A stained glass artwork on the right side of the image. It depicts a woman's face in profile, looking towards the left. Her hand is raised, with fingers spread, as if in a gesture of blessing or healing. The colors used are primarily red, yellow, blue, and white, set against a dark background.

Woman,
you are
set free
from your
ailment

LUKE 13:12

*Sunday, August 21, 2022
11th Sunday after Pentecost*



BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN CHURCH

48 Perrin Street, Fairport, NY ~ (585) 223-0634 ~ www.blcfairport.org
The Rev. Abigail Zang Hoffman and The Rev. Amy Walter-Peterson, co-Pastors
Raelynn Clare, Music Director
Dr. Jim Jefferis, Chancel Choir Director

Sunday, August 21, 2022 ~ 11th Sunday after Pentecost

Prelude:

Around You, O Lord Jesus

O JESU, ÄN DE DINÄ

H. Thomissön/ arr. Stephen Gabrielsen

As Rain from the Clouds

AFTON WATER

English traditional/ arr. Aaron David Miller

Susan DePasquale, guest organist

Remember the sabbath day. Call the sabbath a delight. This is the Lord's day, and the Lord will do for us what the Lord does: feed us, forgive us, help and heal us. Rejoice at all the wonderful things God is doing.

GATHERING

GATHERING HYMN

Gracious Spirit, Heed Our Pleading

ELW 401

a favorite hymn of Pr. Hoffman and sung at her ordination

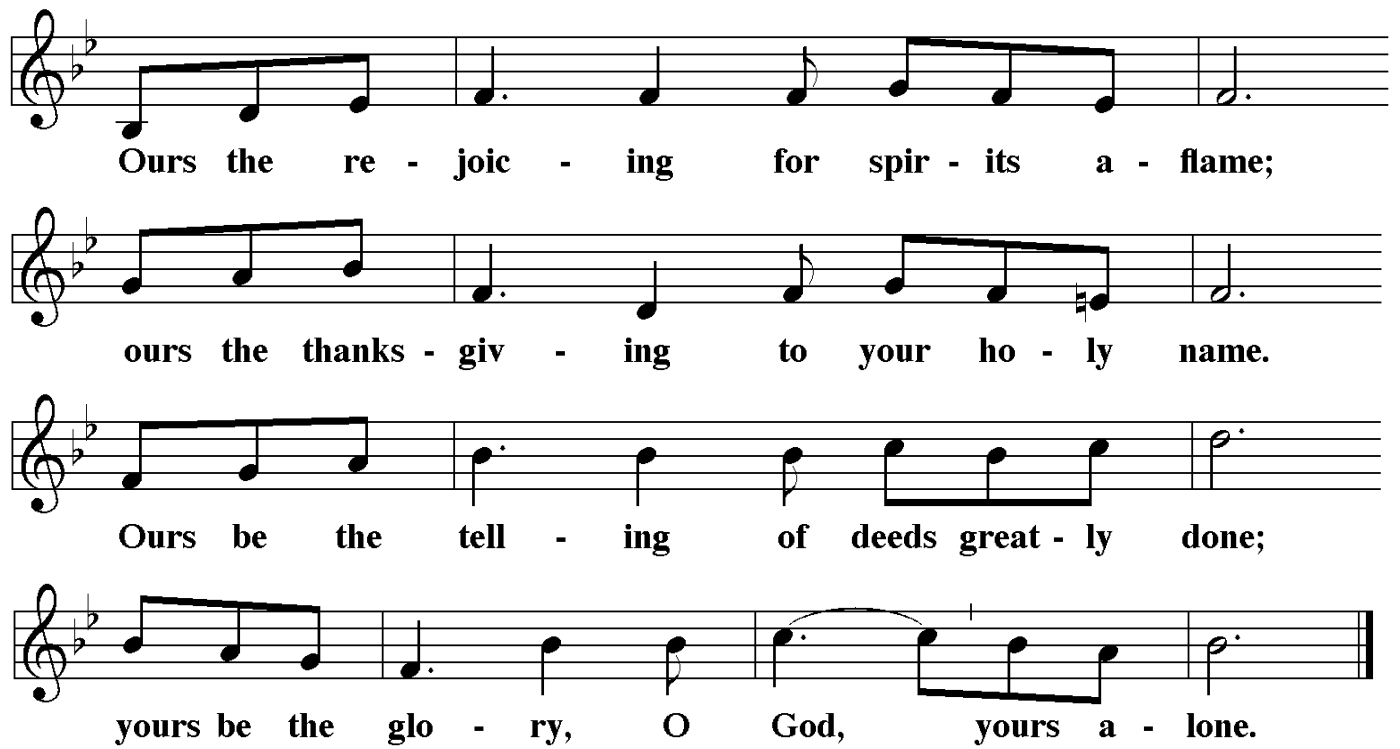
GREETING

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.

HYMN OF PRAISE

Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;
yours the a - noint - ing, the ra - di - ant worth.



Ours the re - joic - ing for spir - its a - flame;
 ours the thanks - giv - ing to your ho - ly name.
 Ours be the tell - ing of deeds great - ly done;
