

How often
have I desired
to gather your
children together
as a hen gathers
her brood
under her wings

LUKE13:34

Sunday, March 13, 2022
Second Sunday in Lent



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, March 13, 2022 ~ *Second Sunday in Lent*

Prelude:

Celui qui se laisse guider par le Dieu bien-aimé
(He that Suffereth God to Guide Him)

Marcel Dupré

Auf meinen lieben Gott
(In God, My Faithful God)

Johann Christoph Bach

Though we sometimes doubt and often resist God's desire to protect and save us, our God persists. In holy baptism, God's people have been called and gathered into a God-initiated relationship that will endure. Lent provides the church with a time and a tradition in which to seek God's face again. Lent provides another occasion to behold the God of our salvation in the face of the Blessed One who "comes in the name of the Lord."

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 God of Abraham Praise

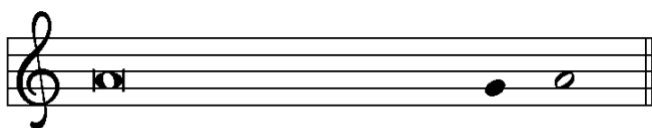
ELW 831

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.

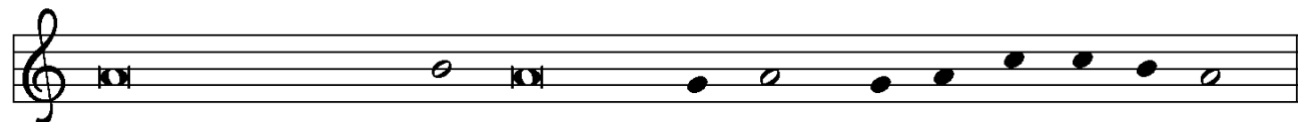
Kyrie:



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.



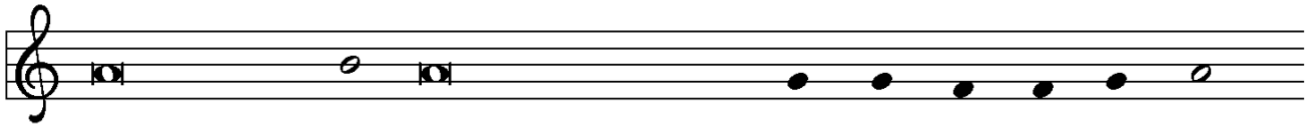
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



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. God of the covenant, in the mystery of the cross you promise everlasting life to the world. Gather all peoples into your arms, and shelter us with your mercy, that we may rejoice in the life we share in your Son, 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

Reading: Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18

God promises a childless and doubting Abram that he will have a child, that his descendants will be as numerous as the stars, and that the land of Canaan will be their inheritance. Abram’s trust in God is sealed with a covenant-making ceremony, a sign of God’s promise.

¹After these things the word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision, “Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great.” ²But Abram said, “O Lord God, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?” ³And Abram said, “You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir.” ⁴But the word of the Lord came to him, “This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir.” ⁵He brought him outside and said, “Look toward heaven

and count the stars, if you are able to count them.” Then he said to him, “So shall your descendants be.” ⁶And he believed the Lord; and the Lord reckoned it to him as righteousness.

⁷Then he said to him, “I am the Lord who brought you from Ur of the Chaldeans, to give you this land to possess.” ⁸But he said, “O Lord God, how am I to know that I shall possess it?” ⁹He said to him, “Bring me a heifer three years old, a female goat three years old, a ram three years old, a turtledove, and a young pigeon.” ¹⁰He brought him all these and cut them in two, laying each half over against the other; but he did not cut the birds in two. ¹¹And when birds of prey came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away.

¹²As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram, and a deep and terrifying darkness descended upon him.

¹⁷When the sun had gone down and it was dark, a smoking fire pot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces. ¹⁸On that day the Lord made a covenant with Abram, saying, “To your descendants I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates.”

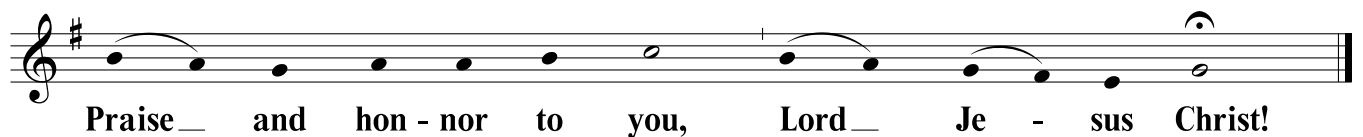
The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation:

REFRAIN

Christopher Walker



Refrain: Leader

Refrain: All

Proper Verse: Leader

The Son of Man must be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

Refrain: All

The gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: Luke 13:31-35

Neither Herod's plotting nor Jerusalem's resistance to maternal love will deter Jesus from his sacrificial mission.

