

To God all of them are alive

LUKE 20:38



Sunday, November 6, 2022
All Saints Sunday



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

Sunday, November 6, 2022 ~ *All Saints Sunday*

Prelude:

Jerusalem! Our Heavenly Home

Robert J. Powell

Nun lob, mein Seel, den Herrn
(Now Praise, My Soul, the Lord)

Johann Christoph Bach

We worship on the first day of the week because Jesus was raised on that day. Every Sunday is a little Easter. This Sunday feels more like Easter than many as the appointed texts celebrate the reality of the resurrection. Live it up this Lord's day. Our God is the God of the living.

GATHERING

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness, let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

Holy God, fountain of living water, source of mercy, tender and mighty, you are clothed with majesty and splendor.

Your steadfast love fills the earth.

Your love flows through water, satisfying the thirst of all living things, sustaining life in this community, nourishing and delighting us.

Your steadfast love fills the earth.

Your love flows through water, a sign of your saving power:

Your steadfast love fills the earth.

Shower us with your Holy Spirit. Fill us with your love. Clothe us and all your people with grace. Embolden us to do justice. Bless us to love mercy. Guide us to walk humbly with you.

Amen.

Stanzas 1, 2: All
3: Choir
7: All

GREETING

Grace and peace to you from God, who creates, redeems, and sustains us all.
And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Almighty God, you have knit your people together in one communion in the mystical body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Grant us grace to follow your blessed saints in lives of faith and commitment, and to know the inexpressible joys you have prepared for those who love you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

HEARING GOD'S WORD

DISMISSAL TO WORSHIP FOR KIDS

All kids ages 3 through elementary are welcome to a special time of hearing the Word, conversation and activity! Parents can remain in the sanctuary while the kids gather in the room across the hall from the side entrance to the sanctuary. Kids will return during the offering so they can participate in Communion.

READING: Job 19:23-27A

Job suffers the loss of children, wealth, and health. Accused by his companions of wrongdoing, he knows himself to be innocent. Here, in the midst of his suffering, Job clings to the radical hope that his vindicator, his redeemer, lives; and that one day he himself will see God.

²³“O that my words were written down!

O that they were inscribed in a book!

²⁴O that with an iron pen and with lead
they were engraved on a rock forever!

²⁵For I know that my Redeemer lives,
and that at the last he will stand upon the earth;

²⁶and after my skin has been thus destroyed,
then in my flesh I shall see God,

^{27a}whom I shall see on my side,
and my eyes shall behold, and not another.”

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



The holy gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL: Luke 20:27-38

Some Sadducees, who do not believe in the resurrection of the dead, try to trap Jesus. They formulate the convoluted case of a serial widow who marries a succession of seven brothers. Jesus responds by teaching about God to whom all are alive and in whom all relationships are fulfilled.

²⁷Some Sadducees, those who say there is no resurrection, came to [Jesus] ²⁸and asked him a question, “Teacher, Moses wrote for us that if a man’s brother dies, leaving a wife but no children, the man shall marry the widow and raise up children for his brother. ²⁹Now there were seven brothers; the first married, and died childless; ³⁰then the second ³¹and the third married her, and so in the same way all seven died childless. ³²Finally the woman also died. ³³In the resurrection, therefore, whose wife will the woman be? For the seven had married her.”

³⁴Jesus said to them, “Those who belong to this age marry and are given in marriage; ³⁵but those who are considered worthy of a place in that age and in the resurrection from the dead neither marry nor are given in marriage. ³⁶Indeed they cannot die anymore, because they are like angels and are children of God, being children of the resurrection. ³⁷And the fact that the dead are raised Moses himself showed, in the story about the bush, where he speaks of the Lord as the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob. ³⁸Now he is God not of the dead, but of the living; for to him all of them are alive.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

For all the saints . . .

