

*Sunday, February 27, 2022
Transfiguration of Our Lord*



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.

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.

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Prelude:

Adagio

Adagio, K. 356

C. P. E. Bach

W. A. Mozart

Witnesses to the glory of God in the face of Jesus reflect that glory in the world. It was true for Moses. It was doubtless true for Peter, James, and John. We pray that it will be true of all of us who see God's glory in the word and in the supper and who are being "transformed into the same image" by God's Spirit.

SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

Confession and Forgiveness:

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who creates us, redeems us, and calls us by name.

Amen.

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

Most merciful God,

we confess that we have sinned against you and your beloved children. We have turned our faces away from your glory when it did not appear as we expected. We have rejected your word when it made us confront ourselves. We have failed to show hospitality to those you called us to welcome. Accept our repentance for the things we have done and the things we have left undone. For the sake of Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us and lead us, that we may bathe in the glory of your Son born among us, and reflect your love for all creation. Amen.

Rejoice in this good news: In † Christ Jesus, your sins are forgiven. You are descendants of the Most High, adopted into the household of Christ, and inheritors of eternal life. Live as freed and forgiven children of God.

Amen.

Gathering Hymn:

Shine, Jesus, Shine

ELW 671

Rich Towsley, guitar

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. Holy God, mighty and immortal, you are beyond our knowing, yet we see your glory in the face of Jesus Christ. Transform us into the likeness of your Son, who renewed our humanity so that we may share in his divinity, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

Reading: 2 Corinthians 3:12--4:2

In his debates with the Corinthians, Paul contrasts the glory of Moses with the glory of Christ. The Israelites could not see Moses' face because of the veil. But in Christ we see the unveiled glory of God and are transformed into Christ's likeness.

¹²Since, then, we have such a hope, we act with great boldness, ¹³not like Moses, who put a veil over his face to keep the people of Israel from gazing at the end of the glory that was being set aside. ¹⁴But their minds were hardened. Indeed, to this very day, when they hear the reading of the old covenant, that same veil is still there, since only in Christ is it set aside. ¹⁵Indeed, to this very day whenever Moses is read, a veil lies over their minds; ¹⁶but when one turns to the Lord, the veil is removed. ¹⁷Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. ¹⁸And all of us, with unveiled faces, seeing the glory of the Lord as though reflected in a mirror, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another; for this comes from the Lord, the Spirit.

^{4:1}Therefore, since it is by God's mercy that we are engaged in this ministry, we do not lose heart. ²We have renounced the shameful things that one hides; we refuse to practice cunning or to falsify God's word; but by the open statement of the truth we commend ourselves to the conscience of everyone in the sight of God. The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation:

This Is My Chosen

This Is My Chosen

Luke 9:35

Daniel Schwandt

Refrain



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

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Refrain (sung 2 times):

1st time: Ensemble

2nd time: All

Proper Verse: Ensemble

This is my Son, my Chosen, listen to him, O listen to him!

Refrain: All

Proper Verse: Ensemble

Refrain: All (sung 3 times)

assisted by The BLC Singers:

Chrisanne Gates, Kathy Moragne, Nancy Price, Phyllis Stock, Robert Stock, Dave Wideman

The gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: Luke 9:28-36 [37-43a]

The conversation about Jesus' suffering and death is enclosed in a dazzling foreshadowing of the resurrection. God affirms Jesus' identity, the disciples are stunned speechless, and Jesus resumes his mission with a demonstration of his power over evil.

²⁸Now about eight days after these sayings Jesus took with him Peter and John and James, and went up on the mountain to pray. ²⁹And while he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became dazzling white. ³⁰Suddenly they saw two men, Moses and Elijah, talking to him. ³¹They appeared in glory and were speaking of his departure, which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem. ³²Now Peter and his companions were weighed down with sleep; but since they had stayed awake, they saw his glory and the two men who stood with him. ³³Just as they were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, "Master, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah"—not knowing what he said. ³⁴While he was saying this, a cloud came and overshadowed them; and they were terrified as they entered the cloud. ³⁵Then from the cloud came a voice that said, "This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!" ³⁶When the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. And they kept silent and in those days told no one any of the things they had seen.

