



WORSHIP



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CARE



SERVE

Weekly STAR for May 29, 2022

7th Sunday of Easter



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.

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.

ARE YOU READY FOR WORSHIP?

Sunday at 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, 5/29

Romans 8:14-17; John 17:20-26

Lessons for Sunday, 6/5

Acts 2:1-21; John 14:8-17 [25-27]

Quarterly Mailer... Watch your mailbox for your BLC quarterly mailer (it was mailed on 5/20) – with news and upcoming events. Staying connected is important to us! We're always striving to make information accessible in a variety of ways. In our world of information overload, it's sometimes helpful to have a traditional paper version to pin on the fridge or leave on the coffee table. Those who do not attend worship regularly, including ill or homebound members, and those who do not have electronic access appreciate knowing what is happening in the life of the congregation. If you did not receive the mailer, need one with larger print, or just have a suggestion or comment, please contact the church office.

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

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.



Take *The Word* from Bethlehem Lutheran Church with you! Listen to Sunday's gospel and sermon wherever you are during the week. Watch for ***Living the Word*** –additional weekly episodes beginning after Memorial Day, when we'll interview members and friends of Bethlehem about what *living the Word* looks like in their life. (If there's someone you'd like to hear from, please let us know!)

The Word from Bethlehem Lutheran Church is a great way to reflect on a sermon a second time (we hear people like to do that sometimes!), to ground yourself if you were away on Sunday morning, or this summer, to learn about others connected to the Bethlehem community! Visit <https://blcfairport.org/the-word/> to listen, or subscribe on Spotify, Google Podcasts, Amazon or Apple Podcasts. If you need help subscribing, please reach out to one of the pastors.

Let Your Voice & Music Be Heard! Special Musical Offerings in Summer Months: BLC would like to invite singers and instrumentalists of all levels to share their musical gifts with the congregation during worship in June, July, and August. Ensembles of any size or solos are all welcome. When it is about giving praise to God, no piece of music is too small to share! Visit <https://blcfairport.org/summer-music/> to sign up. For any help or answers for your questions, please contact the music director, [Raelynn Clare](#).

Altar Flowers: The flowers on the altar are in celebration of our Confirmands who will be recognized in worship on Sunday, 5/29. 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!*

100th Anniversary News

100 YEARS

Last Sunday we welcomed anniversary guest and former member Rev. Wayne Shipman. We were pleased that he traveled from his current home in Southwest Idaho to join us. Pastor Shipman is serving a two-point parish, Emanuel Lutheran Church in Blackfoot and Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd in Pocatello, 24 miles apart. He calls Bethlehem his home congregation, a place “where he grew and knew what God wanted for him.” He assures us that God and Jesus in the Spirit lives in, through, and around us. We thank him for being part of our 100th anniversary celebration.

On Sunday, June 5, Bishop Craig Satterlee will be with us via taped message, reading the gospel and delivering the sermon. Ordained in 1987, he was our first Associate Pastor, serving from 1987 – 1990. Since September 2013 he has presided as Bishop of the North/West Lower Michigan Synod of the

ELCA. We are so pleased that he will be sharing the Word with us. You can read more about Bishop Satterlee in the June 5 bulletin.

On Sunday, June 12, Rev. Julie Bergdahl (Associate Pastor 1991-1994) will be leading us in worship. Bethlehem was her first call after receiving her Master of Divinity from Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia, PA. Following her time at BLC, Pastor Bergdahl accepted calls in Sturbridge, MA, Plattsburg, NY and Sellersville, PA. Recently retired, she resides in Quakertown, PA. An informal Meet & Greet with Pastor Bergdahl will be held in the sanctuary after worship, providing an opportunity for further conversation.

Mark your calendar for Sunday, June 19. Our 100th Anniversary Closing Service and Celebration will be combined with the annual BLC Outdoor Worship & Picnic at Perinton's Center Park. Plan to stay for lunch and fun following worship. Activities and entertainment for kids of all ages include a bounce house, magician, and balloon animals. Check the flyer in the recent Quarterly Mailer for more details.

A DVD of Anniversary Highlights will be available for everyone, free of charge. **They will be available in September but orders must be placed by the end of June.** We will only make the number of DVDs requested. Among the items included are Pastor Garner's April 3 sermon, selected musical performances, and additional multimedia events. To access the order form, click on the link <https://blcfairport.org/100th-anniversary-dvd>. You can also order on the BLC website at blcfairport.org. Click on 100th Anniversary in the top right corner of the page, then select the button labeled ORDER DVD. If you have any questions, contact Donna Berner at 585-314-5732.

