



Sunday, April 3, 2022

"Your roots will grow down into God's love and keep you strong. And may you have the power to understand, as all God's people should, how wide, how long and how deep his love is."

Ephesians 3:17b-18 (NLT)



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 in the narthex and place it in the basket. We will follow up with you.

Sunday, April 3, 2022 ~ Fifth Sunday in Lent
Anniversary Sunday



Prelude:

O Mensch, beweine dein Sünde gross, BWV 622
(O man, bewail thy sin so great)

Johann Sebastian Bach
(1685 – 1750)

O Lamm Gottes, unschuldig, BWV 618
(O Lamb of God, innocent)

Just as I Am, without One Plea

WOODWORTH
arr. Dale Wood
(1934 – 2003)

Dr. Mark Coffey, guest organist

Each anniversary Sunday celebration is an opportunity to remember the ways that our worship is rooted in the past, even as we are growing together and sharing in faith today. For the season of Lent, we are using a familiar liturgical setting (#2 from the Lutheran Book of Worship published in 1978) including parts that date back at least to the Common Service Book (published in 1917 and used at the founding of BLC). Our offertory each week, "Create in Me" is from this hymnal but likely familiar to your ears today as it is also found in our current hymnal (ELW). Today's worship also features a number of hymns that are listed as "BLC Favorites" – those hymns BLC worshipers counted among your favorites when asked in spring of 2020.

Our God makes all things new. In the gospel Mary anticipates this, anointing Jesus' feet with costly perfume in preparation for the day of his burial. In the reading from Philippians, Paul recalls his transformation from the persecutor Saul into an apostle. In baptism, God's new person (you!) rises daily from the deadly mire of trespasses and sins.

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:



God is Here

ELW 526

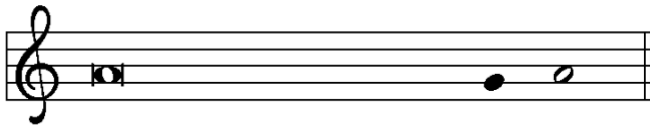
(This hymn is a favorite of Pastor Garner)

Greeting:

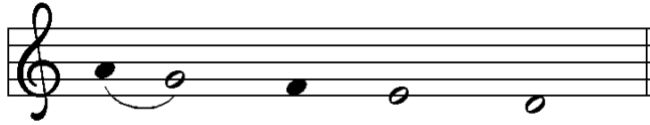
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

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.



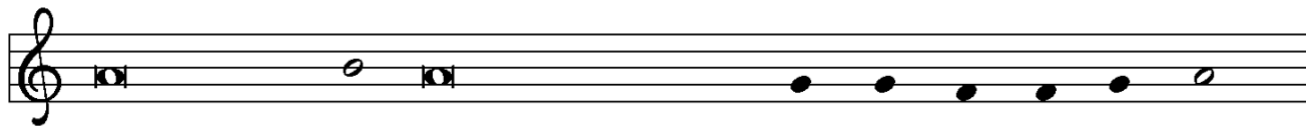
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



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. Creator God, you prepare a new way in the wilderness, and your grace waters our desert. Open our hearts to be transformed by the new thing you are doing, that our lives may proclaim the extravagance of your love given to all through 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

Reading: Philippians 3:4b-14

Writing to Christians in Philippi, Paul admits that his heritage and reputation could give him more reason than most people to place confidence in his spiritual pedigree. But the overwhelming grace of God in Jesus calls Paul to a new set of values.

[Paul writes:] ^{4b}If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: ⁵circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; ⁶as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

⁷Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. ⁸More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ ⁹and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. ¹⁰I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, ¹¹if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

¹²Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. ¹³Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

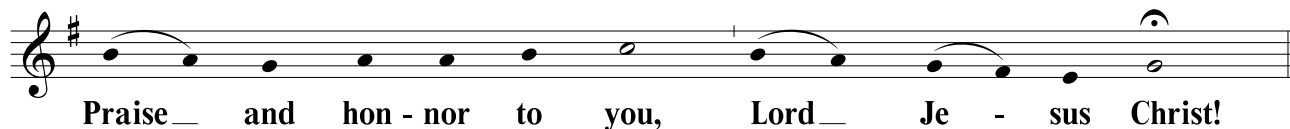
The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation:

REFRAIN

Christopher Walker



Refrain: Leader

Refrain: All

Proper Verse: Leader

*Forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead,
I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.*

Refrain: All

The gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: John 12:1-8

Judas willfully misinterprets as waste Mary's extravagant act of anointing Jesus' feet with costly perfume. Jesus recognizes that her lavish gift is both an expression of love and an anticipation of his burial.