³¹At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to [Jesus,] “Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you.” ³²He said to them, “Go and tell that fox for me, ‘Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work. ³³Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed outside of Jerusalem.’ ³⁴Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! ³⁵See, your house is left to you. And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say, ‘Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.’”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Hymn of the Day:

Thy Holy Wings

ELW 613

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 We are sorry for the times that we turn away from you in guilt or anger, in fear or pride. Thank you that you are always more ready to turn to us than we are to turn to you; more ready to forgive than we are to confess; more ready to heal than we are to come for healing. As we bring this patch of darkness to you, flood us with your light and healing. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

#2 Lord, thank you for pledging your Word to us and then keeping it. Forgive us for the times when we have failed to keep our promises. Help us to trust you in the times when we are waiting for you to fulfill your promises, but don't see the answer yet. Help us to be steady in faith like Abram. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

#3 Lord, help us to make every Sabbath about you. Quiet our hearts, give rest to our souls, and refocus our spirit – for true renewal comes only from you. Help us to be intentional with our time and worship, and encourage us to find rest in you alone. 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: Desiree, Marjorie, Glen & Jane, Marcy & Tom, and Brian & Melissa (Delaney, Emelia & Noah). We also pray for our sisters and brothers in our twinned parish in Shurugwi, Zimbabwe. Merciful God,
receive 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 who are grieving, especially the family and friends of:

- Michael (brother-in-law of Ron) who died on 3/4

We pray for those in need of healing, especially:

- Julie (family friend of Kim) who is undergoing chemotherapy
- Rev. Rob (former pastor and friend of Andy)
- Jim, brother of Phyllis, who began radiation 3/1 for throat cancer
- Sandy (sister of Susie) who is recovering from hip surgery after a fall on 2/27
- Tom who is recovering at home after hospitalization following a fall on 2/23
- 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:

His Eye Is on the Sparrow

words: Civilla D. Martin
music: Charles H. Gabriel
arr. Mark Hayes

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

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

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

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

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 of him 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:
Beneath the Cross of Jesus

ELW 338

assisted by The BLC Dulcimers (Rich Towsley, director)

Mothering God, You Gave Me Birth

ELW 735

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:

Christ, the Life of All the Living

ELW 339

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:

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

EIN FESTE BURG

setting: Murray C. Bradshaw

***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 (3/13):

- 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)

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Calendar for March 13 – March 20

(Last updated on 3/16/22 at 12 noon, visit <https://blcfairport.org/event-directory/> for updates)

Sunday, 3/13

Daylight Savings

Time begins!

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)

Monday, 3/14

1:00 pm Ruth Circle

Tuesday, 3/15

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

Wednesday, 3/16

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
6:00 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, 3/17

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

Friday, 3/18

Pastor's Sabbath
2:30 pm Dulcimer
Group Rehearsal

Saturday, 3/19

Sunday, 3/20

100th Anniversary Sunday

8:55 am Worship with
Communion with guest
musician Sarah
Hawbecker (in-person
and livestream)
10:15 am 100th
Anniversary Sanctuary
conversation with
recorded greeting from
Rev. Paul Adler and
Q&A with Sarah
(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

Pastor Amy is away March 14-19.

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.

Purpose and Perseverance

This week's gospel text from Luke presents another temptation for Jesus. The Pharisees approach Jesus with a warning about his safety, telling him to "get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you" (Luke 13:31). Not only do the Pharisees want Jesus to leave, but one can assume they also want Jesus to stop doing what he was doing: speaking against the Pharisees, teaching about God, and healing on the sabbath. We know the Pharisees are "very hostile" (Luke 11:53) toward Jesus, so we can conclude that their warning is not a genuine expression of concern but rather an attempt to stop his mission and ministry.

However, Jesus will not be distracted or turned away from his purpose, even if that includes moving toward his own death in Jerusalem. In Jesus' ability to fulfill his purpose, even in the midst of opposition, we find inspiration as we seek to live our lives in concert with God's purposes. As Christians, Jesus' purpose is our purpose. The church, the body of Christ, doesn't exist for itself. Rather, the church exists to be a partner with God in God's mission to love, bless, and reconcile the world.