

Sunday, March 6, 2022
First Sunday in Lent



BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN CHURCH

48 Perrin Street, Fairport, NY ~

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

(585) 223-0634 ~ www.blcfairport.org

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, March 6, 2022 ~ *First Sunday in Lent*

Prelude:

En mon Dieu aimé
(In My Beloved God)

Marcel Dupré

Vater unser im Himmelreich
(Our Father in Heaven)

Johann Christoph Bach

These forty days called Lent are like no other. It is our opportune time to return to the God who rescues, to receive the gifts of God's grace, to believe with the heart and confess with the mouth the wonder of God's love in Jesus, and to resist temptation at every turn. This is no small pilgrimage on which we have just embarked. It is a struggle Jesus knew. It is a struggle Jesus shares. The nearness of the Lord, in bread and wine, water and word, will uphold and sustain us.

SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

Confession and Forgiveness:

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

Amen

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

Most merciful God,

we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.

Amen

Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen

Gathering Hymn:

The Glory of These Forty Days

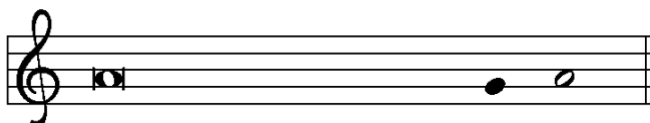
ELW 320

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.

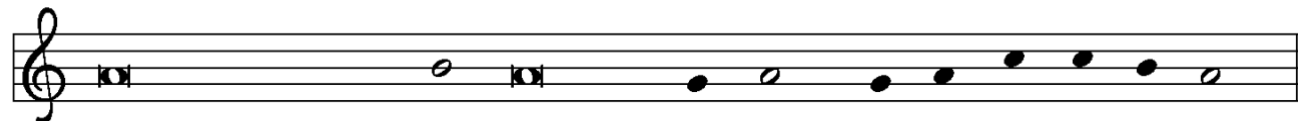
Kyrie:



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



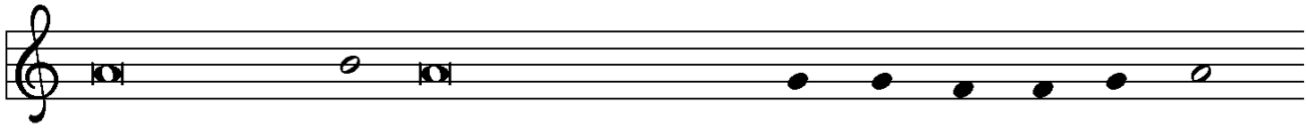
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. Lord have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra-cious Lord. A - men.

Prayer of the Day:

Let us pray. O Lord God, you led your people through the wilderness and brought them to the promised land. Guide us now, so that, following your Son, we may walk safely through the wilderness of this world toward the life you alone can give, through 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

Jim Berner

Reading: Romans 10:8b-13

Paul reminds the Christians at Rome of the foundation of their creed, the confession of faith in the risen Christ as Lord.

^{8b}“The word is near you,
on your lips and in your heart”

(that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); ⁹because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved. ¹¹The scripture says, “No one who believes in him will be put to shame.” ¹²For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. ¹³For, “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.”

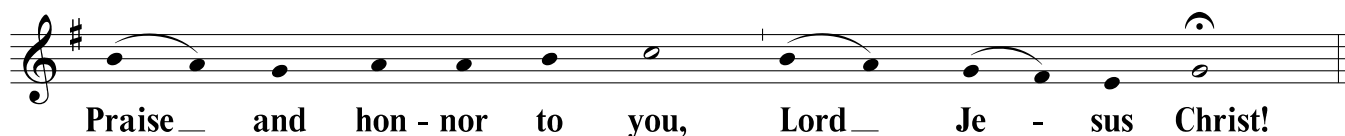
The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation:

REFRAIN

Christopher Walker



Refrain: Leader

Refrain: All

Proper Verse: Leader

*One does not live by bread alone, but by every word
that comes from the mouth of God.*

Refrain: All

The gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: Luke 4:1-13

After being filled with the Holy Spirit at his baptism, Jesus is led in the wilderness. Through his responses to the temptations of the devil, he defines what it means to be called “the Son of God.”