Today, we give thanks to God for all those who have died in Christ. We thank God for all the ways that they have shared God's love with us and passed along the faith to us. This morning, you are invited to light a candle (please remember to light the candles back to front) to remember a saint in your life and give thanks for the light of Christ that was revealed through them. Dip the match down into the glass to light the candle. If you need help, a hospitality team member will assist you. As we worship, we remember that we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, and that through baptism, we are forever a part of God's family and one another's lives.

Hymns and Music for The Candle Lighting:

O Lord, Hear My Prayer (sung 5 times) ELW 751

Adagio, Grave George Frideric Handel
(from *Flute Sonata I, Op. 1 in E Minor, HWV 359*)

Annette Finkbeiner, flute

My Life Flows On in Endless Song ELW 763

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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

As scattered grains of wheat are gathered together into one bread, so let us gather our prayers for the church, those in need, and all of God's good creation.

A brief silence.

#1 Holy One, your church rests on the faithful who came before us. Give bishops, pastors, deacons, and lay leaders the will to focus on that which you command, "Love the Lord your God and Love your neighbor as yourself", guide us to your power, Lord. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

#2 Holy One, you bless those who are poor, hungry, and reviled. Provide food, housing, and security to all who are vulnerable or in crisis. May those who have more than enough give generously. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

#3 Holy One, hold us in community with one another. Nurture a spirit of abundant hospitality and intentional inclusion among us, welcoming the gifts of adults and children. Inspire creative visions for our life together. Lord of all, we pray for Peace. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Strengthen and renew the relationships we share with these members and friends of Bethlehem and their families: Karen (Jonathan), John & Robin, Martha, Jacob & Rachael (Clara, Levi), and John & Laurie. Bring new life and growth to the ministry of our twinned parish in Shurugwi, Zimbabwe. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Seek out those who are struggling in body, mind or spirit. Provide for those in any need.

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

- Jane, sister of Vicky, who died on September 27

We pray for those in need of healing, especially:

- Mary, mother of Beth, as she heals from surgery and enters rehabilitation following a fall
- Lisa, as she recovers from surgery and awaits test results
- Those who are caregivers for loved ones
- Those who are ill from Coronavirus and all who care for them

Hear also these concerns we raise in our hearts or on our voice. Lord, raise in us prayers for all the Saints, including the Saints PRESENT in us, here and now. We all have personal issues of need and health, which we confide only to ourselves. Give us strength, Lord to reach out and to accept LOVE from others.

Silence for individual prayer.

God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Gathered together in the sweet communion of the Holy Spirit, gracious God, we offer these and all our prayers to you; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.
Amen.

SHARING GOD'S MEAL

THE PEACE

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.

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

In Paradisum

(Into Paradise – from *Requiem*, Op. 48)

Gabriel Fauré

transcr. Jean Roger-Ducasse

The Chancel Choir

Latin Text:

