



WORSHIP



GROW



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CARE



SERVE

Weekly STAR for April 10, 2022

Palm/Passion Sunday



BETHLEHEM
LUTHERAN CHURCH

WEEKLY
star



Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

As we prepare for worship this weekend, consider reading this week's lessons along with this reflection to ground yourself in the Word. This reflection comes from sundaysandseasons.com and is also printed on the back of the worship bulletin.

A Place with Jesus

The movement of Palm and Passion Sunday—from shouts of praise to words of denial and cries for crucifixion—mirrors the path of discipleship. The lives of Jesus' followers hang in the balance between faithfulness and betrayal. For Peter, the act of denial is subtle and insidious. He claims not to know Jesus; he claims to have no place as his disciple. On the surface it is seemingly harmless. It happens, and then is over in a moment. In reality, the harm is deep and lasting. Subtle but harmful denial happens in a split second as disciples compromise faith for the sake of self-protection—as they're too embarrassed to give thanks; as someone knows how to help but fails to do so because it's inconvenient; as resources are hoarded. While Peter withholds everything for his own sake, Jesus, for the sake of others, withholds nothing. As disciples fail to claim their place with Jesus, Jesus' embrace claims them. From the cross, Jesus offers mercy wide enough to claim even those who do not know what they do.

ARE YOU READY FOR HOLY WEEK WORSHIP?

(All listings are in-person and online unless noted otherwise)

Palm Sunday, 4/10
8:55 am Worship with Communion

Maundy Thursday, 4/14
7:00 pm Worship with Communion

Good Friday, 4/15
12-3 pm Sanctuary Open
7:00 pm Stations of the Cross

Easter Sunday, 4/17
7:30 am Outdoor Service (in-person only)
8:55 am Worship with Communion



Worship the Living God

Lessons for Sunday, 4/10
Philippians 2:5-11; Luke 22:14-23:56

Lessons for Sunday, 4/17
Acts 10: 34-43; Luke 24:1-12

Altar Flowers: Do you enjoy seeing flowers on the altar? Flowers may be donated to memorialize or celebrate a special event or person. *Contact the church office to place your order!*

★ Don't forget to look for this **star icon (★)** to easily identify the newest information each week

★ **The Word Podcast:** Listen to Sunday's gospel and sermon each week. Visit <https://blcfairport.org/the-word/> to listen and subscribe on Spotify, Google Podcasts, Amazon or Apple Podcasts.

Holy Week at BLC: Visit [Share in Worship](#) for information on how to participate in the livestream.

- **April 10, Palm/Passion Sunday**
8:55 am – Palm/Passion Sunday worship with Holy Communion, in-person and livestreamed
Share in our processional “parade” by sharing a picture or short video of yourself waving a palm branch!
These will be shown as we raise our palm branches and sing!
- **April 14, Maundy Thursday**
7 pm – Maundy Thursday with Holy Communion, in-person and livestreamed
- **April 15, Good Friday**
12 – 3 pm – Private prayer and silent devotion in the Bethlehem sanctuary. (Enter through the Perrin Street lift entrance.)
7 pm – Stations of the Cross, in-person and livestreamed
- **April 17, Easter Sunday**
7:30 am – Gather outdoors at Bethlehem to celebrate the resurrection of our Lord with word, prayer, and communion! This outdoor gathering (rain or shine!) will not be livestreamed.
8:55 am – Festive Easter Celebration with Holy Communion, in-person and livestreamed

100th Anniversary News

100
YEARS

What a glorious anniversary service last Sunday as we welcomed three returning guests to help us celebrate 100 years! Rev. Dr. Kent Garner and Dr. Mark Coffey came from Florida and Dr. Brandon Johnson traveled from Michigan to lead our April Anniversary Sunday worship. We are blessed by their faithful service through the years and thank them for their participation in our celebration!

Please join us after worship this Sunday at the corner of Perrin and Church Streets as we plant our Anniversary Tree. The children are invited to participate by helping with the planting. Our pastors will lead us in prayer as we dedicate the tree to mark the occasion of our 100th Anniversary. The Planning Committee thanks Brian Edwards for overseeing this event. May BLC grow strong like the tree into the next one hundred years.