¹Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, ²where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over, he was famished. ³The devil said to him, “If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread.” ⁴Jesus answered him, “It is written, ‘One does not live by bread alone.’”

⁵Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. ⁶And the devil said to him, “To you I will give their glory and all this authority; for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please. ⁷If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours.” ⁸Jesus answered him, “It is written, ‘Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.’”

⁹Then the devil took him to Jerusalem, and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, “If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, ¹⁰for it is written,

‘He will command his angels concerning you, to protect you,’ ¹¹and ‘On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.’”

¹²Jesus answered him, “It is said, ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’” ¹³When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Hymn of the Day:

Guide My Feet

Stanza 1: Choir

Stanzas 2, 3, 4, 5: All

Leader All

1 Guide my feet
2 Hold my hand
3 Stand by me while I run this race.
4 I'm your child
5 Search my heart

Yes, my Lord!

Guide my feet
Hold my hand
Stand by me while I run this race.
I'm your child
Search my heart

Yes, my Lord!

Guide my feet
Hold my hand
Stand by me while I run this race,
I'm your child
Search my heart

for I don't want to run this race in vain.

Text: African American spiritual
Music: GUIDE MY FEET, African American spiritual; arr. *This Far by Faith*
Arr. © 1999 Augsburg Fortress

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The Prayers of the People:

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

Drawn close to the heart of God, we offer these prayers for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

#1 Loving God, we pray for all the people of Ukraine, for those suffering or afraid: for the children, mothers and fathers, brothers and sisters, for the old and infirm, for those too innocent to understand. Stay close to all of them and protect them in this time of crisis. Remember, also, those around the world who have relatives or friends in Ukraine and comfort their fears and worries. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

#2 Heavenly father, be with our world leaders and help them to listen as we, the people of God, voice our longings and desire for peace. Unite all nations in this important quest and guide us to put any other differences aside. Lead our rulers to honor the worth of all people and open their eyes and ours to the way of peace. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

#3 As this holy season of Lent begins, be with each of us as we seek guidance in our journey of repentance, prayer, and the works of love. Walk beside us during the next six weeks as we strive to move closer to you. Merciful God,
receive 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 Craig & Jenni, GerryAnn & Wayne, Kurt, Brendan & Lisa (Elizabeth & Meghan), Dave & Jennifer, Christina (Annika), Griffin, and Maribeth. We also pray for our brothers and sisters in our twinned parish in Shurugwi, Zimbabwe. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

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

We pray for those in need of healing, especially:

- Tom who is recovering at home after hospitalization following a fall on 2/23
- Jim, brother of Phyllis, who began radiation 3/1 for throat cancer
- Sandy, sister of Susie who is recovering from surgery for a broken hip after a fall on 2/27
- Michael (brother-in-law of Ron, Kitty's brother) who is entering hospice care following a heart attack
- 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 on our voice.

Silence for people to offer their prayers

Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Accept the prayers we bring, O God, on behalf of a world in need, for the sake of Jesus Christ.

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:
I Want Jesus

African-American spiritual
arr. Jester Hairston

The Chancel Choir (Jim Jefferis, director)

Offertory:

Create in Me a Clean Heart

Or

H. R. K. From FREYLINGHAUSEN.

Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God; and re-new a right

The first system of musical notation consists of a treble and bass staff. The treble staff has a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat) and a 3/2 time signature. The bass staff has a key signature of three flats (B-flat, E-flat, and A-flat) and a 3/2 time signature. The lyrics are written below the treble staff.

spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from Thy pres-ence;

The second system of musical notation continues the piece. It features the same treble and bass staves and key signature as the first system. The lyrics are written below the treble staff.

and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re-store un-to me the

The third system of musical notation continues the piece. It features the same treble and bass staves and key signature as the first system. The lyrics are written below the treble staff.

joy of Thy sal - va - tion; and up-hold me with Thy free Spir - it.