¹Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. ²There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with him. ³Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus' feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. ⁴But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, ⁵"Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?" ⁶(He said this not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief; he kept the common purse and used to steal what was put into it.) ⁷Jesus said, "Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. ⁸You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Hymn of the Day:



Christ is Made the Sure Foundation

ELW 645

(This hymn is a favorite of Pastor Garner)

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 Do a new thing in the church. Free us from paradigms that no longer serve the gospel and bring forward leaders who imagine fresh ways of doing ministry. Give us courage in the face of change. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

#2 Do a new thing in our world. Break barriers that prevent political enemies from working together for the well-being of all. Make a way for peace and collaboration among the nations. We pray especially for the people of Ukraine and all who are living the devastating consequences of war. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

#3 Do a new thing within us. Direct us into encounters that broaden our understanding of the human experience. Amplify voices that are ignored or devalued. Deliver us especially from the scourge of racism. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Do a new thing in our community. Help us to notice and support one another through the joy and challenges we each bring into this fellowship. Today we pray especially for these members and friends of Bethlehem and their families: Hays & Karen, Heidi, Chris, Donna & Jim, Danielle (Niyen & Zenobia). We also pray for our sisters and brothers in our twinned parish in Shurugwi, Zimbabwe.

We lift up prayers of thanksgiving for:

- The safe delivery and birth of Oscar Cole Goehle, son of Todd and Theresa Goehle, grandson of Sandy Goehle, nephew of Carol Schrader, on March 28

Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Do a new thing for those who suffer. Reveal a path for any who are unemployed or underemployed, for those experiencing homelessness, and for all who struggle with money. Comfort those who grieve and restore those who are sick, especially:

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

- Elenore whose memorial service will be held on 4/7
- Michael (dear family friend of Hans) who died on 3/24
- Desmin (brother of Niyen who is the son of Danielle) who died tragically on 3/21
- Patricia (sister of Ginny) who died on 3/21
- Paul (father Haley who is a member of BSA Troop 2019) who died unexpectedly
- Mildred (friend of Ron & Kitty) who died on 3/20

We pray for those in need of healing, especially:

- Tom who has been hospitalized with a fever
- Art who is hospitalized
- Ning (friend of Chris) who will have heart surgery on 3/31
- Lorie (friend of David and Marsha) as she faces a new cancer diagnosis and undergoes significant treatment
- Mary (mother of Jeff) who suffered a stroke
- Those who are caregivers for loved ones
- Those who are ill from Coronavirus and all who care for them

Hear also these prayers we offer on our lips or in our hearts...

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:

Thou Hidden Love of God

words: Gerhard Tersteegen

tr. John Wesley

music: J. Aaron McDermid

based on *VATER UNSER*

Dr. Brandon Johnson, guest conductor
The Chancel Choir Susan DePasquale, piano

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:



Just As I Am, without One Plea

ELW 592

(This hymn is a BLC favorite)

Hymn sung during communion:



He Leadeth Me

SBH 478

(This hymn is a BLC favorite)

See Music Insert

Hymn sung during communion:

Jesus, the Very Thought of You

ELW 754

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:	In the Cross of Christ I Glory	ELW 324
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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:



Praeludium in G Minor, BuxWV 149

Dietrich Buxtehude

(c. 1637 – 1707)

Dr. Mark Coffey, guest organist

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. Today we are pleased to welcome Rev. Dr. Kent Garner, joined by wife, Linda, Dr. Mark Coffey and wife, Karen, and Dr. Brandon Johnson in their return as our April Anniversary Sunday guests. We thank them for their leadership in worship and their participation in our 100th Anniversary celebration. In addition, a special welcome to all those former member and friends who have joined us this morning. Welcome back! Their presence reminds us that we are connected to each other and to BLC even though we may be separated by time and distance. Read more about our guests in the bulletin and please plan to greet them at the Q&A session in the sanctuary following worship.

