



*Sunday, May 29, 2022
Seventh Sunday of Easter
Confirmation Sunday*



BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN CHURCH

48 Perrin Street, Fairport, NY ~

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

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

Welcome!

We are so glad to have you share in worship at Bethlehem today. If you are visiting, please introduce yourself to one of the pastors – they would love to greet you personally! At this time, we ask all worshipers to wear masks in worship.

Today's service will be recorded and live-streamed. Our camera operators take care to focus on worship leaders and don't regularly film worshipers. In the movement of the service, glimpses of people may occur. Please speak with a pastor if you have concerns.

Communicate with us: Share more about who you are, request further information, or leave a prayer request or comment through our website - <https://blcfairport.org/share-in-worship/> - scroll down the page to request or share information.

Children are welcome and encouraged to participate in worship. We have designated space within the sanctuary (underneath the window of Jesus, the Good Shepherd) that is reserved for families who may need additional space for strollers or carriers for children who cannot yet wear masks. If there is a way we can make worship a more hospitable environment for your family, please speak to a pastor or leave a comment through our website (see above).

Hearing assistance: Our sound system is equipped with personal hearing loop devices. Please ask an usher for a loop device.

Holy Communion: All are welcome to share in Christ's meal of forgiveness and grace. Children who do not yet commune are welcome to come forward for a blessing. (If you feel your child is ready to receive or have additional questions, please speak with one of our pastors.) Please see additional notes about the Sacrament in the service portion of the bulletin.

Our Perrin Street entrance is accessible. Please ask an usher or greeter for help if you need assistance operating the lift.

Please silence your cell phones: As a courtesy to others, we ask that you please silence your cell phones during worship.

Worship Leaders at BLC

As Lutheran Christians, **we believe that worship is not a passive experience, watching and listening to the Pastor. Worship is the work of the people – that's what liturgy means!** We all have a job to do in worship: lifting our voice in prayer and song, bowing our heads in prayer, opening our ears to hear the Word, and extending our hands to receive the Sacrament. It also takes many people to support the work of worship, both serving publicly and behind-the-scenes. **Each Sunday you're invited to visit the table in the Narthex and put your name next to the role you want and grab the corresponding bulletin.**

Want to learn more about a specific worship role or sign-up for a pre-scheduled role? Fill out the survey on the table in the narthex and place it in the basket. We will follow up with you.

Sunday, May 29, 2022 ~ Seventh Sunday of Easter
Confirmation Sunday

Prelude:

In Thee Is Gladness

IN DIR IST FREUDE
setting by Wilbur Held

It is possible to hear in Jesus' high priestly prayer, a prayer he offered shortly before his death, the petitions of the ascended Christ for his own throughout history—to our day—and beyond. Jesus prays for us. In holy baptism we become believers in God, have our robes washed in the flood of Christ's forgiveness, and receive the gift of life forever with all the saints.

SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

Call to Worship:

In life, in death, in life beyond death,
Jesus Christ is Lord.

Over powers and principalities, over all who determine, control, govern or finance
the affairs of humankind,
Jesus Christ is Lord.

Of the poor, of the broken, of the sinned against and the sinner,
Jesus Christ is Lord.

Above the Church, beyond our most excellent theologies and in the quiet corners
of our hearts,
Jesus Christ is Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Amen

Gathering Hymn:

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus

ELW 392

sts. 1, 2, 3, 5

Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of



God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or,



glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 4 For the Lamb who was



slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

Final refrain



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Prayer of the Day:

Let us pray. O God, form the minds of your faithful people into your one will. Make us love what you command and desire what you promise, that, amid all the changes of this world, our hearts may be fixed where true joy is found, your Son, Jesus Christ our 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

Marcy Adams

Reading: Romans 8:14-17

Here Paul speaks about the mystery of baptism: through the Holy Spirit we are claimed, gathered, and welcomed into Christ's body, the church. And we receive a new name in our adoption: child of God.

