

*O Come, O King of Nations  
Sunday, November 13, 2022*



# BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN CHURCH

48 Perrin Street, Fairport, NY ~ (585) 223-0634 ~ [www.blcfairport.org](http://www.blcfairport.org)  
The Rev. Abigail Zang Hoffman and The Rev. Amy Walter-Peterson, co-Pastors

**Sunday, November 13, 2022 ~ O Come, O King of Nations**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### CALL TO WORSHIP

Benedictus

Alec Rowley

Susan DePasquale, guest organist/pianist

*For centuries, Christians have sung O Come, O Come Emanuel and lifted up the titles for the Messiah that are named in scripture. Today's readings point to Messiah – King of Nations – enthroned on high for eternity.*

## **GATHERING**

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Come, Lord Jesus.

**On this day and in this place, be our guest.**

Now is the time to wake from sleep.

**And confront our sin, confessing them to God who is merciful and just.**

*Silence for reflection*

God for whom we wait,

**We confess that we have grown complacent with the world as it is and lost a vision for how you created it to be. We fail to see you in the face of our neighbor. We build lives on foundations that crumble instead of trusting in you. Come to us with forgiveness and mercy.**

People of God, a new thing is growing in our midst. By water and the Spirit you are joined to this wonder. You have put on ☩ Christ, and your sins are washed away. Rejoice in the way of the Lord.

**Amen**

## GREETING

The peace of God which surpasses all understanding,  
The love of Christ that guards our hearts and minds,  
And the joy and consolation of the Holy Spirit be with you all.  
**And also with you.**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Lord Jesus Christ, in wisdom you order all things peaceably, and where you are sovereign justice prevails; so form our minds and rule our hearts that we may freely show your care in perfect service toward the common good; for with the Father and the Holy Spirit you live and reign, one God, now and forever.  
**Amen.**

## HYMN OF PRAISE

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

ELW 257  
st. 7

O come, O King of nations, come,  
O Cornerstone that binds in one:  
refresh the hearts that long for you;  
restore the broken, make us new.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
shall come to you, O Israel.

## 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.*

## PSALM: Psalm 98

<sup>1</sup>O sing to the LORD a new song,  
for he has done marvelous things.

His right hand and his holy arm  
have gotten him victory.

<sup>2</sup>The LORD has made known his victory;  
he has revealed his vindication in the sight of the nations.

<sup>3</sup>He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness  
to the house of Israel.

All the ends of the earth have seen  
the victory of our God.

<sup>4</sup>Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth;  
break forth into joyous song and sing praises.

<sup>5</sup>Sing praises to the LORD with the lyre,  
with the lyre and the sound of melody.

<sup>6</sup>With trumpets and the sound of the horn  
make a joyful noise before the King, the LORD.

<sup>7</sup>Let the sea roar, and all that fills it;  
the world and those who live in it.

<sup>8</sup>Let the floods clap their hands;  
let the hills sing together for joy

<sup>9</sup>at the presence of the LORD, for he is coming  
to judge the earth.

He will judge the world with righteousness,  
and the peoples with equity.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

#### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

The musical score is written for two voices, Soprano and Alto, in the key of D major (indicated by two sharps: F# and C#). The time signature is 8/8, indicated by a large '8' with a sharp sign at the end of the first line. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first line of music corresponds to the lyrics 'Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.' The second line of music corresponds to the lyrics 'Wait for the Lord: be strong, take heart!'. The score uses various musical notations including whole notes, half notes, quarter notes, and eighth notes, with some notes beamed together. The lyrics are in a simple, sans-serif font.

Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.

Wait for the Lord: be strong, take heart!

The holy gospel according to Luke.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

GOSPEL: Luke 21:5-19

*As history moves toward God's fulfillment there will be frightening signs and events. Before the end, believers will draw strength from their relationship to God and will be given the words they need to testify and to endure without fear.*

<sup>5</sup>When some were speaking about the temple, how it was adorned with beautiful stones and gifts dedicated to God, [Jesus] said, <sup>6</sup>“As for these things that you see, the days will come when not one stone will be left upon another; all will be thrown down.”

<sup>7</sup>They asked him, “Teacher, when will this be, and what will be the sign that this is about to take place?” <sup>8</sup>And he said, “Beware that you are not led astray; for many will come in my name and say, ‘I am he!’ and, ‘The time is near!’ Do not go after them.

<sup>9</sup>“When you hear of wars and insurrections, do not be terrified; for these things must take place first, but the end will not follow immediately.” <sup>10</sup>Then he said to them, “Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; <sup>11</sup>there will be great earthquakes, and in various places famines and plagues; and there will be dreadful portents and great signs from heaven.

<sup>12</sup>“But before all this occurs, they will arrest you and persecute you; they will hand you over to synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors because of my name. <sup>13</sup>This will give you an opportunity to testify. <sup>14</sup>So make up your minds not to prepare your defense in advance; <sup>15</sup>for I will give you words and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to withstand or contradict. <sup>16</sup>You will be betrayed even by parents and brothers, by relatives and friends; and they will put some of you to death. <sup>17</sup>You will be hated by all because of my name. <sup>18</sup>But not a hair of your head will perish. <sup>19</sup>By your endurance you will gain your souls.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY	Lost in the Night	ELW 243
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Choir: st. 1

All: sts. 2, 3, 4

## THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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

As we prepare for the fullness of Christ's presence, let us pray for a world that yearns for new hope.

