

*Sunday, February 13, 2022
Sixth Sunday after Epiphany*



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.

Worship Leaders at BLC

As Lutheran Christians, **we believe that worship is not a passive experience**, watching and listening to the Pastor. **Worship is the work of the people – that's what liturgy means!** We all have a job to do in 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. It also takes many people to support the work of worship, both serving publicly and behind-the-scenes. Each Sunday you're invited to visit the table in the Narthex and put your name next to the role you want and grab the corresponding bulletin.

Want to learn more about a specific worship role or sign-up for a pre-scheduled role? Fill out the survey on the table and place it in the basket. We will follow up with you.

Sunday, February 13, 2022 ~ *Sixth Sunday after Epiphany*

Prelude:

Canon, Fughetta, and March on *TON-Y-BOTEL*

EBENEZER

Thomas John Williams

setting by William D. Gudger

Each year, on the Sunday after Epiphany (January 6) we affirm our baptism, celebrating that God has chosen us as beloved children. Each week throughout the season after Epiphany, we are focusing on the responsibilities entrusted to us – as individuals and a community – in response to God’s love for us at baptism. (Review these promises in the hymnal on page 228!) Today, we reflect on what it looks like to hear the word of God.

Blessings and curses abound on the sixth Sunday after Epiphany. We would do well to listen closely to whom the “blessed are” and the “woe to” are directed and to find our place in the crowd among those who desire to touch Jesus. The risen Christ stands among us in the mystery of the holy supper with an invitation to live in him, and offers power to heal us all.

SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

Confession and Forgiveness:

We gather in the name of the triune God ✠ and return to our foundation—to words of love, starting with love for ourselves.

We pray together, Holy God,

In Christ Jesus, you lean down and enter our world with your boundless love. But we are quick to forget. We forget that in the beginning we were made good. We doubt that we could possibly be enough. We hustle for our self-worth and wear ourselves out aiming for perfection. We deflect words of praise. We hide behind shiny first impressions. Forgive us. Trusting our worth is the hardest job. Open our ears as you open our hearts, so that we might rest on the foundation of goodness you have laid for us through your Son. Gratefully we pray, amen.

Family of faith, no matter how old we get, God continues to say to us: “You are loved; you are forgiven.” That is the foundation of our lives. That is the truth upon

which we build our home. So breathe deeply. There is grace and peace here. Join me in proclaiming this good news:

We are loved. We are ✠ forgiven. We are claimed. This is our foundation. Thanks be to God. Amen.

Gathering Hymn:

Thy Strong Word

ELW 511

Stanzas 1, 2, 5, 6

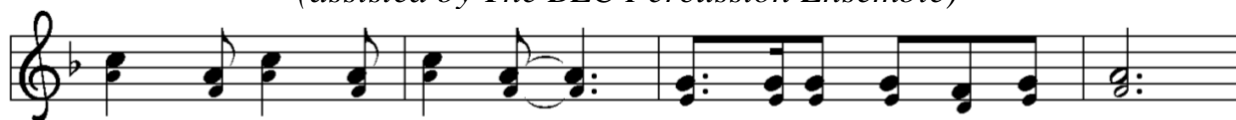
Greeting:

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.

Gloria:

(assisted by The BLC Percussion Ensemble)



¡Glo - ria, glo - ria, glo - ria en las al - tu - ras a Dios!
Glo - ria, glo - ria, glo - ria, glo - ry to God . . on high!



¡Glo - ria, glo - ria, glo - ria en las al - tu - ras a Dios!
Glo - ria, glo - ria, glo - ria, glo - ry to God . . on high!



Y en la tie - rra paz pa-ra a-que-llos que a-ma el Se - ñor.
And on earth . . . peace to God's peo-ple. Glo - ry to God.



Y en la tie - rra paz pa-ra a-que-llos que a-ma el Se - ñor.
And on earth . . . peace to God's peo-ple. Glo - ry to God.

Prayer of the Day:

Let us pray. Living God, in Christ you make all things new. Transform the poverty of our nature by the riches of your grace, and in the renewal of our lives make known your glory, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

Children's Moment

Jim Berner

Reading: Jeremiah 17:5-10

These verses compose a poem that is part of a larger collection of wisdom sayings that contrast two ways of life. Life with God brings blessing; the power and vitality of God is active in our life. Life without God brings a curse, the power of death.

⁵Thus says the Lord:

Cursed are those who trust in mere mortals
and make mere flesh their strength,
whose hearts turn away from the Lord.

⁶They shall be like a shrub in the desert,
and shall not see when relief comes.

They shall live in the parched places of the wilderness,
in an uninhabited salt land.