¹⁴For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. ¹⁵For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, "Abba! Father!" ¹⁶it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ—if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation:



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

The holy gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: John 17:20-26

Jesus prays that the life of his followers will be characterized by an intimate unity of identity with God. To be so identified with God means also to share in God's mission: to proclaim the word that will bring others into this same unity.

[Jesus prayed:] ²⁰“I ask not only on behalf of these, but also on behalf of those who will believe in me through their word, ²¹that they may all be one. As you, Father, are in me and I am in you, may they also be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. ²²The glory that you have given me I have given them, so that they may be one, as we are one, ²³I in them and you in me, that they may become completely one, so that the world may know that you have sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me. ²⁴Father, I desire that those also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory, which you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world.

²⁵“Righteous Father, the world does not know you, but I know you; and these know that you have sent me. ²⁶I made your name known to them, and I will make it known, so that the love with which you have loved me may be in them, and I in them.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Hymn of the Day:	I Come with Joy	ELW 482
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Presentation of those Affirming their Baptisms:

Today we have the privilege of witnessing as these sisters and brothers affirm their faith in Christ as well the promises made at their baptism. I invite each of you to stand where you are when you are named.

Torstan, Alison, Sofia, Allison

Profession of Faith:

Congregation stands

Together with your siblings in Christ, you wish to profess your faith in God and reject sin. We make these bold statements not because we are absolutely certain about these things, but because we are always becoming faithful to them and learning to wrestle with these claims about our relationship with God. We join our voices with yours to remind you that we are all in this together.

People of God: Do you reject the devil and all the forces that defy God, the powers of this world that rebel against God, and the ways of sin that pull us away from God? If so, say, “We do!”

We do!

Do you promise to continue supporting these children of God, affirming them through all circumstances with their first and forever name: Beloved? If so, say, “We do!”

We do!

Do you promise to hold healthy and safe space for them to keep growing in faith, so they learn to trust there is nothing they can do to make God love them any more or any less than they are already loved in Jesus? If so, say, “We do!”

We do!

Do you believe in God the Father?

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.**

Congregation is seated

Affirmation in the Presence of the Assembly:

Will you join us in practicing your faith and keeping these responsibilities:

To live among God's faithful people, to pray,

to hear the word of God and share the Lord's Supper,

to learn the prayers, creeds, and commandments, to open the holy Scriptures,

to be nurtured by the faith and prayers of others,

so that you learn to trust God, proclaim Christ through word and deed, care for others

and the world God made and work for justice and peace?

I will ask each of you to respond individually by saying, "***I will, and I ask God to help me.***"

People of God, do you promise to support these sisters and brothers and pray for them in their life in Christ?

We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.

Prayer for the Holy Spirit

After all confirmands have been prayed for:

Join me in celebrating with these sisters and brother in Christ.

We celebrate your faith, your voice, and your unfolding story as beloved children of God! On behalf of the whole church on earth, we will continue to pray for your faith and give thanks for you. God bless you!

The Prayers of the People:

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

Set free from captivity to sin and death, we pray to the God of resurrection for the church, people in need, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

#1 God of Life, Creator of all things, how can we ever thank you enough for all of the gifts you have given us? This beautiful world, full of wonders and mysteries, our homes, food, lives of meaning, and relationships that bring us joy and hope. All of these are gifts from You. Even in this time of pandemic and war, with our sufferings, we thank you Lord! Keep in our minds those who have died in war, both military and civilians. May we honor them by seeking peaceful solutions to the conflicts that arise among nations and peoples. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

#2 Unite us with the saints who have died and been raised in Jesus. Train us to wait with eager longing for Christ to come again, even as we sense his presence with us now. God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

#3 Grant freedom to all who are overwhelmed by chronic illness, depression, or constant worry. Open them to receive health and salvation in Christ Jesus through the Spirit's gift of faith. Breathe new life into those struggling in body, mind, or spirit and extend the gifts we have been given by your Spirit to all people, especially those experiencing division or questioning your love. God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Source of all comfort, we are aware that many are in pain this day. There are those who suffer from physical and mental illness, emotional turmoil, and broken relationships. There are also those who mourn the death of loved ones.