 yours be the glo - ry, O God, yours a - lone.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. O God, mighty and immortal, you know that as fragile creatures surrounded by great dangers, we cannot by ourselves stand upright. Give us strength of mind and body, so that even when we suffer because of human sin, we may rise victorious through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

HEARING GOD'S WORD

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

PSALM: Psalm 103:1-8

¹Bless the LORD, O my soul,
 and all that is within me,
 bless his holy name.

²Bless the LORD, O my soul,
 and do not forget all his benefits —

³who forgives all your iniquity,
 who heals all your diseases,

⁴who redeems your life from the Pit,
 who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy,

⁵who satisfies you with good as long as you live
 so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

⁶The LORD works vindication

and justice for all who are oppressed.

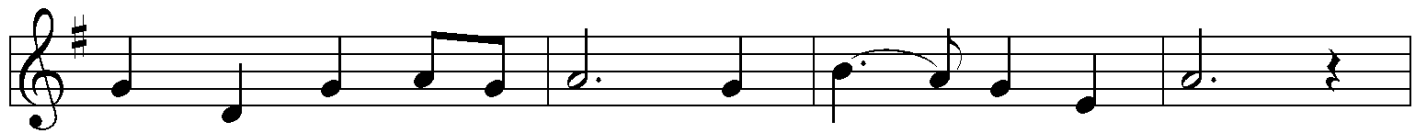
⁷He made known his ways to Moses,
his acts to the people of Israel.

⁸The LORD is merciful and gracious,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



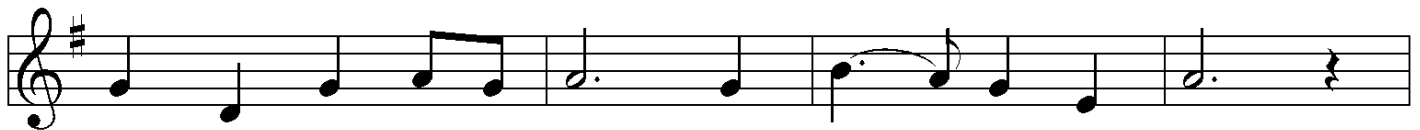
Word of life, Je- sus Christ, all glo - ry to you!



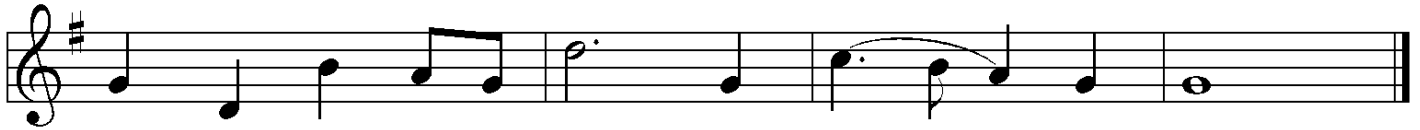
Word of life, Je- sus Christ, all praise to you!



Our hearts burn with - in us while you o - pen to us the Scrip - tures.



Word of life, Je- sus Christ, all glo - ry to you!



Word of life, Je- sus Christ, all praise to you!

The holy gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL: Luke 13:10-17

Jesus heals a woman on the sabbath, offering her a new beginning for her life.