Rev. Dr. Kent H. Garner



Pastor Garner began his ministry at BLC as Senior Pastor on All Saints' Sunday, November 1977 and served faithfully until his retirement from the ministry on All Saints' Sunday, November 2008.

Pastor Garner graduated from Capital University in Columbus, OH in 1966 with a Bachelor of Arts in History. He also received a Master of Divinity from the Evangelical Lutheran Theological Seminary with honors (1970), Master of Theology from Pittsburgh

Theological Seminary with honors (1976), and Doctor of Ministry from Trinity Seminary (1992).

Pastor Garner's first call was to St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Canonsburg, PA where he served from September 1970 until October 1977. He then answered the call from BLC, where he ministered for 31 years.

Pastor Garner shares that his "memories are too many to enumerate and too fuzzy to recall." He guided BLC during a period of tremendous growth. He lists among his accomplishments growing the parish from 100 worshipping per Sunday to 425 per Sunday, four major remodel/ expansion projects, and developing a staff ministry. He is "most grateful to all the wonderful people who allowed me to be a part of their lives."

He and wife, Linda, currently reside in Fort Myers, FL and worship at Peace Lutheran Church. They have two children. Marc and wife, Meghan, are parents to Brayden and Noah. Kari and husband Jason Carey also have two sons, Jacob and Bryce. Linda, plans to accompany Pastor Garner when he returns to lead us in worship during our anniversary celebration.



Dr. Mark Coffey



Dr. Coffey served as Director of Choirs and Organist at Bethlehem Lutheran Church from 1981-1984.

After completing his Bachelor's degree in Music Education at Towson State University, Baltimore, MD, where he was later honored with a Distinguished Alumnus Award, he earned Master of Music and Doctor of Musical Arts degrees in Organ Performance and Literature at the Eastman School of Music. Dr.

Coffey studied organ with Richard Wegner and David Craighead and has worked with such noted choral conductors as Sir David Willcocks, Kenneth Jennings, Ann Jones, Anton Armstrong, Daniel Moe and Rene Clausen. He recently retired as Director of Music and Organist at First Presbyterian Church, Gainesville FL, where he oversaw an extensive music and fine arts ministry.

Dr. Coffey is a founding member of the Gainesville Chapter of the American Guild of Organists where he has served as dean. He has presented concerts throughout the United States. He has also served as organ consultant for churches in the Southeast.

Dr. Coffey and his wife, Karen, who met during his time at BLC, have three grown daughters. Stacy, an ER nurse in Denver, CO, and her husband, Cody Rutherford, are parents to sons Wyatt and Wade. Rachel teaches Special Education in Gainesville. Madeleine, an ICU nurse in Gainesville, and husband, Seth Harrington, have one son, Finn. Karen plans to accompany Dr. Coffey when he serves as guest organist during our anniversary celebration.

A Personal Story from First Presbyterian Church, Gainesville, FL:

On a Monday morning, with the sanctuary at First Presbyterian Church of Gainesville, FL empty and locked, Mark Coffey sits quietly at the church organ and plays a thank-you song to God. It's Mendelssohn's Sonata No. 6. With his hands at the keys and his feet on the pedals, he mans the tiny control station that pushes wind through the 2,930 pipes that scale the back wall of the sanctuary. The sound echoes and cascades through the arches and pews normally filled by pious listeners.

The organ is a colossal instrument in comparison to its operator, an appropriate juxtaposition for the music that's defined Coffey's life: much bigger than himself.

"The function of music is to worship God," Coffey said. "There are moments that, through an anthem or hymn, I feel closer to God." Coffey has been the music director at the First Presbyterian Church since 1984. He's helped nurture the spirits and souls of the congregation for well over a quarter century by leading worship and choirs, conducting music camps and performing organ concerts. The congregation at First Presbyterian Church is very appreciative of his dedication to their lives. The parishioners see him as a humble, servant man who declines drawing attention to himself.

During his time at First Presbyterian, Coffey has helped lead adult and children's choirs, promoted and organized joint community concerts with choirs from other churches and the University of Florida, played in special solo and ensemble performances for the church and led worship every Sunday. He is responsible for spearheading the purchase of the church's C.B. Fisk Opus 119 organ, a \$1 million instrument. Coffey says it should last as long as the church.

