



WORSHIP



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SERVE

Weekly STAR for April 17, 2022

Easter 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.

The Day, the Day

What is Easter anyway? Christians consider Easter to be the "first day." From Easter comes the practice of worshipping on Sunday morning. It is the first day of the week. It is also the first day of new creation, sometimes called the "eighth day" of the week, for on it Christ restored the image of God in the human and in so doing also brought restoration and renewal to all of creation. The Easter season proceeds from and celebrates this first day. In the resurrected Christ, there is time after the end, life after death, restoration of what was broken, the brightening of what had gone dark. In the fifty days of Easter, Christian communities around the world strive to worship God in a way that illustrates that the body of Christ lives now in the heavenly places and also in the gathered body in the world. Worship is where heaven and earth meet.

ARE YOU READY FOR HOLY WEEK WORSHIP?

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

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

1. [Facebook Live](#)
2. [Watch On YouTube](#) – Subscribe to our channel
3. [Livestream on the website](#)



Worship the Living God

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

Lessons for Sunday, 4/24
Acts 5:27-32; John 20:19-31

Easter Flowers: The flowers in our worship space on Easter Sunday were purchased in honor and in memory of loved ones. You can see the dedications in the Sunday bulletin.

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!*

Worship: Our worship time each week is on Sunday at 8:55 am (both in-person and livestream). Visit [Share in Worship](#) for information on how to participate in the livestream.

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



Looking for something to listen to on your morning walk? Away on Sunday? Want to reflect on the sermon a second time? Check out Bethlehem's podcast - **The Word from Bethlehem Lutheran Church**. 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.

100th Anniversary News

100 YEARS

Just a reminder that our April 24 anniversary guest, Rev. Theodore Schulz, is unable to join us due to Covid concerns. He is the grandson of our first pastor, Rev. Henry D. Schulz, and his wife, Minnie, our first organist and choir director. Pastor Schulz wrote: "I was honored to receive the invite and very much wanted to be with you and the congregation in order to represent the Pastor Henry D. and Minnie Schulz family. This was the most difficult decision and was not made lightly." A number of family members were planning to attend with him.

Our 100th Anniversary Prism Concert, an exceptional evening of music, is planned for Friday, April 29 at 7 pm in the sanctuary. Each individual or group will perform a musical piece without interruption, one after another, from a different location in the sanctuary. Applause is reserved until the end. This is a wonderful opportunity to invite a neighbor or friend to Bethlehem for a delightful evening of music.

Looking ahead, on May 1, we will welcome guest clergy Rev. Richard Hembrock to lead us in worship. A new name to most of us, Pastor Hembrock is a 'son of Bethlehem.' Born in Fairport, he was both baptized and confirmed at BLC and returned in 1959 for his ordination. We look forward to welcoming Pastor Hembrock as he leads us in worship.

Through our anniversary celebration, we have talked about the anniversary self-paced interactive programs set up at the computer work station in the coat room off the narthex. There is also a similar set-up to view in the workroom next to Pastor Amy's office. You can put on the headphones and pick and choose what interests you about Bethlehem and its people. Two additional notes: If you would like to come in during the week when you have more time, contact Beth at the church office at (585) 223-0634 to arrange a time. Also, Bob Stock has put all of the interactive programs on two laptops which he has shared with our home-bound members to enjoy. If you, too, would like to borrow one of his laptops so that you can watch these programs at home, contact Bob at (585) 329-2550.

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 24**, and **May 1, 8, 15 & 22** at 10:15 am! See the Live Section for info on the Youth Group night event on 5/1.

★ **Midweek Bible Study:** Curious about David as King of Israel? Join Mid Week Bible Study starting on 4/20 as we read 2 Samuel for the next few weeks. No prior experience necessary! 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.

Live Our Faith in Daily Life

LYO is now Youth Group (for Confirmation and LYO)! LYO will be changing its meeting time for the remainder of the year! We are very excited to announce that we will be having Youth Group the first Sunday of each month from 6-7:30 pm in the LYO room. Confirmation and LYO students are welcome! This will feel like a mini lock in with games, fellowship, and bible study. RSVP on the [BLC Calendar of Events](#) listing for **May 1**. Please contact Bethany Trippi with any questions.

Care for One Another

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 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.

The Mission Focus for the season of 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

★ **Perinton Food Shelf:** Feeding the hungry has always been a focus of the Lutheran church. BLC has shelves outside the youth room on the lower level to collect food for delivery to the Distribution Center. There is a printed list of their most needed items there. You can also view their most updated lists at <https://perintonfoodshelf.org/>. Please call [585-425-7410](tel:585-425-7410) or email contactus@perintonfoodshelf.org for information.

Council News

★ **Special Congregational Meeting** - Bethlehem will hold a **Special Congregational Meeting on Sunday, May 15 at 10:15 am** (following worship) for the purpose of approving changes to the Bylaws allowing for the creation of an Investment in Ministry Fund (IMF). This meeting will be held in person and only those present may vote. According to Bethlehem's Constitution, changes to the Bylaws require a two-thirds vote of those voting members present and voting. Copies of the proposed Bylaws are available by contacting the church office. To learn more about these proposed Bylaws, plan to attend one of the upcoming informational sessions hosted by the IMF Team (below).