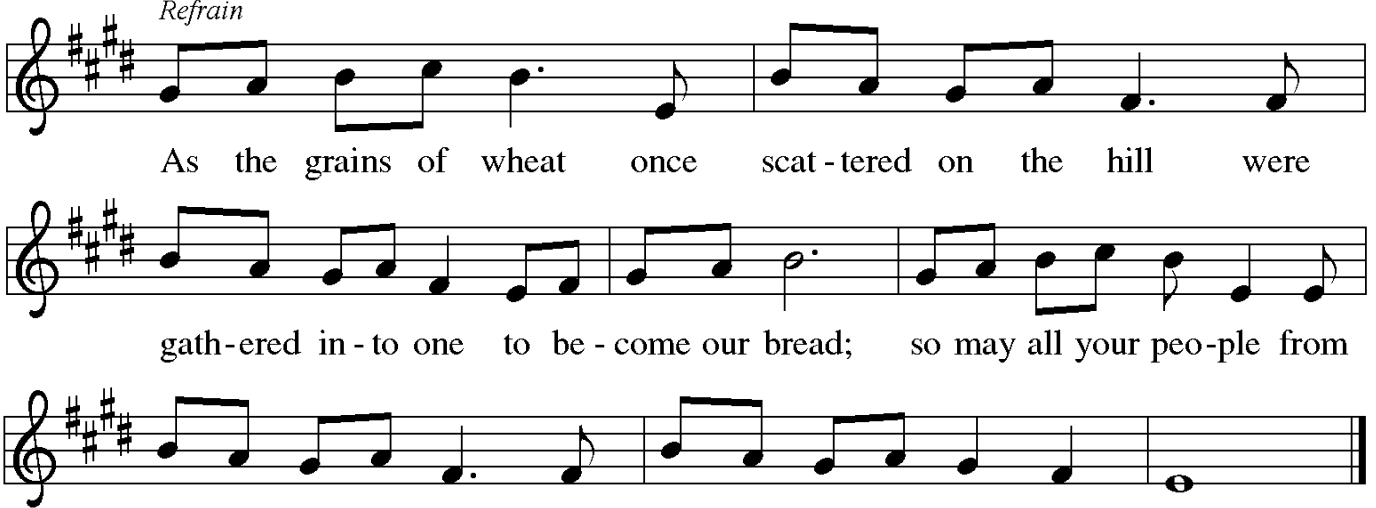
In paradisum deducant te angeli
in tuo adventu suscipiant te Martyres
et perducant te in civitatem sanctam Jerusalem.
Chorus angelorum te suscipiant
et cum Lazaro quondam paupere
aeternam habeas requiem.

Translation:

May the angels lead you into paradise,
may the martyrs receive you at your arrival
and guide you into the holy city, Jerusalem.
May the choir of angels receive you
and with Lazarus, once was poor,
may you have eternal rest.