Grow in Faith and Discipleship

★ **Congratulations to confirmands!** We celebrate and honor young people in the Bethlehem community who will affirm the faith of their baptism through confirmation and give thanks for the work of the Holy Spirit in their lives! Eighth grade students being confirmed on Sunday include: Torstan Cardinal, Alison Henry, Sofia Jorge, Allison Runke. Look for the insert in your bulletin to read more about each of our confirmands.

★ **Thank you, thank you, thank you!** to all those who have been involved in Faith Formation this year. Teachers, musicians, advisors and substitute teachers, you have given your all since September and we thank you for helping our children learn about God and his grace. You play such a big part in their lives and the life of our church. If you are interested in teaching or assisting with programming for the 2022-23 program year, please contact a Pastor or the church office!

★ **Devotional resources:** The July-September editions of Portals of Prayer and Christ in our home are available in the sanctuary and narthex. We also usually have extra copies of Spark Family Magazine and the Living Lutheran Magazine available at the welcome table in the narthex. If you have questions about any of these resources, please contact the church office!

Midweek Bible Study: As Christians, as Lutherans, we are lifelong learners. We invite all to join us either in person at church or on Zoom Wednesday mornings at 9:30 as we continue our study of King David as found in the Books of Samuel. This summer, we plan to look at the Book of Proverbs. Feel free to attend as your schedule allows. Contact Kathy Moragne at kathymoragne@gmail.com for more information. 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

★ **Men's Breakfast:** Gather with the men of BLC to share good food and informal Christian fellowship. The group will meet on the 1st Wednesday of the month at 8 am at The Landmark Restaurant in East Rochester. The next one is June 1! For further information, contact Wayne Westcott at wcubed52@gmail.com.

Gardening/Planting at BLC: We need YOUR help to make the surrounding gardens beautiful for the spring and summer months. Thank you to Kathy Forney for her years of dedicated service as the Garden Coordinator at BLC. Her organization and support of the volunteers who help maintain the gardens as well as her many joyful hours of weeding, planting and planning have been noticed and appreciated. If you see Kathy, please join us in thanking her for her faithful service! If you would be interested in coordinating the garden maintenance alongside the property committee and organizing tasks and volunteers, please let one of the Pastors know or contact the church office!

Senior Recognition is Sunday June 12th: Join us in celebrating the accomplishments and future endeavors of our BLC seniors! Keep an eye out for a slide show at the beginning of worship Sunday June 12th as we highlight the class of 2022. Seniors and parents please send your senior bio information as well as a picture to feature in our slide show to Sherry Cook by June 5th.

BLC LYO Camping Trip July 15th – 17th: Do you love camping, opportunities to serve others, and in are 6th – 12th grade? We have the perfect summer event for you! BLC LYO is getting together for a camping trip the weekend of July 15th – 17th. This is a hybrid event for confirmation and LYO students. **Confirmation students are invited to join the LYO Saturday July 16th for a full day of outdoor fun, services, and an evening campfire.** Adult volunteers are needed and welcome! Please email Bethany Trippi at Bethany.trippi@blcfairport.org for registration details and questions.

Care for One Another

★ **Card Ministry:** This ministry shares fellowship and prayer via “snail mail” cards to BLC members and friends. Can you send a card on a birthday and holidays? What a wonderful intergenerational activity to create and send cards as a family! You'll receive a list of names, addresses and birth dates. Monthly reminders provided! Let Donna Berner know if you can share our love and prayers. (donnaberner@yahoo.com, 585-314-5732.) Thanks for your consideration!

Fellowship Coffee: Hooray! Hooray! Coffee Hour will resume after our Anniversary Year celebration! The celebration concludes with our outdoor worship at Center Park and picnic on June 19. Fellowship Coffee resumes Sunday, June 26. If you would like to be part of the team to decide where (upstairs, downstairs, courtyard, front steps) and what (coffee, tea, lemonade, iced tea, goodies) or if you can help make this happen, send an email to gerryannwestcott@gmail.com.



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 Wednesday, **June 15** 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.

Get your veggies on! Moll Farms and BLC will again team up to provide fresh fruit and veggies for residents of the Pines on Wednesday evenings beginning late June. How can you be part of this exciting ministry?