SCHEDULE NOTE: Rev. Theodore Schulz, our scheduled guest for April 24 will not be participating due to Covid concerns. Rev. Schulz is the grandson of our first pastor Rev. Henry D. Schulz and his wife Minnie (our first organist and choir Director) who served faithfully at Bethlehem from 1922-1936.

Our 100th Anniversary Prism Concert, an exceptional evening of music, is planned for Friday, April 29 at 7 pm in the sanctuary. The format will be a little different: an individual/musical group will perform one after another, each from a different location in the sanctuary. There will be a continuous offering of music and entertainment with no interruptions or clapping; applause is reserved until the conclusion of the concert. This is a wonderful opportunity to invite a neighbor, coworker, or friend to enjoy an evening of music.

Grow in Faith and Discipleship

Faith Formation in April: Pre-K to 5th grade and Confirmation (6-8th grade) will be in the Sunday School wing on **April 10, and 24** at 10:15 am! Please note, there will not be Faith Formation on Easter Sunday, April 17. See the Live Section for info on the Youth Group night event on 5/1.

Lenten Book Study on Sabbath... Join us for the last Sunday at 10:15 am on **April 10**. Gather in-person or over Zoom for a book/Bible study facilitated by Pastor Dave Gerhardt. Together, we will read portions of Sabbath: *Finding Rest, Renewal, and Delight in our Busy Lives*, by Wayne Muller. Discussion on the book sections on “Wisdom” and “Consecration” for the last session on April 10.

Midweek Bible Study: Join us on Wednesdays at 9:30 am in the Fellowship Hall or on Zoom using the 'join now' button in the [Calendar of Events](#) to join. We continue to study the Old Testament for the next few months. The Books of First and Second Samuel will be our focus. We hope to see you! If you have questions, or would like more information, contact Kathy Moragne at kathymoragne@gmail.com.



Live Our Faith in Daily Life

Ruth Circle will meet at BLC on Monday, **April 11** at 1:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall. We will be discussing Chapter 11, (C.A.L.M.) in the book by Max Lucado, "Anxious for Nothing". All are welcome to join us for study and fellowship. Any questions, please call Ruth Kurtz at 388-2608 or e-mail ruthkurtz22@gmail.com.



Care for One Another

BLC Card Ministry: We have three birthdays in April! Doug Sharp celebrates on April 6th, Lee Rosenbauer on the 9th and Connie Specht on the 20th! The Resurrection of our Lord is a glorious way to let our folks know we are celebrating with them! Continued thanks for your dedication to this ministry. Don't forget to take advantage of the cards in the Narthex! Contact Donna Berner to learn more about this ministry.

A Support Group for caregivers: If you are caregiving for a loved one (elderly parent, spouse, relative or anyone dear to you), feel free to join us! We meet on alternating Tuesdays at 2 pm in person in the Fellowship Hall (with masks). Upcoming dates are **April 12 & 26** and **May 10 & 24**. The participants share with and learn from each other; this is not a lecture or class! If you have ANY questions, or you would like to join but are unable to meet in person, please contact Pastor Hoffman.



Serve Our Neighbor

The M&SC Committee explores social and justice issues and has conversations within the committee to understand our individual and world view. Our collective goal is a congregation actively engaged in our local and world communities by being allies, advocates and activists (AAA) with our mission partners. ***New members or visitors to the M&SC committee, ideas about new ministries, and different views and paradigms for engaging in mission are welcome and encouraged.*** Join us for one or all of our upcoming meetings. We will meet virtually on Tuesday, **April 19** at 6:15 pm. You can join through on BLC's [calendar of events](#). Please reach out to Julie Owen at jowen@heritagechristianservices.org with interests or questions.

