

*Sunday, November 21, 2021
Christ the King &
Anniversary Sunday*



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, November 21, 2021 ~ *Christ the King*
Anniversary Sunday

Prelude:


O Worship the King

LYONS

The Chancel Bells (Raelynn Clare, Director)

Johann M. Haydn
arr. by Patricia Sanders Cota

Even after Israel had experienced the vagaries of kings, the people still longed for a true king to set things right. He would have the king's title of Anointed One (Messiah); he would be the "one like a human being" (Son of Man) given dominion in Daniel's vision. Jesus is given these titles, even though he is nothing like an earthly king. His authority comes from the truth to which he bears witness, and those who recognize the truth voluntarily listen to him. We look forward to the day he is given dominion, knowing his victory will be the nonviolent victory of love.

 *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!*

SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

Confession and Forgiveness:

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

In the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Have mercy on us, O God.

We confess that we have sinned against you and against our neighbor. We have built walls instead of tables and have turned away the stranger. We have sought glory for ourselves and have treasured that which does not satisfy. Help us to love as you love, to welcome those you send, and to treasure mercy and justice. Turn us from our ways to your ways, and free us to serve those in need. Amen.

God, who makes all things new, forgives your sins for † Jesus' sake and remembers them no more. Lift up your heads and your hearts. Yours is the kingdom of God.
Amen.

Gathering Hymn: <i>Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending</i>	ELW #435
--	----------

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.

Hymn of Praise:



Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther,



we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,



you take a-way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;



you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.



For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,



you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

Let us pray. Almighty and ever-living God, you anointed your beloved Son to be priest and sovereign forever. Grant that all the people of the earth, now divided by the power of sin, may be united by the glorious and gentle rule of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

 Children's Moment

Pastor David Nevergall

Reading: Revelation 1:4b-8

The book of Revelation begins by celebrating the Almighty God, who spans all of time. Similarly, Jesus is celebrated as the firstborn from the dead who rules over the world's rulers. He is the one whose return we eagerly await.

^{4b}Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, ⁵and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, ⁶and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

⁷Look! He is coming with the clouds;
every eye will see him,
even those who pierced him;
and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail.

So it is to be. Amen.

⁸“I am the Alpha and the Omega,” says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

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 John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: John 18:33-37

In John's gospel, the story of Jesus and Pilate presents two different ways of exercising power: through force or with love.

³³Pilate entered the headquarters again, summoned Jesus, and asked him, “Are you the King of the Jews?” ³⁴Jesus answered, “Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?” ³⁵Pilate replied, “I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?” ³⁶Jesus answered, “My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here.” ³⁷Pilate asked him, “So you are a king?” Jesus answered, “You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Hymn of the Day:

Soon and Very Soon

ELW #439

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, you sent your Son Jesus to testify to the truth. We pray for preachers,
missionaries, evangelists, teachers, and all disciples who carry your forgiveness
and love to the world. Fill their words and actions with compassion and kindness
so that your truth will shine. God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

#2 God, you sent your Son Jesus to liberate all of creation. We give thanks for all living things and pray for the flourishing of the natural world. Give us compassionate hearts to care for your world. God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

#3 God, you sent your Son Jesus to lead us into the way of peace. Direct institutions and individuals in choosing a nonviolent path toward the future. Give leaders the humility and wisdom to make just decisions to benefit all. God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

God, you sent your Son Jesus to make us into your own people, set free to serve you. Today we pray especially for these members and friends of Bethlehem and their families: Alli & Jim (Paige), Paul, Jim & Shannon (Grady & Sydney), Joan & Tom, Ron, Peggy & Tom. We pray for our twinned parish in Shurugwi, Zimbabwe. Renew us in our work of connecting. God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

God, you sent your Son Jesus to rule in all times and places. We pray for the friends of our congregation who are unable to join our worship in person and for those whose needs are known to us.

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

- Rev. Edwin (father of Lori) who died on 11/15
- David (son of Mary's dear friends Carol & Dean)
- Jeffrey (nephew of Bob & Becki, cousin of Karl) who died on 11/8

We pray for those in need of healing, especially:

- David (brother of Donna) who is sick with Covid-19, and Suzi (sister-in-law of Donna), who is hospitalized with Covid-19
- Melanie S (colleague of Mike), who has been diagnosed with cancer
- 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
- And those we name before you . . .

Join our prayers and united us in the body of Christ. 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.