⁷Blessed are those who trust in the Lord,
whose trust is the Lord.

⁸They shall be like a tree planted by water,
sending out its roots by the stream.

It shall not fear when heat comes,
and its leaves shall stay green;
in the year of drought it is not anxious,
and it does not cease to bear fruit.

⁹The heart is devious above all else;
it is perverse—
who can understand it?

¹⁰I the Lord test the mind
and search the heart,
to give to all according to their ways,
according to the fruit of their doings.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation:

A - le - lu - ya, a - le - lu - ya, a - le - lu - ya!
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

A - le - lu - ya, a - le - lu - ya, a - le - lu - ya!
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

A - le - lu - ya, a - le - lu - ya,
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,

a - le - lu - ya! A - le - lu - ya!
 al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

The gospel according to Luke.
Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: Luke 6:17-26

After choosing his twelve apostles, Jesus teaches a crowd of followers about the nature and demands of discipleship. He begins his great sermon with surprising statements about who is truly blessed in the eyes of God.

¹⁷[Jesus] came down with [the twelve] and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon. ¹⁸They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases; and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. ¹⁹And all in the crowd were trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them.

²⁰Then he looked up at his disciples and said:

“Blessed are you who are poor,
 for yours is the kingdom of God.

²¹“Blessed are you who are hungry now,
 for you will be filled.

“Blessed are you who weep now,
 for you will laugh.

²²“Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man. ²³Rejoice in that day and leap

for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven; for that is what their ancestors did to the prophets.

²⁴“But woe to you who are rich,
for you have received your consolation.

²⁵“Woe to you who are full now,
for you will be hungry.

“Woe to you who are laughing now,
for you will mourn and weep.

²⁶“Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is what their ancestors did to the false prophets.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

| | | |
|------------------|--------------------|---------|
| Hymn of the Day: | When the Poor Ones | ELW 725 |
|------------------|--------------------|---------|

Stanza 1 – Choir

Stanzas 2, 3, 4 – All

The Prayers of the People:

Our prayers are always offered on behalf of the whole community.

The Spirit of the Lord is poured out upon us in abundance; so we are bold to pray for the church, the world, and all that God has made.

A brief silence.

#1 Lord of refuge, we pray for immigrants and refugees, in our country and around the world, who seek safety, relief, and a place to rebuild their lives. We ask for your compassion, wisdom, and desire for justice to guide us in resolving the problems and crises that displace people from their homes and nations.

God of grace,

hear our prayer.

#2 Lord, giver of good things, we give thanks for the evolving technology that helps us with everyday tasks, who connects us with people around the world, who provides new tools for treating the sick and injured, and who helps us reach more people with the gospel. We pray that we will consider the impact of technology,

and use it wisely, equitably, and justly for the well-being and benefit of all people.
God of grace,
hear our prayer.

#3 Lord of compassion, we thank you for hearing and responding to our prayers — spoken and silent — for tending to our needs, easing our worries, calming our anger, and providing refuge in time of trouble. Help us reflect on what the spirit is stirring in us right now, and help us discern what God calls us to be: bearers of love, peace, hope, healing, and reconciliation in the good news of Jesus Christ. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

We give thanks that in Baptism you form us into community. Today, we pray for these members and friends of Bethlehem and their families: Jeff & Laurie, Celia & Doug, Paul, Rich & Sue, Anita, Bethany, and Luke. We also pray for our sisters and brothers in our twinned parish in Shurugwi, Zimbabwe. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

We lift up prayers of thanksgiving for:

- The birth of Nicole Eloise on 2/7/22. Nicole is the daughter of Andrew and Meredith, little sister of Ryan and granddaughter of Jeff & Ruth.

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

- Julia (friend of Chris) who died on 2/8/22

We pray for those in need of healing, especially:

- Lee who is seeking placement in a hospice facility
- Those impacted by the fire in the Pines of Perinton
- Chris (nephew-in-law of Mary) who continues to be hospitalized with Covid in serious condition
- Those involved with the ongoing work of caregiving for loved ones
- Those infected with or recovering from Coronavirus, and their caregivers

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

Silence for people to offer their prayers

God of grace,
Hear our prayer.

Since we have such great hope in your promises, O God, we lift these and all of our prayers to you in confidence and faith; 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:

A Servant’s Blessing

words by John Parker
music by Patti Drennan
arr. by Roy Hopp

The Chancel Choir (Jim Jefferis, director)

DIX. 7 7, 7 7, 7 7

CONRAD KOCHER, 1836

1. As with glad-ness men of old Did the guid-ing star be-hold;
 3. As they of-fered gifts most rare At that man-ger rude and bare;

As with joy they hailed its light, Lead-ing on-ward, beam-ing bright;
 So may we, with ho-ly joy, Pure, and free from sin's al-loy,

So, most gra-cious God, may we Ev-er-more be led to Thee.
 All our cost-liest trea-sures bring, Christ, to Thee, our heavenly King. A-men.