Music is the way Coffey connects to others and his faith, through the mystifying and sometimes incomprehensible sound of the organ. As a 5-year-old, he remembers sitting in the pews of Immanuel Lutheran Church in Baltimore, Md., with a direct-line view of the organ. He consulted the music director and began learning the basics of piano and organ. By age 16, he was leading worship. After majoring in music education at Towson University in Maryland, he moved to Rochester, N.Y., for graduate school, where he served as Director of Choirs and Organist at Bethlehem Lutheran Church from 1981-1984, when he moved to Gainesville. First Presbyterian Church has kept him here, he said. "I have been nurtured by this congregation, and they've motivated me to refine and perfect my craft,"



But for a man who's never played pop music, art always boils back to faith, which is why First Presbyterian has been not only a workplace but a home.

“When I’m here, it’s a good reminder of what my role is,” he said. “I’m helping people carry on a message from God.”

In Pastor Kent Garner’s 1984 Annual Report, he wrote the following about Mark Coffey:

“A major event happened in our parish when Mark Coffey, our Music Director for the past four years, took a position in Gainesville, Florida in October. Mark’s ministry will be greatly missed. He not only made worship come alive each Sunday as he accompanied liturgy and music, but he also taught our choirs a great deal about music... and praise! Also, behind the scenes, no one realizes how much Mark gave of himself to our Worship Committee and in particular, the Organ Research Sub-Committee. For three years Mark donated his time to help us plan for our future. He took us to other churches, he taught us about the instrument, he even drove to Vermont to meet the builder. Mark was a great asset to our ministry; he will be missed.”



Dr. Brandon Johnson

Dr. Johnson was the Director of the Chancel Choir at Bethlehem from 2003 – 2008. He is currently the Director of Choral Activities at Eastern Michigan University in Ypsilanti, MI and the artistic director and conductor of the Detroit Concert Choir.

Dr. Johnson received his Bachelor of Music in Music Education from Concordia College, in Moorhead, MN and both his Master of Music and Doctor of Music in Choral Conducting from the University of

Arizona in Tucson.

Dr. Johnson founded and was the artistic director of the emerging professional vocal ensemble Vox Lumine, based in Western NY. He has conducted professional musicians across the United States while maintaining his extensive work with students of all ages. He has performed in venues across the country including Lincoln Center's Alice Tully Hall and the Kennedy Center. He made his conducting debut at the renowned Carnegie Hall in March 2014 with the National Sacred Honor Choir.

Dr. Johnson has studied with German conductor Helmuth Rilling and was selected to conduct the Grammy-winning Oregon Bach Festival Chorus and Orchestra. In recent years, he has received invitations to conduct the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra Chorus, Buffalo Choral Artists, Rochester Oratorio Society, Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra, Syracuse Symphony, Cordancia and The Southern Tier Symphony. In addition to working with musicians in the US, he has conducted singers from Austria, China, Czech Republic, France, Germany, Hong Kong, Hungary, Italy, Kazakhstan, Romania, Russia, South Korea, Spain, and the Ukraine.

Choirs under his direction have been invited to perform, and he has been selected to present, for state and regional American Choral Directors Association (ACDA) and the National Association for Music Education conferences. As a conducting instructor, his students have been invited to

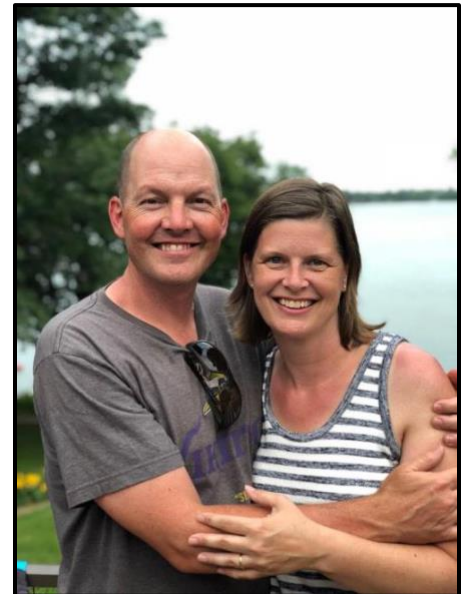
participate in the ACDA National Conducting Competition in both the undergraduate and graduate divisions.