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

- Mary (mother of Jeff) who died on 5/26
- Those who mourn the death of loved ones in Uvalde, Texas on 5/24
 - Xavier Lopez
 - Jose Flores
 - Eliahana Cruz Torres
 - Jackie Cazares
 - Eliana "Ellie" Garcia
 - Jailah Nicole Silguero
 - Jayce Carmelo Luevanos
 - Tess Marie Mata
 - Nevaeh Bravo
 - Makenna Lee Elrod
 - Maite Rodriguez
 - Alexandria Aniyah "Lexi" Rubio
 - Uziyah Garcia
 - Amerie Jo Garza
 - Annabelle Guadalupe Rodriguez
 - Alithia Ramirez
 - Layla Salazar
 - Miranda Mathis
 - Rojelio Torres
 - Irma Garcia
 - Eva Mireles

We pray for those in need of healing, especially:

- Marianne (friend of Dave) who is navigating a health issue
- Those who are caregivers for loved ones
- Those who are ill from Coronavirus and all who care for them

We pray for the wellbeing of first responders who face the aftermath of violence.
We pray for an end to gun violence.

God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Gracious God, Through the death and resurrection of Jesus, you make all things new. We give thanks that your Spirit continues to work to bring faith in the life of young people including our confirmands: Torstan, Alison, Sofia, and Allison. Strengthen and renew the relationships we share with these members and friends of Bethlehem and their families: Bev & Brian, Pat, Sarah (Courtney & Wesley), Phil, and Justin & Nicole (Leah & Owen). Bring new life and growth to the ministry of our twinned parish in Shurugwi, Zimbabwe.

We also remember those we lift before you, silently and aloud...

Silence for people to offer their prayers

God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Loving God, we pray for the leadership of our church, and ask that you continue your Spirit's presence in their lives. We ask your blessings on Pastor Amy and Pastor Hoffman this morning, that they may feel your presence with them, know you are always with them, and clearly see the ministry you are calling them to.

God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

In your mercy, O God, respond to these prayers, and renew us by your life-giving Spirit; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

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.



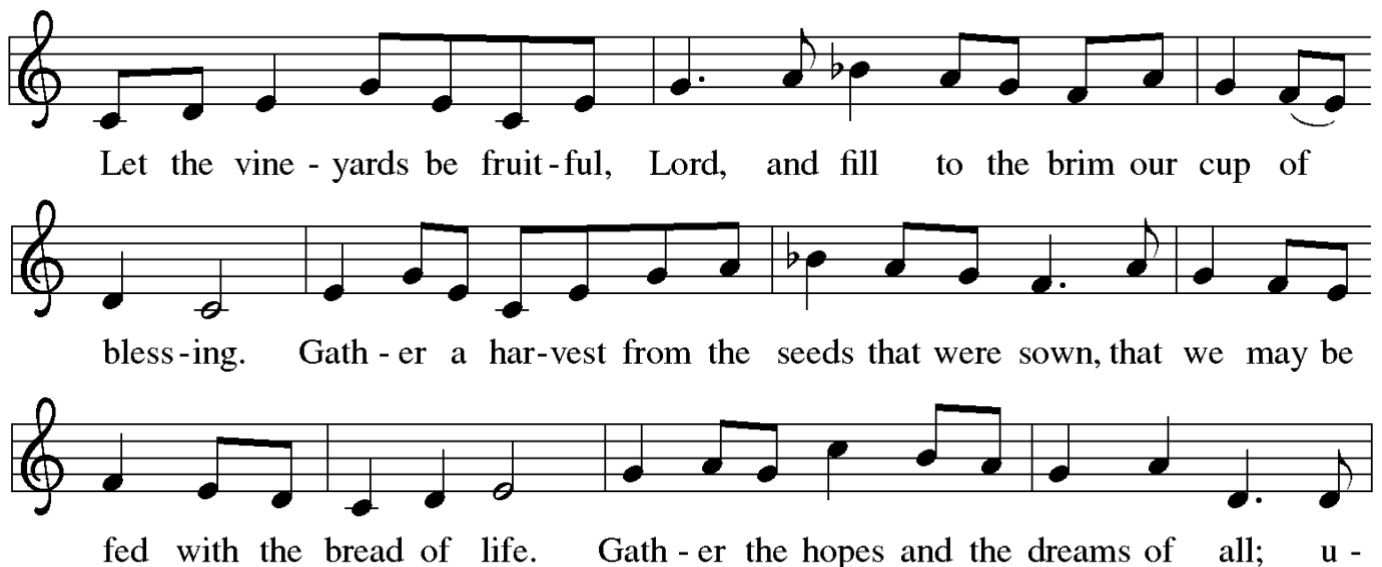
Whatever form your offering takes, we give thanks to God for you and your generosity.