The fourth and final system of musical notation concludes the piece. It features the same treble and bass staves and key signature as the first system. The lyrics are written below the treble staff.

Offertory Prayer:

Let us pray. Gracious God,

we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us – ourselves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake who offered himself for us, 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:

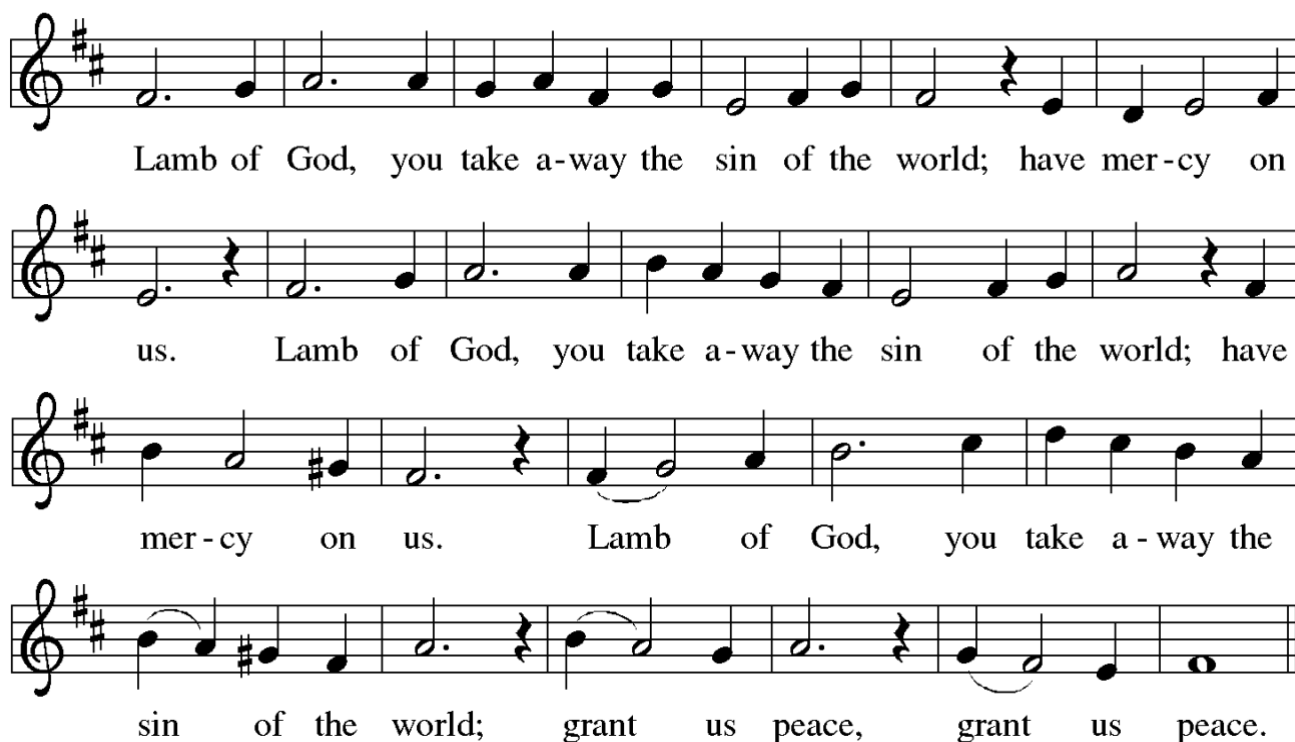
Here is food and drink for the journey. Take and be filled.

Thanks be to God!