Offering of Music:

“Hallelujah” (from “Mount of Olives”)

Ludwig van Beethoven

The Chancel Choir (Jim Jefferis, Director)

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.**

The Great Thanksgiving:

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.
 Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Sanctus:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,

heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -

san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who

comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

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:

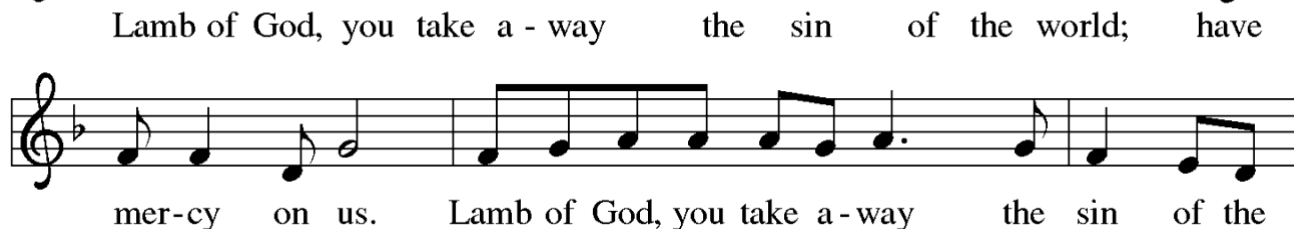
All who hunger and thirst, come. The table is ready.

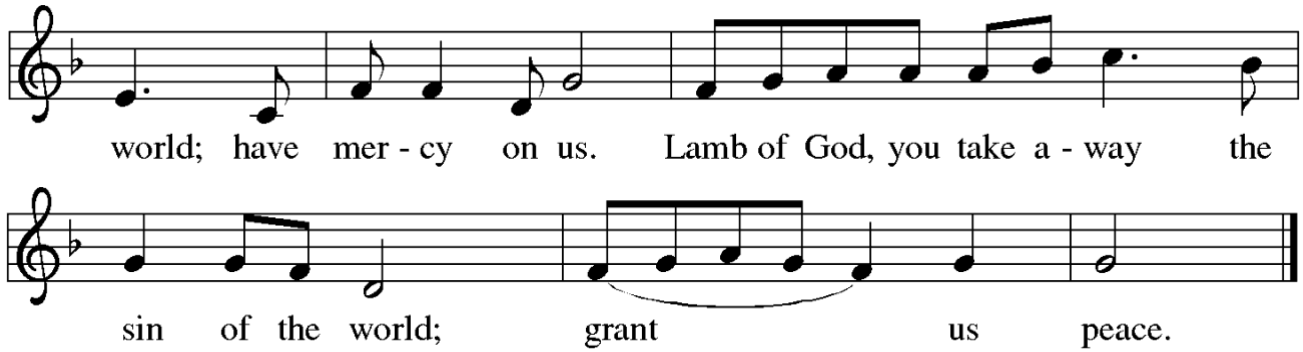
Thanks be to God!

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:





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

Hymns sung during communion:

Praise and Thanksgiving

ELW #689

Led by The Folk Group (Rich Towsley, Director)

dulcimer setting by Rich Towsley

(This hymn is a BLC Favorite!)

**Please continue to sing even after communion distribution has ended.*



What Feast of Love

ELW #487

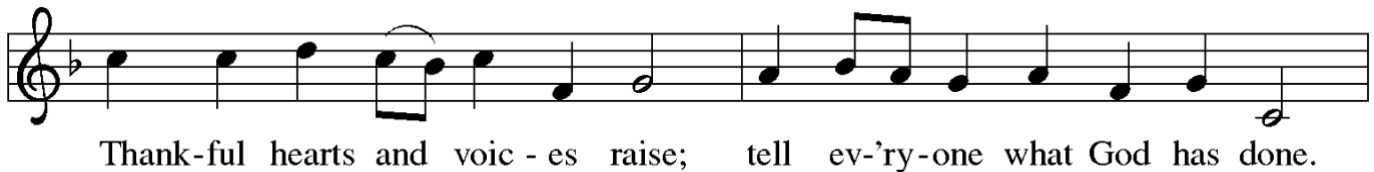
(This is one of Pastor Nevergall's favorite hymns!)

Table Blessing:

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

Amen

Post-Communion Canticle:



Thank-ful hearts and voic - es raise; tell ev-'ry-one what God has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and bear Christ's ho - ly name.



Send us with your prom - is - es and lead your peo - ple forth in joy with



Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980
Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923
Text and music © 1978, 1995 Augsburg Fortress.

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.

Sending Hymn:

Now Thank We All Our God

ELW #840

Dismissal:

Go in peace. The living Word dwells in you.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude:

Now Thank We All Our God

NUN DANKET

setting by Montz Friedrich August Koehler



Welcome to Pastor David Nevergall, who is visiting BLC as part of our 100th Anniversary celebration and sharing leadership of worship today. His presence reminds us that we are connected to each other and BLC, even though we may be separated by time and distance. Read more about Pastor Nevergall in the insert and plan to greet him following worship.

The flowers on the altar this week were given by Carol Schrader memory of her mother, Shirley Schrader. Do you enjoy seeing flowers on the altar? Flowers may be donated to memorialize or celebrate a special event or person. Contact the church office to place your order!