When challenged by a narrow reading of the sabbath command, Jesus responds by expanding "sabbath work" to include setting people free from bondage.

¹⁰Now [Jesus] was teaching in one of the synagogues on the sabbath. ¹¹And just then there appeared a woman with a spirit that had crippled her for eighteen years.

She was bent over and was quite unable to stand up straight. ¹²When Jesus saw her, he called her over and said, “Woman, you are set free from your ailment.” ¹³When he laid his hands on her, immediately she stood up straight and began praising God. ¹⁴But the leader of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had cured on the sabbath, kept saying to the crowd, “There are six days on which work ought to be done; come on those days and be cured, and not on the sabbath day.” ¹⁵But the Lord answered him and said, “You hypocrites! Does not each of you on the sabbath untie his ox or his donkey from the manger, and lead it away to give it water? ¹⁶And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham whom Satan bound for eighteen long years, be set free from this bondage on the sabbath day?” ¹⁷When he said this, all his opponents were put to shame; and the entire crowd was rejoicing at all the wonderful things that he was doing.

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

ELW 588

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

In Christ, you have heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation.

We believe in him and are marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit.

Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

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

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 again to judge the living and the dead.

**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. Amen**

God has given us the ministry of reconciliation. Therefore, let us be reconciled to God and to one another.

Silence for reflection.

Merciful God,
we confess that we have not followed your path but have chosen our own way. Instead of putting others before ourselves, we long to take the best seats at the table. When met by those in need, we have too often passed by on the other side. Set us again on the path of life. Save us from ourselves and free us to love our neighbors. Amen.

Hear the good news! God does not deal with us according to our sins but delights in granting pardon and mercy. In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. You are free to love as God loves.

Amen.

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Share the peace in a way that cares for friend and neighbor.

If you worship virtually, share the peace through the comments section or text.

<p>**Please remain standing.**</p>

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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

United in Christ and guided by the Spirit, we pray for the church, the creation, and all in need.

A brief silence.

#1 You crown your church with steadfast love and mercy. Guide us continually in our baptismal covenant to strive for justice and peace in all the earth. Use our diverse gifts in service to the whole people of God. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

#2 You satisfy the needs of all creatures. Protect the habitats of fish and birds. Repair ecosystems damaged by misuse, neglect, or natural disaster, that all creation may thrive. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

#3 You make your ways known to all people. Inspire the rulers and leaders of nations with your compassion and mercy. Raise up activists and community organizers to restore places affected by violence, poverty, and inequality. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Through the death and resurrection of Jesus, you make all things new. Strengthen and renew the relationships we share with these members and friends of Bethlehem and their families: Bob & Donna, Roger & Rosemarie, Ron & Sandy, Elizabeth & Mike (Olivia, Ryan), and Linda. Bring new life and growth to the ministry of our twinned parish in Shurugwi, Zimbabwe. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Breathe new life into those struggling in body, mind, or spirit:

We pray for those who are grieving, especially:

- The family and friends of Lavonne, mother of Jeff, who died on August 15

We pray for those in need of healing, especially:

- Erin, daughter of Kathy and Joe, who is recovering at home after a recent hospitalization
- Maddie, daughter of Kathy Forney's friends, who has AML Leukemia
- Those who are caregivers for loved ones

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

Silence for individual prayer.

God of grace,
hear our prayer.

God of every time and place, in Jesus' name and filled with your Holy Spirit, we entrust these spoken prayers and those in our hearts into your holy keeping.
Amen.

SHARING GOD'S MEAL

OFFERING

Information about supporting Bethlehem's ministry with your offerings is available in the Welcome insert in your pew rack or by visiting blcfairport.org/support-our-ministry.