OFFERTORY

Refrain

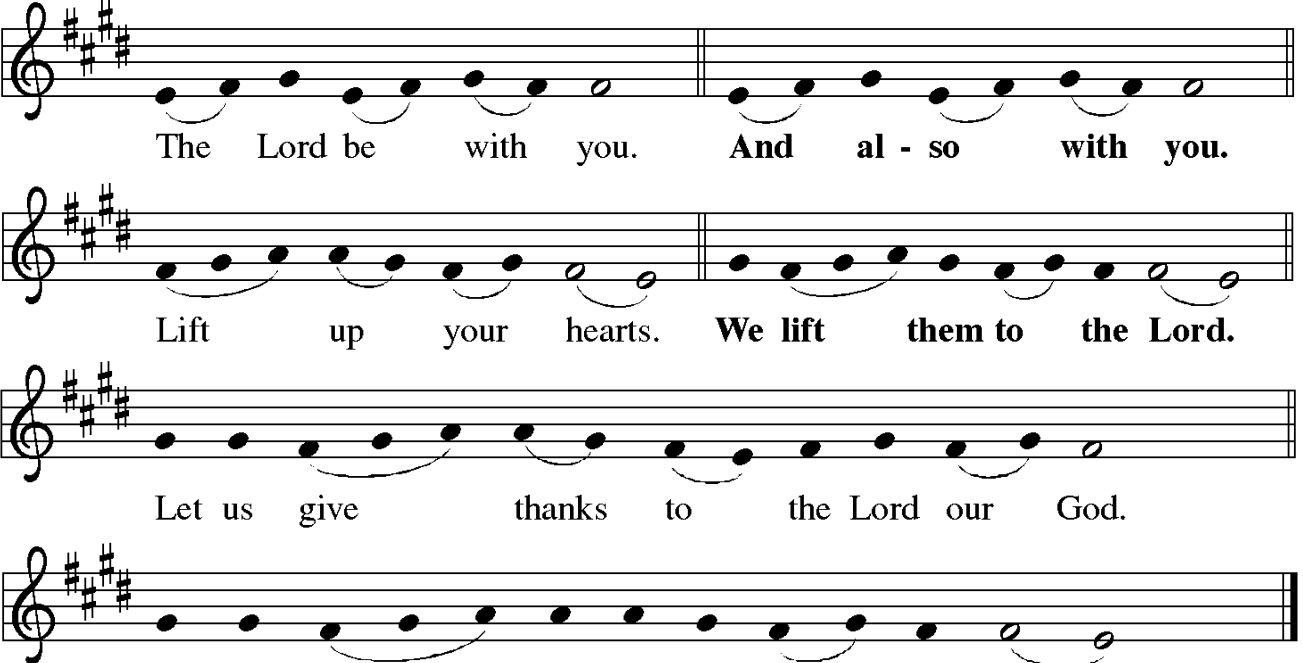


As the grains of wheat once scat-tered on the hill were
gath-ered in - to one to be - come our bread; so may all your peo-ple from
all the ends of earth be gath-ered in - to one in you.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

We pray. God of goodness and growth,
all creation is yours, and your faithfulness is sure. Word and water, wine and bread: these are signs of your abundant grace. Receive the gifts we bring, and nourish us to proclaim your abiding love in our communities and in the world, through Jesus Christ, our strength and our song. Amen

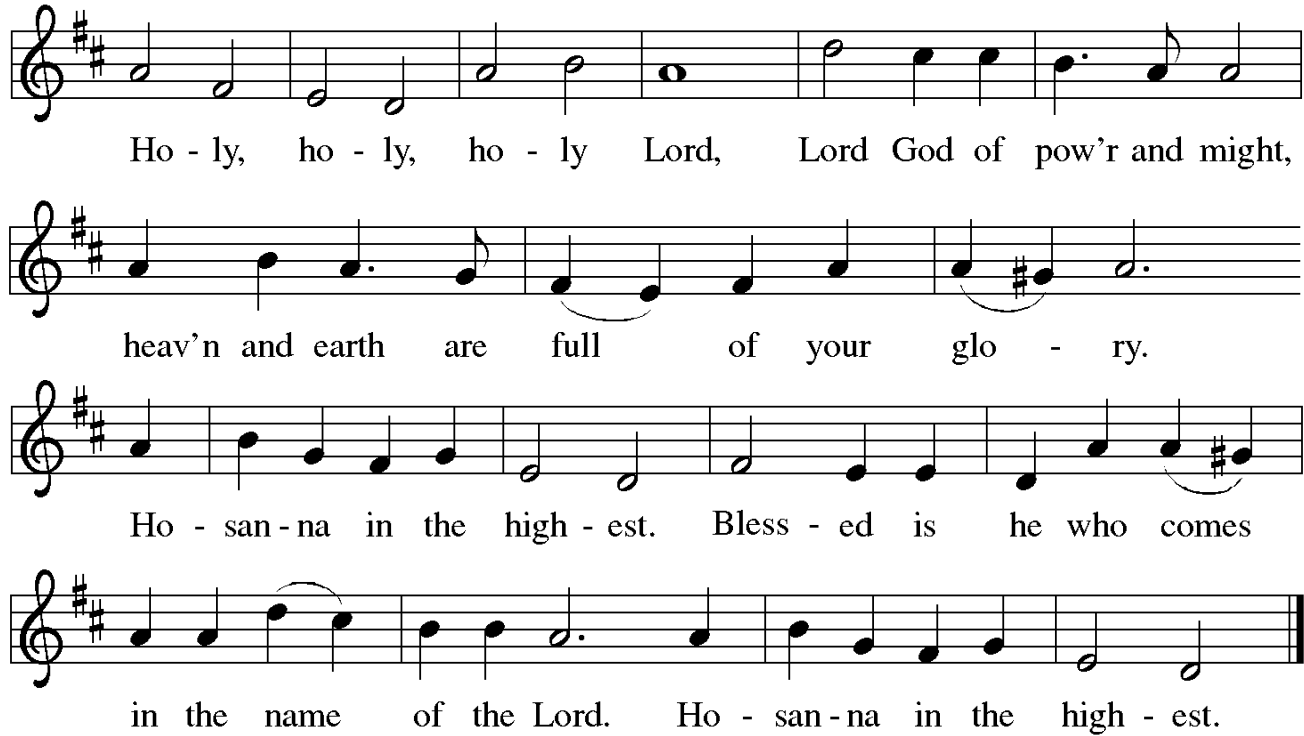
THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