[³⁷On the next day, when they had come down from the mountain, a great crowd met him. ³⁸Just then a man from the crowd shouted, "Teacher, I beg you to look at my son; he is my only child. ³⁹Suddenly a spirit seizes him, and all at once he shrieks. It convulses him until he foams at the mouth; it mauls him and will scarcely leave him. ⁴⁰I begged your disciples to cast it out, but they could not." ⁴¹Jesus answered, "You faithless and perverse generation, how much longer must I be with you and bear with you? Bring your son here." ⁴²While he was coming, the demon dashed him to the ground in convulsions. But Jesus rebuked the unclean spirit, healed the boy, and gave him back to his father. ^{43a}And all were astounded at the greatness of God.]

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Hymn of the Day:
Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation

Latin Hymn, cir. VII cent.
tr. John Mason Neale
setting: Dale Wood

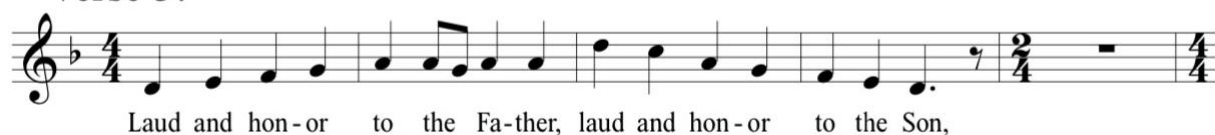
The Chancel Choir (Jim Jefferis, director)

Congregational Part

Verse 1: Choir

Verse 2: Choir

Verse 3:



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 We pray that You will right all the wrongs that are taking place in our world and vindicate those that are being treated unjustly. Give justice and peace to all those that have been cruelly and unfairly treated by their fellow man. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

#2 Forgive us for our sins. Remove the veil that has caused our hearts to be hardened and hindered us from hearing and seeing what You want us to become and do. Help us to clearly understand Your Word and obey it. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

#3 We are witnesses to the glory of God in the face of Jesus. Help us to reflect that glory in the world. It was true for Moses. As it was true for Peter, James, and John, we pray that it will be true of all of us who see God's glory in the word and in the supper and who are being "transformed into the same image" by God's Spirit. 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: Amy & David (Ethan & Stella), Chris & Meg, Addie, George, Mike (Lily & Olivia), Shiellee, Diane, and Mark & Sandy. We also pray for our sisters and brothers in our twinned parish in Shurugwi, Zimbabwe. God of grace,
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:

- Tom who is hospitalized following a fall
- Those involved with the ongoing work of caregiving for loved ones
- Those infected with or recovering from Coronavirus, and their caregivers

Hear also these prayers we raise to you in our hearts or in silence for people to offer their prayers.

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:

Sanna, Sannanina

(Holy, Most Holy Lord)

SANNANINA

Traditional South African

arr. Sandra Eithun

The Chancel Bells (Raelynn Clare, director)

Percussions: Kathy Moragne, Neil Vokes

Offertory:

As with Gladness Men of Old

38

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.

The Great Thanksgiving:

The Lord be with you.

And also 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:



San - to, san - to, san - to_es el Se - ñor,
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God,



Dios del u - ni - ver - so; san - to_es el Se - ñor.
God of might and pow - er; ho - ly is the Lord.



San - to, san - to, san - to, san - to_es el Se - ñor,
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God,



Dios del u - ni - ver - so; san - to_es el Se - ñor.
God of might and pow - er; ho - ly is the Lord.