Second Sunday Dinner Ministry: BLC delivers (we have not returned to onsite meals) around 50 hot meals on the second Sunday to those in need in our community. The next BLC date is Sunday, **April 10**. Other local churches provide meals on the other Sundays. For more information about this ministry and how to get involved, please contact David Gerhardt (dgerha4616@aol.com) who coordinates the kitchen efforts or Toni Thompson (thompsonjandt@yahoo.com) who schedules the drivers & deliveries.

The Mission Focus for the weeks of Lent and Easter is World Hunger! Hungering for more information?

- Visit <https://blcfairport.org/world-hunger-appeal/> to view and print monthly calendars with links to recipes. There are also copies available in the Narthex, or you can contact the church office to have one mailed!
- Be a Hunger Activist! Sign up now at [M&SC: BLC Hunger Activists \(signupgenius.com\)](https://signupgenius.com) to claim your week! Be sure to scroll to the bottom of the page to submit. Hunger Activists provide and deliver 20 of one item to the Pines of Perinton Mini Food Cupboard sometime during the week. Due to active BLC involvement last year, there are three slots for each week. The Mini Food Cupboard is on the road that circles around the apartments and is located by the maintenance shed. Enter from either Route 250 or Whitney Rd.

Questions? Contact Beth Walker at rbowsend@rochester.rr.com



Council News

★ **The IMF Team:** ELCA Ministry Growth Fund

The Investment in Ministries Team is proud to announce that we have researched a number of investment options and have chosen the ELCA's Ministry Growth Fund to hold and manage our Investment in Ministries Fund (IMF) assets.

The Ministry Growth Fund of the ELCA Foundation is a long-term stable and socially responsible endowment fund that provides distributions to grow ministry, now and well into the future. The fund was designed specifically for congregations, synods, camps, campus ministries and other affiliates of the ELCA.

The Ministry Growth Fund of the ELCA Foundation allows for the collective long-term investment of funds belonging to the ELCA and its affiliated ministries. Investment in the Ministry Growth Fund is more than just a financial transaction. In alignment with our Lutheran theology, our investment goes to work across the ELCA throughout the world — providing a steady funding source for ministries that matter most to us as Lutherans, now and well into the future.

Guided by a team of financial experts and strengthened by the ELCA's partnerships with other Lutheran organizations, the Ministry Growth Fund generates stable, quarterly distributions which allows us to build a vision for the future.

The BLC Investment in Ministries Team will be hosting four Q&A Sessions to prepare for the upcoming Special Congregational meeting on Sunday, **May 15** when the congregation will vote on adopting Bylaws to formally establish the Investment in Ministries Fund for BLC. We want you to be well-informed to make this important decision that will impact the future of BLC for years to come. Plan to join one of these sessions:

- Sunday, April 24 – In person session after worship in the Sanctuary.
- Monday, May 2 – Virtual session at 7:00 PM (Click the Calendar of Events to join)
- Wednesday, May 4 – In person at church after Bible study in the Fellowship Hall.
- Monday, May 9 – Virtual session at 7:00 PM (Click the Calendar of Events to join)

For more information, please contact any member of the IMF Team: Paulette Costanza, Roger Kolker, Neil Vokes, Mark Gaul, John Panko, or John Costanza.

★ Thank you to those who took time to complete the recent survey on masking. The **Re-Opening Team** met on March 31 and revised Bethlehem's COVID protocols. The following changes are effective immediately. The Re-Opening Committee will next meet on Tuesday, April 26, 2022 to determine what next steps, if any, will be taken.

WORSHIP and SINGING – We will continue to provide opportunities to livestream worship whenever possible and we encourage anyone who is sick or experiencing COVID-related symptoms to share in worship through livestream.

Masks are required when gathered for worship.

- Worship leaders may remove their masks when in a leadership role (ex. speaking, praying, chanting).

ALL OTHER CHURCH ACTIVITIES – We trust individuals to gauge their own comfort with risks and will post information about CDC mask guidance. As a result of this change all non-worship and non-singing activities at BLC will be mask-optional. We continue to practice love and care of our neighbors by honoring one another in making choices to wear masks or not. We will obtain KN-95 masks to share with people who wish to continue to remain masked while participating in activities at BLC.