Offering of Music:
We Believe

words: Don Besig and Nancy Price
music: Don Besig

Quartet:
Mary Jane Burke, Robert Stock
Pr. Amy Walter-Peterson, Hans Walter-Peterson
Pianist: Phyllis Stock

Offertory:	Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful	ELW 182
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Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of
bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be
fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u -

nite them with the prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your
 pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

Offertory Prayer:

Let us pray. Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth.

Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving:

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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:

The risen Christ dwells with us here.

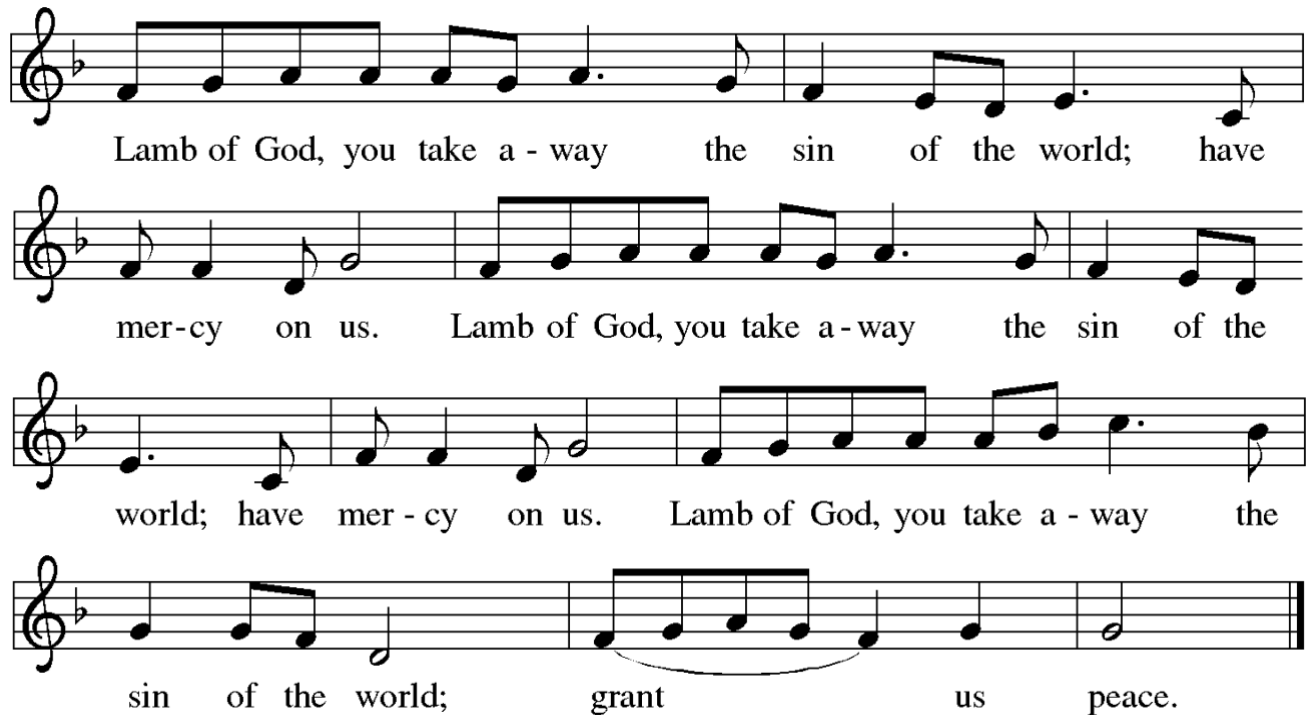
All who are hungry, all who are thirsty, come.