Dr. Johnson has served the New York State chapter of ACDA in many capacities, most recently as president. He works tirelessly as a guest conductor, lecturer, and clinician for singers of all ages and seeks to raise the level of choral music across America.

Respected by his faculty colleagues he has been awarded multiple teaching and artistic awards. At Eastern Michigan University he was selected to receive the Ronald W. Collins Distinguished Faculty Creative Activity Award, the highest honor the University presents to an individual faculty member. While at Houghton College in Houghton, NY, he was presented the Excellence in Teaching Award, and was the inaugural recipient of the first fully endowed chair at Houghton College, the Horne-Blanchard.

Dr. Johnson and his wife, Danielle, have three teenage children, daughter Marit, and twin sons, Luke and Quin. They also foster a teenage refugee daughter, Maria. They live in Saline, MI, and worship at Trinity Lutheran Church in Ann Arbor.

Dr. Johnson shares his memories about his time at BLC: “The strong connections with the members of the choir. They were so ready to help and strive musically. In addition to our musical work, my faith was strengthened by the sermons of Pastor Garner. He seemed to find a way to challenge me into action each week. We were so warmly received by the congregation and cherished our time at BLC. We loved every minute.”



Happening today (4/3):

100th Anniversary Sunday!

- 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
- *No Book Study today*
- 10:15 am Anniversary Sanctuary conversation with Q&A with our guests (in-person and livestream)
- 11:15 am Children's Choir (Choir Room)

Descant by John Scott @ 2012 Oxford University Press

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Calendar for April 3 – April 10

(Last updated on 3/23/22 at 12 noon, visit <https://blcfairport.org/event-directory/> for updates)

Sunday, 4/3

100th Anniversary Sunday

8:55 am Worship with
Communion with guests:
Rev. Dr. Kent Garner, Dr.
Mark Coffey & Dr.
Brandon Johnson (in-
person and livestream)
10:15 am 100th
Anniversary Q&A and
conversation with guests
(in-person
and livestream)
10:15 am Faith
Formation
11:15 am Children's
Choir
6:00 pm Youth Group (for
grades 6-12, RSVP
requested)

Monday, 4/4

Tuesday, 4/5

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

Wednesday, 4/6

8:00 am Men's Breakfast
at The Landmark
Restaurant
9:30 am Bible Study –
(in-person or
[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, 4/7

10:30 am Memorial Service
for Elenore Bulau
6:30 pm Officers
([Join](#) via Zoom –
ID 836 2369 6315)
7:00 pm BLC Quilters

Friday, 4/8

Pastor's Sabbath

2:30 pm Dulcimer
Group Rehearsal

Saturday, 4/9

9:15 am BLC Property
Committee

Sunday, 4/10

Palm Sunday

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 100th Anniversary
Tree Planting
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.

100th Anniversary reflection on SHARING by Jim Berner

We have been ROOTED IN CHRIST, GROWN IN FAITH and SHARING GOD'S LOVE. It occurs to me that Rooted and Growing are valuable introspective traits or activities. Sharing becomes an act that is by nature a personal community activity. We develop personally by being rooted and growing in faith. Sharing opens us to the world, to others, to all of God's creation.

What does it mean to share? How do we share? Is it mechanical? Donna and I have made our offering to the church simple and automatic by using Tithe.ly. It just comes out of the account and I don't even think about it. So, did we share?

Is the act of sharing meaningful? To whom? To us? Or to the recipient? Did our sharing have value? We raised our boys with the concept that money is a good tool, beyond that, it can create a good deal of evil. Is it meaningful to God?

Where is God in our act of sharing? Do we lament over the amount of money we have given? Do we give or share that which we don't need or what is left over? Can we give and share what ever is needed, with out any consideration for amounts, value or length of time? Can we ignore the urge to be proud with ourselves for what is shared?

It is compelling to me that sharing is an act of God through us. All of the pride, amount, things are immaterial in the ACT of sharing; we are charged to SHARE GOD'S LOVE, through us to the world. For it is not the material value that I share that is of value to me. It is the ACT of that sharing that brings the value of God's family to me and me to them in relationship. Sharing God through US, right before your very eyes. Sometimes God is there at the tips of my fingers, and I don't even see it.

What does the Lord require of you? Seek justice, love kindness and walk humbly with your God. Micah 6:8