Distribution of Communion:

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

The Communion:




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

Hymn sung during communion:

Breathe on Me, Breath of God (see music on the following page) LBW 488

Breathe on Me, Breath of God



1 Breathe on me, breath of God; fill me with life a - new,
2 Breathe on me, breath of God, un - til my heart is pure,
3 Breathe on me, breath of God; so shall I nev - er die,



that I may love all that you love and do what you would do.
un - til with you I will one will to do and to en - dure.
but live with you the per - fect life of your e - ter - ni - ty.

Text: Edwin Hatch, 1835–1889
Music: DURHAM, Aaron Williams, 1731–1776

Hymn sung during communion:
I Am the Bread of Life ELW 485

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:

Sending Hymn: Eternal Lord of Love, Behold Your Church ELW 321

Benediction:

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

Amen.

Dismissal:

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude:

Ach, was sol lich Sünder Machen

Johann Pachelbel

(O How Great Is Thy Compassion)

Variations V, VI

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 (3/6):

- 8:55 am Worship with Communion (in-person and livestream)
- 10:15 am Faith Formation
 - pre-K to 5th grade gathers in the Sunday School Wing
 - 6th-8th grade gathers in the Confirmation room
- 10:15 am Book Study (Fellowship Hall or Zoom)
- 11:15 am Children's Choir (Choir Room)
- 6:00 pm Youth Night for 6th – 12th grade (LYO Room)

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Calendar for March 6 – March 13

(Last updated on 3/2/22 at 12 noon, visit <https://blcfairport.org/event-directory/> for updates)

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
11:15 am Children's Choir
6:00 pm Youth Night (for grades 6-12, RSVP requested)

Monday, 3/7

Tuesday, 3/8

6:15 pm M&SC Meeting ([Join](#) via Zoom – ID 812 1431 6292)
6:30 pm BSA Troop 2019 Meeting

Wednesday, 3/9

9:30 am Bible Study – ([Join](#) via Zoom – ID 943 3691 2942)
12:00 pm Pause for Prayer on Facebook Live
5:45 pm Chancel Bells
6:15 pm Folk Group
6:15 pm Sabbath Conversation (In-person or [Join](#) via Zoom – ID 832 6893 0474)
7:00 pm Holden Evening Prayer Service (in person and livestream)
7:45 pm Chancel Choir

Thursday, 3/10

10:30 am Share Our Blessings Meeting ([Join](#) via Zoom – ID 868 9069 7840)
11:30 am Holy Week Liturgical Planning
6:00 pm Girl Scout Troop Meeting

Friday, 3/11

Pastor's Sabbath
2:30 pm Dulcimer Group Rehearsal

Saturday, 3/12

9:15 am BLC Property Committee

Sunday, 3/13

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
11:15 am Children's Choir
12:30 pm 2nd Sunday Dinner Ministry (delivery only)

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.

An Identity on Which We Can Rely

In Luke's gospel, the story of Jesus' temptation comes immediately after his baptism and a lengthy listing of his ancestors. Both help confirm the identity of Jesus as the Messiah and the Son of God. Now Jesus is led into the wilderness, where his identity is put to the test by the devil. The specific temptations are in some ways secondary to the question that introduces two of them. Twice the devil asks, "If you are the Son of God . . ." (Luke 4:3, 9), perhaps implying that the devil believes he knows better than Jesus what it means to be God's Son. But Jesus, "full of the Holy Spirit," is able to stand firm in his identity and deny the devil's attempts to redefine who he is.

In our baptisms, we too are given the identity of God's child, and we are given the presence of the Holy Spirit. Our baptisms do not protect us from temptation, even as Jesus himself endured temptation. However, in our baptisms we are given an identity that can help us endure the temptations and the challenges that our lives are bound to include. Baptism gives us the confidence to trust that our identity is defined by our relationship to God, and not by anything else. In this confidence, we can accept our failures and shortcomings and live boldly in a manner that seeks to emulate Christ's own life.