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.

Hymn sung during communion:

Come to the Table

ELW 481

One Bread, One Body

ELW 496

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:

The Strife Is O'er, the Battle Done

ELW 366

sts. 1, 2, 3, 5

Benediction:

May the risen Christ amaze us, open us to receive new life, and send us to share all that we have seen and heard with the blessing of God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Dismissal:

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Go in peace. Tell what God has done.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude:

Crown Him with Many Crowns

DIADEMATA
setting by Mary McDonald

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.

The quilts in the narthex were made by BLC Quilters and will be donated to Linus Blankets for distribution through hospitals and various agencies.

Happening today (5/29):

- 8:55 am Worship with Communion (in-person and livestream)
- 10:15 am Cake with the Confirmands (narthex)

Let the Vineyards be Fruitful: Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980. Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923.
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Calendar for May 29 – June 5

(Last updated on 5/25/22 at 12 noon, visit <https://blcfairport.org/event-directory/> for updates)

Sunday, 5/29

Confirmation Sunday

8:55 am Worship with
Communion (in- person
and livestream)

Monday, 5/30

*BLC Office Closed in
observance of
Memorial Day!*

Tuesday, 5/31

6:30 pm BSA Troop 2019
Meeting
7:00 pm Ladies' Night Out
Planning Meeting

Wednesday, 6/1

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)

Thursday, 6/2

6:30 pm BLC Officers
Meeting

Friday, 6/3

Pastor's Sabbath

Saturday, 6/4

Sunday, 6/5

100th Anniversary Sunday
Pentecost Sunday
Companion Synod Sunday
Synod Assembly
(6/5 & 6/6)
8:55 am Worship with
Communion with video
message from guest:
Bishop Craig Satterlee
(in- person and
livestream)
10:15 am Legacy
Presentation with Ryan
Ebner

Pastor Amy will be on vacation May 30 – June 11.

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.

Praying for You

Today's gospel reading is first and foremost a prayer. It is Jesus' prayer, and we are given the privilege of listening in as he prays on behalf of his disciples and people of all times and places. Listeners are given a glimpse of Jesus' mission for the world—that all may be drawn into the life of the triune God. On the eve of his death, Jesus entrusts this particular community of disciples—but also our communities, our lives, and our world—into the care of God.

What is it Jesus is doing when he prays? What is it the church does when it prays on behalf of the world and other people? To be prayed for by another is to know one's life is cared for and has value to the one praying on your behalf. It is to know that much of the future is out of one's own control but rests instead in the care of the Triune God. To be prayed for is to be vulnerable, dependent, and deeply loved.

Here is the astoundingly good news: Jesus prays for you, and for the communities in which we find ourselves. Whether your cup is empty or full, whether your community is in crisis or experiencing joy, whether your future is foggy or clear, Jesus loves you deeply and your life is bound to the God who loved you before the foundations of the world. On the eve of his death, Jesus entrusted your life and the church's life and its entire future to the Father. What glorious good news that the future rests in the care of the Triune God, and that we, the church, are set free to make God known to the world.