Ho - san - na en el cie - lo, ho - san - na en la
Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na here on



tie - rra. Ben - di - to el que vie - ne en el
earth. Blest is he who comes in the

nom - bre del Se - ñor. Ho - san - na en el
 name . . . of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the

cie - lo, ho - san - na en la tie - rra. Ben -
 high - est, ho - san - na here on earth. . . .

di - to el que vie - ne en el nom - bre del Se - ñor.
 Blest is he who comes in the name . . . of the Lord.

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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:

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

Hymns sung during communion:

Beautiful Savior

ELW 838

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

ELW 815

Table Blessing:

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

Amen

WE LEAVE TO SERVE:

Children's Moment

Pastor Amy

During the penitential season of Lent, we refrain from using the joyful exclamation of "Alleluia." As we sing this hymn, we will symbolically "bury the Alleluia" to the prepare our hearts for Lent.

Sending Hymn:

Alleluia, Song of Gladness

ELW 318

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:

Sortie

L. J. T. Darwall

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 (2/27):

- 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 with LYO on 2/20 & 2/27
 - 9th-12th grade gathers in the LYO Room
- 10:15 am Sanctuary Conversation: 100th Anniversary Historical Presentation with John Schmeelk, in-person and livestream (like Worship, NOT via Zoom)
- 11:15 am Children's Choir (Choir Room)

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Calendar for February 27 – March 3

(Last updated on 2/21/22 at 12 noon, visit <https://blcfairport.org/event-directory/> for updates)

Sunday, 2/27

Transfiguration Sunday

8:55 am Worship with Communion (in-person and livestream)
10:15 am 100th Anniversary Historical Presentation with John Schmeelk (in-person and livestream)
10:15 am Faith Formation for All
11:15 am Children's Choir

Monday, 2/28

Tuesday, 3/1

2:00 pm Support Group for Caregivers
6:30 pm BSA Troop 2019 Meeting
7:00 pm Holy Week Planning Meeting ([Join](#) via Zoom – ID 812 3443 7417)

Wednesday, 3/2

Ash Wednesday

9:30 am Bible Study – ([Join](#) via Zoom – ID 943 3691 2942)
12:00 pm Outdoor liturgy
5:45 pm Chancel Bells
6:00 pm Folk Group
7:00 pm Ash Wednesday Worship (in person and livestream)
7:45 pm Chancel Choir

Thursday, 3/3

6:30 pm Officers ([Join](#) via Zoom – ID 836 2369 6315)
7:00 pm BLC Quilters

Friday, 3/4

Pastor's Sabbath

2:30 pm Dulcimer Group Rehearsal

Saturday, 3/5

Sunday, 3/6

8:55 am Worship with Communion (in-person and livestream)
10:15 am Adult Book Study (In-person or [Join](#) via Zoom - ID 859 4251 6915)
10:15 am Faith Formation for All
11:15 am Children's Choir

Church Office Hours: We continue to hold remote office hours M - 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.

Lifting the Veil

The transfiguration is frustrating for disciples—past and present—who long for an unmediated experience of God. Jesus' glory is revealed, and then, just as suddenly, a cloud descends and the vision fades. And even though Paul contrasts the Christian's experience of God with Moses's veiled experience of God, he notes that we see the glory of the Lord "as though reflected in a mirror" (2 Cor. 3:18). Even with unveiled faces, we don't see directly, or even clearly. Even when God is revealed in shining glory, much remains veiled and hidden.

As he witnesses Jesus' transfiguration, Peter's understanding remains veiled; ours does too. The glimpses we get of God's glory—through the veil or reflected in the mirror—are expectation-shattering, alarming, overwhelming, and awesome. The love of God shines too brightly to view directly, and yet we do have the privilege of directly experiencing that love in baptism, in communion, in service to God, and in relationship with God's creation and our neighbors in need. The veils we contend with daily are the barriers that prevent us from truly loving those neighbors, caring for creation, and seeing the shining face of Jesus in the faces of people who are different, hungry, difficult, enemy, invisible, or poor. God is always revealed in ways that surprise and confuse us, whether shining on the mountaintop or dying on the cross.