rich in unconditional love and patience; a constant and intentional source of life for all.
- ❖ We begin as seeds, instinctively seeking nourishment from the Sacred.
- ❖ Drawing on this rich and sustaining resource, we push out into the world.
- ❖ We are both root and plant. One part grounded and rooted in unbelievable love. One part experiencing and responding to the world. These parts cannot exist without each other.
- ❖ We go into the world, not to fix, change, or judge others, but to experience and learn about ourselves so we can grow in the world and in our relationship with the Sacred.
- ❖ Every person is where they need to be in their relationship with the Sacred at any given point in time. We cannot know the extent of anyone else's roots or their relationship with the Holy One. It is our own roots, our own growth, that makes the garden beautiful in the company of others.
- ❖ When our life is complete, we return to that source of unconditional love.
- ❖ Roots. Growth. Love. Thanks be to God!