OFFERING OF MUSIC

Menuet in G Major, BWV Anh. 114

Johann Sebastian Bach

Madeleine Hoffman, piano

OFFERTORY



In grat - i - tude and hum - ble trust we bring our best to - day to
serve your cause and share your love with all a - long life's way. O__
God, who gave your - self to__ us in Je - sus Christ your Son, teach
us to give our - selves each day un - til life's work is done.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray. God of abundance:

you have set before us a plentiful harvest. As we feast on your goodness, strengthen us to labor in your field, and equip us to bear fruit for the good of all, in the name of Jesus. Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, we pray as you 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

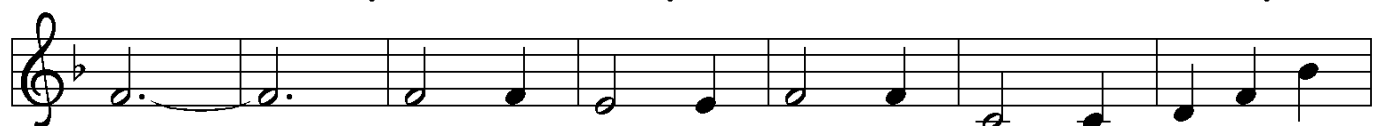
In Christ's presence there is fullness of joy. Come to the banquet.

Thanks be to God.

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

Our communion bread is gluten-free, unless noted by the pastor. Grape juice is available; indicate your need to the communion assistant. If you worship through the Livestream and wish to receive communion, please reach out to one of the pastors.

THE COMMUNION



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.

COMMUNION HYMNS		
For the Bread Which You Have Broken		ELW 494
Come with Us O, Blessed Jesus		ELW 501

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray. Life-giving God, through this meal you have bandaged our wounds and fed us with your mercy. Now send us forth to live for others, both friend and stranger, that all may come to know your love. This we pray in the name of Jesus. **Amen.**

LEAVING TO SERVE

Thanksgiving for the 15th Anniversary of Ordination for Pastor Abigail Zang Hoffman

SENDING HYMN	How Firm a Foundation	ELW 796
--------------	-----------------------	---------

BENEDICTION

The God of peace, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you, comfort you, and show you the path of life this day and always. **Amen.**

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Love your neighbor.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Basse de Trompette François Couperin
 (from *Mass for the Convents*)

Thank you!

We give thanks for Susie DePasquale who serves as our guest musician this morning!

Want to learn more about what roles are needed in worship or sign-up for a pre-scheduled role? Fill out the survey on the table in the narthex and place it in the basket or speak with a pastor.

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.

What's happening at BLC this week? Visit the Calendar of Events at www.blcfairport.org. Zoom links for virtual meetings are also found there. If you would like to schedule a meeting or event, please email the church office at office@blcfairport.org or visit <https://blcfairport.org/blc-facility-request/>

Church office hours: Thank you for your patience during this transition without office support staff. Our co-Pastors are available Sunday-Thursday and on-call for emergencies. Contact them directly to schedule an appointment either by calling (585)223-0634 or emailing pastor.hoffman@blcfairport.org or pastor.amy@blcfairport.org

Augsburg Fortress resources are being livestreamed by permission. All rights reserved.
From *Sundays and Seasons.com*. Copyright 2022 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.
Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #43732.
Permission to stream and print the music in this service obtained from OneLicense under Annual License #A-724002
Reprinted by permission under CCLI Annual License #11159563
New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989, Division of Christian Education
Of the National Council of Churches of Christ in the United States of America.
Used by permission. All rights reserved.

God's Verbs

Through the lens of the gospel, today's texts offer a clear identification of God's work. What is God doing? God is reaching out to the bound-up to proclaim release from captivity. God is lifting up the oppressed. God is satisfying the needs of the afflicted. God raises up foundations. God restores and rebuilds, reconciles and sets free. God, whose word can shake the very foundations of the earth, speaks a better word than we've ever heard, or that we could ever speak. Like yeast that's included in bread dough or the seed of a particularly stubborn weed sown in the garden (Luke 13:18-21), when God speaks, there's no going back. The bread will be leavened; the garden will have a mustard bush; and precious daughters and sons of Abraham will be set free. It is God's work and God's activity that Isaiah calls us to be about. Why is the prophet so confident that light will conquer darkness and needs will be satisfied? Because this is already God's work, or as the prophet says, because "the mouth of the Lord has spoken."

These texts focus us on the *verbs*, the actions, of God. When we're attuned to the verbs of God within passages like these, it might make it easier to see and give witness to God's work and the verbs around us right now.