- In-person, indoor fellowship activities may resume in designated areas (eg, on Sunday mornings, coffee hour can resume in the Fellowship Hall; a small group may agree to share snacks while meeting in the adult ed room).
- All food and beverages must remain in the designated space and not be brought into other rooms.
- All Faith Formation activities are mask optional.

We Ask Your Prayers:

We pray for those whose thanks or needs are known to us.

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 3/28

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

- Norman Wholley (father of Brendan Wholley) who died on 4/1
- Ron Kendt (son-in-law of Mary Stephens and husband of Denise) who died on 2/3

We pray for those in need of healing, especially:

- Margaret Maxa as she recovers from knee replacement surgery on 3/25
- Susan Peterson (mother of Hans) who is anticipating surgery on 4/13
- MaryJane Burke who is having cataract surgery on 4/5 and 4/19
- Tom Specht who is recovering from another surgery due to an infection
- Art Waite who is recovering at home after having a defibrillator put in on 3/31
- Those who are caregivers for loved ones
- Those who are ill from Coronavirus and all who care for them

Click here to view and print the [April long-term prayer listing](#) – or contact the church office for a copy!

Community News

Our neighbors in Ukraine are suffering and they need your love now. Families are leaving behind everything they own and fleeing for their safety. They need immediate aid including food, water, shelter, clothing and medical care. Lutheran World Relief delivers urgent support and care, like critically needed items for families who fled their homes, and medicine and supplies for clinics. To learn more or support [Lutheran World Relief](http://lwr.org) visit lwr.org.

Join us for an ecumenical walk for peace: On **April 15**, we will gather in the parking lot at Corpus Christi Church (864 E Main St) at 11:30 am and soon depart on our walk towards Saint Michael, making fourteen stops along the way in places where violent crimes have occurred for reflection and prayer for peace with the Stations of the Cross. The Way of the Cross will be made present along the way as members of our community will be dressed up and playing the different characters of the Passion of Our Lord. When we arrive at Saint Michael's, around 2:30 pm all will be invited in to rejoice in the beauty of the church and Sacred Music for 30 minutes. Cars can be left at Corpus Christi, a bus will be available for those unable to walk the distance, the bus will join us on the walk and stop at each of the stations with us. The bus will bring all in attendance back to Corpus Christi from Saint Michael at the end of the walk, and again after the 30 minutes of Sacred Music. For more information and/or to let us know you are joining contact Father Daniel Ruiz at (585)210-3024 (call or text) or via email at fr.daniel.ruiz@dor.org

Announcements for the STAR should be submitted through the office by Wednesday morning at 9 am. Visit www.blcfairport.org and to sign up for reminders and special announcements (including the STAR!)



BETHLEHEM
LUTHERAN CHURCH

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<https://www.facebook.com/BLCfairport/>

Calendar for April 10 – April 17

(Last updated on 4/6/22 at 12 noon, visit <https://blcfairport.org/event-directory/> for updates)

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)

Monday, 4/11

1:00 pm Ruth Circle

Tuesday, 4/12

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

Wednesday, 4/13

BLC Office Closed

9:30 am Bible Study –
(in-person or
[Join](#) via Zoom –
ID 943 3691 2942)
5:45 pm Chancel Bells
6:00 pm Folk Group
7:45 pm Chancel Choir

Thursday, 4/14

Maundy Thursday

7:00 pm Worship with
Communion (in-
person and livestream)

Friday, 4/15

Good Friday

12:00 pm – 3 pm Private
prayer and silent devotion
in the sanctuary (Enter
through the Perrin Street
lift entrance.)
7:00 pm Stations of the
Cross (in-person and
livestream)

Saturday, 4/16

Sunday, 4/17

Easter Sunday

7:30 am Outdoor Worship
with Word, prayer and
Communion (rain or
shine, this service will
NOT be livestreamed)
8:55 am Worship with
Communion (in-
person and livestream)

Beth Schoenfeld will be out of the office on Wednesday, April 13

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.