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 (11/21):

- 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!
 - pre-K to 5th grade gathers in the Sunday School Wing
 - 6th-8th grade gathers in the Confirmation room
 - 9th-12th grade gathers in the LYO Room
- 10:55 am Final Blessing for Everyone (Fellowship Hall)
- 11:15 am Children's Choir (Choir Room)



Rev. David Lee Nevergall

Pastor Nevergall is a native of St. Marys, a small city in west-central Ohio. He is a 1978 graduate of Ohio Northern University with a degree in Music. It was during his years in college that he was introduced to the Lutheran tradition. It was also in college that he met his future wife, Karen. They were married in 1980, and lived in a variety of places in Ohio as Pastor Nevergall pursued a career in marketing communications, and advertising.

The final six years in this first career brought the family to the Rochester, NY area when Pastor Nevergall took a job with Rumrill-Hoyt. His work focused primarily on new market and new product development for Kodak, Remington Arms, and DuPont. It was during these years that, at the invitation of friends, the family became members of Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Fairport.

The unexpected death of a young neighbor, however, gave urgency to the call to ministry that had long been lingering. So, in the summer of 1990, Pastor Nevergall, Karen, and their two young sons packed up and moved to Columbus, OH, where he studied at Trinity Lutheran Seminary. The congregation at Bethlehem was generously supportive of the family during these years, providing for tuition, books, and other gifts.

Upon graduation in the spring of 1994, he was called as pastor of Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church in Elmore, OH, where he served for 19 years. In the fall of 2013, Pastor Nevergall accepted the call to Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, Akron, OH, where he continues to serve as senior pastor.

The Nevergalls recently celebrated 41 years of marriage. Son Michael, his wife, Rachel, and three grandchildren, Caroline, Elliott, and Leo, live in Minneapolis, MN. Son John David and wife, Emily, live in Columbus, OH.

Pastor Nevergall shares “As a family, we are forever grateful for the warmth and generosity that received us at Bethlehem, and then sent us out to serve the church and the communities where we lived.”



Calendar for November 21 – November 28

(Last updated on 11/17/21 at 12 noon, visit <https://blcfairport.org/event-directory/> for updates)

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

Monday, 11/22

Tuesday, 11/23

Office Closed

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

Wednesday, 11/24

Office Closed

No Bible Study
6:00 pm Chancel Bells
No Folk Group
No Chancel Choir

Thursday, 11/25

Office Closed for Thanksgiving

Friday, 11/26

Office Closed for Thanksgiving No Dulcimer Group Rehearsal

Saturday, 11/27

Sunday, 11/28

1st Sunday in Advent

8:55 am Worship with
Communion
(in-person
and livestream)
10:15 am Family Advent
Activities – Wreath-
making and more!
6:30 pm 5th Annual
Tree Lighting

Time Away: Pastor Hoffman is away November 17 – 28. Beth Schoenfeld will be away November 23 – 24. The BLC office will be closed for the Thanksgiving Holiday beginning November 23 and re-opening on November 29. In the event of a Pastoral Emergency (i.e. death, family or individual crisis) please contact Pastor Amy.

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: Submit details at <https://blcfairport.org/blc-facility-request/> for each planned meeting, event and activity at BLC. This allows us to check for availability, reserve the space, and plan accordingly. Please contact the church office to confirm or with any questions following your submission.

Augsburg Fortress resources are being livestreamed by permission. All rights reserved.
From *Sundays and Seasons.com*. Copyright 2021 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.
Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #43732.
Permission to stream and print the music in this service obtained from OneLicense under Annual License #A-724002
Reprinted by permission under CCLI Annual License #11159563
New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989, Division of Christian Education
Of the National Council of Churches of Christ in the United States of America.
Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Love Redefines Power and Dominion

In fairy tales, kings live in a castle, usually located on a hill (a safe place), surrounded by a moat for the utmost protection for the king and family. Modern political leaders often have more technologically advanced means to provide a similar level of safety against would-be attackers. Because of these preconceived notions of what kings are, hearers will need to be reminded that Jesus redefined the title "king." The appointed psalm says, "The waters have lifted up, O Lord, . . . the waters have lifted up their pounding waves. Mightier than the sound of many waters, mightier than the breakers of the sea, mightier is the Lord who dwells on high" (Ps. 93:3-4). While a king might have the ability to sail atop a roaring, chaotic sea, Christ the King is one who stills the waves (Mark 4:35-41).

In John's gospel for today, Jesus says "For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth" (John 18:37). Perhaps the 'this' Jesus is referring to is a motioning with his hands to the cross, the most clear demonstration of God's love for humanity and the truest definition of kingship. Jesus redefines what power is and what people think God's power looks like to fight evil and suffering in the world. Jesus does not resist the way of the cross with force.

Rather than protecting himself from harm in any way, the vulnerable King Jesus dares to demonstrate God's love for all people. Jesus does not run from pain, anguish, or suffering. Rather, the risen Jesus, "the ruler of the kings of the earth" (Rev. 1:5), rushes to the places of disaster and suffering in the world. Jesus goes where storms are ravaging and have ravaged lives and brings life and calm into the chaos.