The Lord be with you. And al - so 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.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

One in body, one in Spirit, we pray:

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

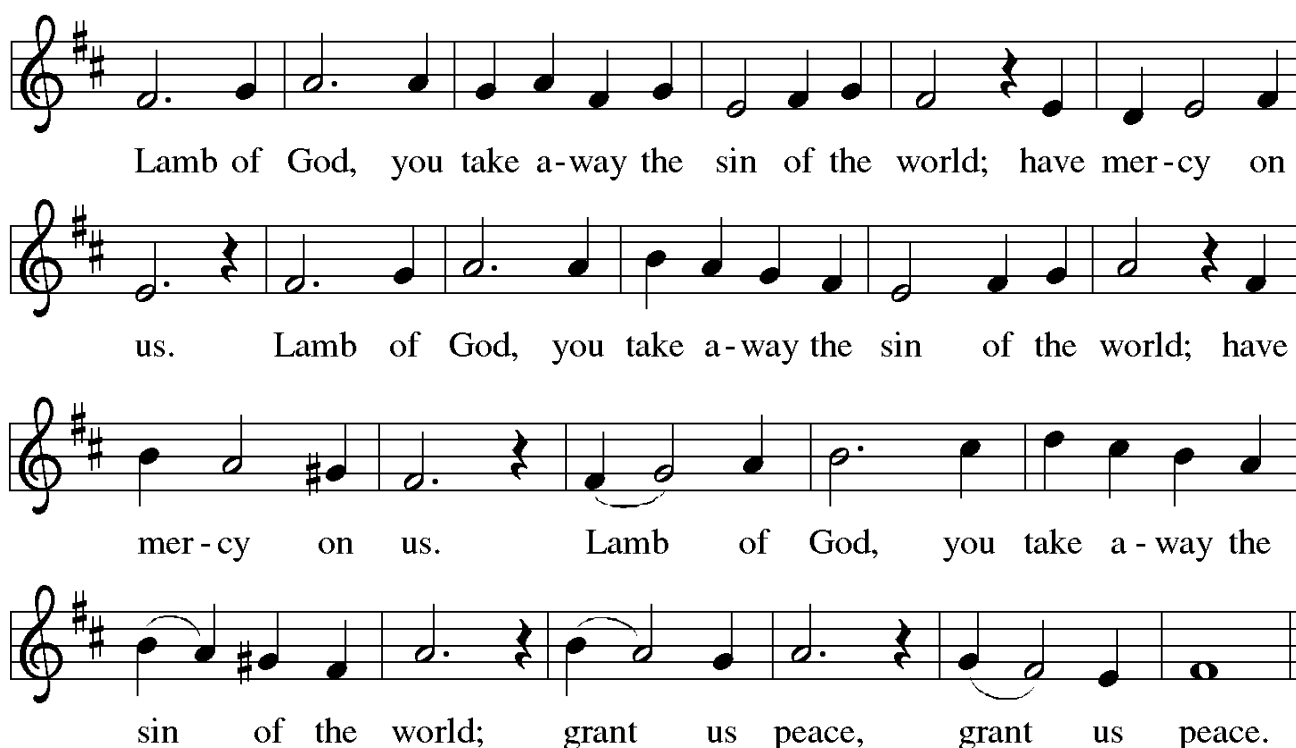
Christ invites you to this table. Come, taste and see.

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



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, grant us peace.

COMMUNION HYMNS

Shall We Gather at the River
Jerusalem, My Happy Home

ELW 423

ELW 628

TABLE BLESSING

LEAVING TO SERVE

BENEDICTION

The holy Three, the holy One increase your hope, strengthen your faith, deepen your love, and + grant you peace.