William Chatterton Dix, 1860

Offertory Prayer:

Let us pray. Blessed are you, O God, Sovereign of the universe.

You offer us new beginnings and guide us on our journey. Lead us to your table, nourish us with this heavenly food, and prepare us to carry your love to a hungry world, in the name of Christ our light. 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 sent Jesus to love and serve all people.
Sustain us with this meal to follow in his footsteps.

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:

Come to God's table. There is a place for you and enough for all.

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:

Cor - de - ro de Dios, tú que qui-tas el pe-ca-do del mun-do;
O Lamb of . . God, you . . take a-way the sin of the world; . .

ten pie-dad de no - so-tros, ten pie-dad de no - so-tros.
have . . mer-cy up - on us, have . . mer-cy up - on us.

Cor-de - ro de Dios, tú que qui-tas el pe-ca-do del mun-do;
O Lamb of . . God, you . . take a-way the sin of the world; . .

ten pie-dad de no - so-tros, ten pie-dad de no - so-tros.
have . . mer-cy up - on us, have . . mer-cy up - on us.

Cor-de - ro de Dios, tú que qui-tas el pe-ca-do del mun-do;
O Lamb of . . God, you . . take a-way the sin of the world; . .

da - nos tu paz, da - nos tu paz.
grant us your peace, grant us your peace.

Hymns sung during communion:

Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether

ELW 470

Break Now the Bread of Life

ELW 515

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:

Let us pray. We give you thanks, gracious God, for we have feasted on the abundance of your house. Send us to bring good news and to proclaim your favor to all, strengthened with the richness of your grace in your Son, Jesus Christ.

Amen

WE LEAVE TO SERVE:

| | | |
|---------------|-------------------------|---------|
| Sending Hymn: | As Rain from the Clouds | ELW 508 |
|---------------|-------------------------|---------|

Benediction:

God, who leads you in pathways of righteousness, who rejoices over you, and who calls you by name, ✠ bless your going out and your coming in, today and forever.

Amen.

Dismissal:

Go with Christ into a weary world. Share the good news.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude:

Doxology Postlude
(Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow)

OLD HUNDREDTH
attrib. Louis Bourgeois
setting by Peter Pindar Stearns

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 (2/13):

- 8:55 am Worship with Communion (in-person and livestream)
- 10:15 am Faith Formation for All
 - 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
- 10:15 am Sanctuary Conversation: Welcome to the Table
(In-person or [Join](#) via Zoom – ID 859 4251 6915)
- 11:15 am Children's Choir (Choir Room)

Portions of the liturgy adapted from prayers by Rev. Sarah Are, A Sanctified Art LLC, sanctifiedart.org
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Calendar for February 13 – February 20

(Last updated on 2/16/22 at 12 noon, visit <https://blcfairport.org/event-directory/> for updates)

Sunday, 2/13

8:55 am Worship with Communion (in-person and livestream)
10:15 am Welcome to the Table! Sanctuary Conversation (In-person or [Join](#) via Zoom – ID 859 4251 6915)
10:15 am Faith Formation for All
11 am – 1:15 pm Sweetheart Sale pickup (pre-ordered)
11:15 am Children's Choir
12:30 pm 2nd Sunday Dinner Ministry (delivery only)

Monday, 2/14

1:00 pm Ruth Circle

Tuesday, 2/15

2:00 pm Support Group for Caregivers (now on 1st & 3rd Tuesdays!)
6:30 pm BSA Troop 2019 Meeting

Wednesday, 2/16

9:30 am Bible Study – ([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, 2/17

6:30 pm Council ([Join](#) via Zoom – ID 8187910 2136)
7:00 pm BLC Quilters

Friday, 2/18

Pastor's Sabbath
2:30 pm Dulcimer Group Rehearsal

Saturday, 2/19

Sunday, 2/20

Welcome to the Table
8:55 am Worship with Communion (in-person and livestream)
10:15 am 100th Anniversary Highlight Reel (in-person and livestream)
10:15 am Faith Formation for All
11:15 am Children's Choir

Pastor Hoffman is away February 20 – 27.

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.

Blessing or Woe

A fundamental decision is placed before us this day: Will we choose the way of blessing or the way of woe? The death and resurrection of Jesus is the pivot on which the decision turns. To be in Christ means that we get planted by streams of water and are rooted among those who thirst for God's reign. The mystery of our faith points the path to life: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.