- Plant some extra vegetable in your garden and share the wealth as they grow and produce
- Stop by to help unload the van at the Pines on Wednesday evenings and chat with residents who come to pick up produce (beginning end of June usually around 5:30pm)
- Purchase a Bounty Basket for yourself and share with a neighbor or bring some of it to the Pines on a Wed evening! Moll Farms delivers every other week to Fairport [Bounty Basket Subscription Sign Up: 2022 Summer/Fall Season – Mollfarms](#)

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 \(signupgenius.com\)](#) 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

★ May Council Highlights -

A Special Congregational Meeting was held on May 15th. The congregation approved modifications to the Constitution's Bylaws to allow for the creation of the Investment in Ministries Fund. The congregation affirmed Council's recommendation to move \$25,000 from the Memorial Fund to the IMF.

The BLC Council met on May 19th. Highlights from this month are:

- Council established the IMF Committee and appointed its members.
- 2021 Audit Committee has been established and results will be shared once available.

(BLC Council highlights continued)

- The Scholarship Committee made a recommendation to Council for this year's awards, which Council approved. Senior Recognition Sunday will be June 12th.
- Council had a thoughtful conversation on how we deal with stress as individuals and communities.
- [Click Here](#) for a letter on Building Lasting Community from the Quarterly Mailer.
- Council received and regretfully accepted Mike Higgins' resignation from Council. We thank Mike for his years of service on Council.

The Council will next meet on June 16th at 6:30 pm. BLC Council members are: Brian Edwards, Aderyn Gantner, Andy Gates, Margie Gaul, Glenda Lockard, Lisa Meetze, Lisa Rosenbauer, Liana Thibault, Toni Thompson.

★ **Synod Assembly: Sunday, June 5 & Monday, June 6** - The focus of the 2022 Synod Assembly is “Cultivating a G.R.A.C.E. Mindset: Generous Love” For full details, visit the Synod Assembly page of the Upstate New York Synod website: <https://upstatenysynod.org/synod-assembly-2022>

Volunteer for the Synod Assembly (June 5-6)! It takes many people to make the assembly happen - helping people register, find where they're going, passing out ballots and other paperwork during the assembly, and more. For information about the areas of need and to sign up, use this form: <https://forms.gle/aS7z4evnjB9VzuhY6>

You Are Invited - Legacy Presentation on Sunday, June 5

What plans do you have for your legacy? What do you want to leave to your family? What do you want to give to your church? What is the best way to give to ministries you love? Our church has a resource available for you as you explore these questions. Ryan Ebner, Gift Planner from the ELCA Foundation serves our congregation and our Synod. Ryan wants to help families explore their passions to create a charitable estate plan that leaves a legacy including an inheritance for family as well as supporting the ministries and charities that mean the most to you. **Ryan will be in attendance for our worship services on Sunday, June 5.** He will give a brief Temple Talk prior to worship and be giving a brief informative workshop after service. Come prepared with your questions and to schedule a no obligation, confidential appointment. You may begin discussion with Ryan at any time. Contact Ryan at 814-823-3285 or e-mail at ryan.ebner@elca.org

We Ask Your Prayers:

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

We lift up prayers of thanksgiving for:

- We pray for our confirmands: Torstan Cardinal, Alison Henry, Sofia Jorge, Allison Runke

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

- Mary Hedin (mother of Jeff Hedin) who died on 5/26
- Those who mourn the death of loved ones at Robb Elementary School in Uvalde, Texas on 5/24

We pray for those in need of healing, especially:

- Marianne (friend of Dave Wideman) 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

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

Community News

★ **Labyrinth Walks:** All are welcome to join us for Summer Labyrinth Walks. These are short (20- to 30-minute) walks in a circular pattern that allow us to quietly focus on mindfulness and meditation. Those of us with religious faith also focus on prayer. If you are new to labyrinth walks, it's easy to learn. We will explain how we do it. **Summer Tuesdays — June 7 & 21, July 12 & 26, August 9 & 23 — at 12:00 noon;** After each walk, we'll have time to reflect and share our spiritual experiences with each other. Please feel free to bring a picnic lunch for that time of fellowship. There are some benches here, but consider bringing a lawn chair if it's convenient for you. For more information, contact the office. *The Trinity Labyrinth is always open to the public. Anyone is welcome to come any time to walk, meditate, and enjoy.* Visit <https://trinity-greecenyc.org/event-list/> for more information.

LCLC has urgent staff needs:

With summer camp just a month away, the following positions still need to be filled:

- 1 Full-time Cook
- 1 Part-time Cook's Aid
- 2 Dishwashers (Residential staff also involved in the summer program)
- We also need 2 more Volunteer Nurses

For more information, please contact Lee Lindeman at 716-386-4125 or lee@lclcenter.org. If you or someone you know is interested, please let us know ASAP. Thanks!

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!)



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

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.