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)

★ **BLC Council meets on Thursday, April 21 at 6:30 pm** in the Fellowship Hall. Council meetings are open to the congregation. As part of the April meeting, discussion will include:

- BLC Vision and Direction
- Proposal to direct BLC Memorial Funds to IMF
- Update from Sharing Our Blessings Team
- Planning for May 15 Special Congregational Meeting

A full and detailed agenda can be obtained from a member of BLC's Council: Brian Edwards, Aderyn Gantner, Andy Gates, Margie Gaul, Mike Higgins, Glenda Lockard, Lisa Meetze, Lisa Rosenbauer, Liana Thibault & Toni Thompson.

What is Socially Responsible Investing and Why Does It Matter?

Socially responsible investing is an investing strategy that aims to generate both social change and financial returns for an investor. Socially responsible investments can include companies making a positive sustainable or social impact, such as a solar energy company, and exclude those making a negative impact.

The Corporate Social Responsibility program of the ELCA seeks to enter into dialogue with business representatives on the social implications of company practices and to affect ELCA investment policy in socially responsible ways. The ELCA calls its people and institutions to encourage corporations to act in socially responsible ways and to invest in alignment with ELCA priorities.

Social purpose funds are able to screen out companies whose business practices conflict with these ELCA social criteria. The ELCA Ministry Growth Fund screens out companies associated with alcohol, tobacco, gambling, military weapons, pornography, private prisons, environment, and political and civil human rights.

If the Bylaws are approved by the congregation at the special congregational meeting on May 15th, we will invest the IMF funds into the ELCA's Ministry Growth Fund because of its focus to invest in companies creating positive impact and to screen out companies creating negative impact in our society. For more information, please contact any member of the IMF Team: Paulette Costanza, Roger Kolker, Neil Vokes, Mark Gaul, John Panko, or John Costanza.

BLC's 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 have obtained 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 pray for those who are grieving, especially the family and friends of:

- Norman Wholley (father of Brendan Wholley) who died on 4/1

We pray for those in need of healing, especially:

- Jim & Ricki Schaefer
- Nicole (friend of Ricki Schaefer)
- Susan (friend of Ricki Schaefer)
- Tom Rielly (father of Lisa Meetze) who has entered palliative care
- MaryJane Burke who is having another cataract surgery on 4/19
- Richard Strasser who is recovering from anticipated heart surgery on 4/15
- Susan Peterson (mother of Hans) who is recovering from surgery on 4/13
- George Feth recovering at home following a recent fall
- Margaret Maxa as she recovers from knee replacement surgery on 3/25
- 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

★ **Day of Caring - May 19, 2022!** Day of Caring matches thousands of volunteers - all on one day - with local nonprofit agencies who have identified needs such as painting, raking, cleaning up parks, planting community gardens, etc. For the first time in its 36-year history, Day of Caring will take place across Monroe, Livingston, Genesee, Wyoming, Wayne, and Ontario County on the same day. More than 300 projects have already been registered by over 150 nonprofits! Day of Caring is powered by the United Way of Greater Rochester and the Finger Lakes. Learn more: <https://unitedwayroclx.org/news-events/day-of-caring/>

Key Dates:

- April 30, 2022 - Nonprofit Need Registration Closes
- May 12, 2022 - Volunteer Registration Closes
- May 19, 2022 - Day of Caring!

★ **Are you, or people you know, going hungry? If you are in need of emergency food supplies and live in the 14450 zip code, dial 585-425-7410.** A volunteer will call you back within 24 hours during weekdays between 9AM and 5PM. The volunteer will ask several general questions concerning your family size, your income and, of course, your name and home address. If you qualify for emergency food supplies, a week's supply of food (based on your household's size) will be packaged and scheduled for you to pick up at the food shelf in Fairport. Directions and times will be provided. **If you do not live in the 14450 zip code, dial 211 or 1-877-356-9211.** They will provide you with information on an emergency food provider near you. They will ask you for your zip code to identify organizations serving your neighborhood and/or region.

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 17 – April 24

(Last updated on 4/13/22 at 12 noon, visit <https://blcfairport.org/event-directory/> for updates)

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)

Monday, 4/18

BLC Office Closed

Tuesday, 4/19

BLC Office Closed

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

Wednesday, 4/20

BLC Office Closed

9:30 am Bible Study – (in-person or [Join](#) via Zoom – ID 943 3691 2942)
No Chancel Bells
6:00 pm Folk Group
No Chancel Choir

Thursday, 4/21

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

Friday, 4/22

2:30 pm Dulcimer Group Rehearsal

Saturday, 4/23

Sunday, 4/24

8:55 am Worship with Communion (in-person and livestream)
10:15 am Faith Formation
No Children's Choir

The Church Office will be closed on Monday (April 18) in observance of Easter Monday holiday and Tuesday & Wednesday (April 19 & 20) for Beth Schoenfeld's planned time away.

Pastor Hoffman and Raelynn Clare will be away through April 24.

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.