Amen

SENDING HYMN	Ye Watchers and Ye Holy Ones	ELW 424
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DISMISSAL

Go in peace, with Christ beside you.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Prelude and Fugue in B-flat Major, BWV 560

Johann Sebastian Bach

BLC Musicians

Raelynn Clare, Music Director and Organist

Dr. Jim Jefferis, Director of The Chancel Choir

Rich Towsley, Director of The Folk Group and BLC Dulcimers

Thank you to all those who participated in worship this Sunday! 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

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Sunday, November 6, 2022 ~ For all the Saints...

We give thanks and praise to God for their life and witness. Today we remember our siblings in Christ at Bethlehem who have died since All Saints' Day 2021, as well as those remembered by family and friends of the Bethlehem community.

Jane Elizabeth Baker, sister of Vicky Twietmeyer

Ivan Berg, father of Chris Berg

Anthony Bingo, grandfather of Liana Thibault's fiancé, Eric Coffaro

Rev. Edwin Blumenkamp, father of Lori Nickoloff

Elenore Bulau, BLC Member

Dick Coon, friend of Ron Meier

Steve Crane, friend of Kathy Moragne

Julie Deichmann, friend of Chris Meetze

Mike Fonte, brother-in-law of Ron Meier, Kitty's brother

Steve French, BLC member, husband of Carolyn French

James Haefner, former BLC member

Betty Harper, BLC member, mother of Jane Cordaro

Mary Hedin, mother of Jeff Hedin

Chris Heim, former BLC member

Olive L. Jameson, mother of Jackie Stivers

Iona Jones, BLC member

Ron Kendt, son-in-law of Mary Stephens

Mildred Leberth, friend of Ron Meier's wife, Kitty

Paul Majewski, father of Haley, member of BSA Troop 2019

Joyce Morale, mother of Jane Morale

David Murphy, son of Carole, a dear friend of Mary Osgood

Aulikki Nikkila, aunt of Marja Roney

Valerie Nixon, cousin of Julie Stolze

Heidi Pelkey, friend of Jeff and Ruth Hedin

Lavonne Pries, mother of Jeff Pries

Jeffrey Purvis, nephew of Bob and Becki Purvis and cousin of Karl)

Don Raw, brother of Kim Kulik

Thomas H. Rielly, Jr., father of Lisa Meetze

Lee Rosenbauer, BLC member, mother of Lisa Rosenbauer

Ricki Schaefer, BLC member, wife of Jim Schaefer

Bob Schmeelk, brother of John Schmeelk
Doris Sick, mother of Jeff DeVoesick
Patricia Skehan, sister of Ginny Shumacher
James Stalker, cousin of Howard Sharp
Bill Stolze, brother of Bob Stolze
Cleta Tomlinson, cousin of Kathy Moragne's father
Mildred Traas, friend of Ron and Kitty Meier
Norman Wholley, father of Brendan Wholley
Michael Winter, family friend of Hans Walter-Peterson
Kim Zeigler, cousin of Chris Meetze
Desmin, brother of Niyen Russin who is the son of Danielle Betts
Lee, uncle of Chris Meetze
William, father of Julie Owen

Let's Talk Resurrection

When the Sadducees encounter Jesus with a technical question, he responds by humanizing and placing divine value upon each character in the Sadducees' hypothetical scenario. Jesus' response is about resurrection and about naming people as children of God and of light. The answer Jesus gives the Sadducees is about God, whose presence means life. This is about God's promise of resurrection in the face of death, and about life in the face of and in spite of death.

Like Job, who was surrounded by the remnants of his lost life and still proclaimed hope, Jesus is in the midst of palpable tension that very soon will lead him to his own death, and yet he proclaims life. The author of this hope is God, whose very naming of a person brings that one to life. These texts proclaim hope in the face of hopelessness, and urge us to do the same.