*A brief silence.*

#1 Renewing God, as the northern hemisphere prepares for winter, make us mindful of the ordered beauty of your creation. Teach us to treasure cycles of rest and new life. Help us care for what you have made. Sovereign God,  
**Hear us, we pray.**

#2 Loving God, accompany all who make sacrifices for the sake of others. Safeguard first responders and active duty military personnel. Grant peace to veterans and heal any wounds in body, mind, or spirit. Sovereign God,  
**Hear us, we pray.**

#3 Healing God, your people cry out to you. Sustain doctors, nurses, and hospital personnel in their tireless work. Uphold mental health professionals and those in their care. Sovereign God,  
**Hear us, we pray.**

Come, Lord Jesus to neighbors far and near. We pray for these members and friends of Bethlehem and their families: Dorothy, Jason & Kristen (Kaitlynne), Brendan & Vera, John & Terri, Rebecca, and Ryan. Be with our twinned parish in Shurugwi, Zimbabwe as they receive your presence in new ways. Sovereign God,  
**Hear us, we pray.**

Come, Lord Jesus, to all in need of your hope and healing.

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

- Jane B., sister of Vicky T., who died on 9/27

*We pray for those in need of healing, especially:*

- John N., cousin of Toni T., who is hospitalized and will soon begin dialysis
- Neil V., who is recovering from knee replacement
- David, brother of Celia T., as he enters hospice care
- Lisa M., as she begins chemotherapy
- Those who are caregivers for loved ones
- Those who are ill from Coronavirus and all who care for them

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

*Silence for individual prayer.*

Sovereign God,  
**Hear us, we pray.**

God of our longing, you know our deepest needs. By your Spirit, gather our prayers and join them with the prayers of all your children. In Jesus' name we pray.

**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](http://blcfairport.org/support-our-ministry).*

OFFERING OF MUSIC

Seek Ye First

Karen Lafferty/Johann Pachelbel  
arr. Douglas E. Wagner

The Chancel Choir

## OFFERTORY



With prom-ised mer - cy will God still the cov - e - nant re - call, the  
oath once sworn to A - bra - ham, from foes to save us all; that  
we might wor - ship with - out fear and of - fer lives of praise, in  
ho - li - ness and righ - teous - ness to serve God all our days.

## OFFERTORY PRAYER

We pray. Holy One,

**we wait in hope. And we give with hope. Hope for your coming reign; hope because you are present with us even now. Receive these generous offerings, and use them for your work of healing and hope in the world. Amen.**

## EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

The Spirit and the church cry out:

**Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

All those who await his appearance pray:

**Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

The whole creation pleads:

**Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Lord Jesus,

**open our hearts to believe that you come in this meal of grace. Amen.**



## 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

Be strong, do not fear. Here is your God who has come to save you.

**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.*

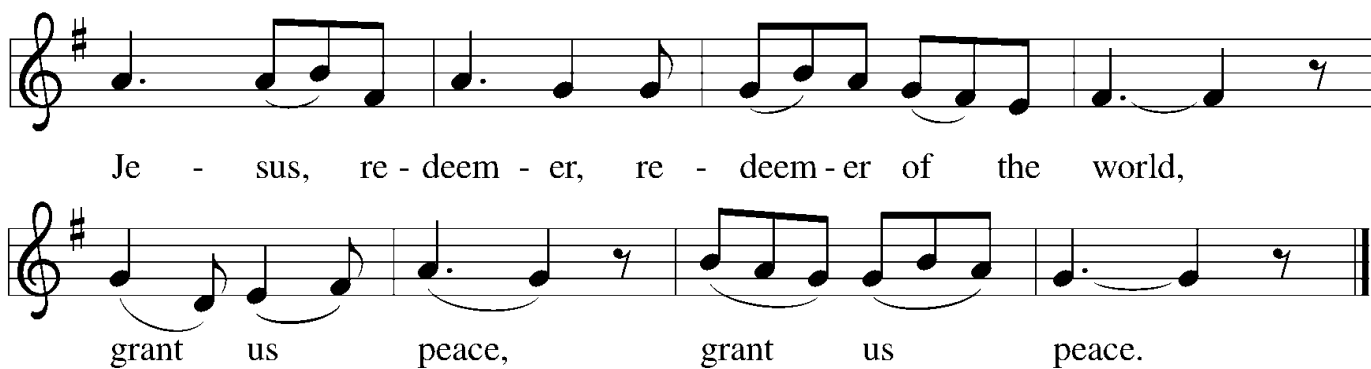
## THE COMMUNION



Je - sus, Lamb of God, have mer - cy on us.



Je - sus, bear - er of our sins, have mer - cy on us.



## COMMUNION HYMNS

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

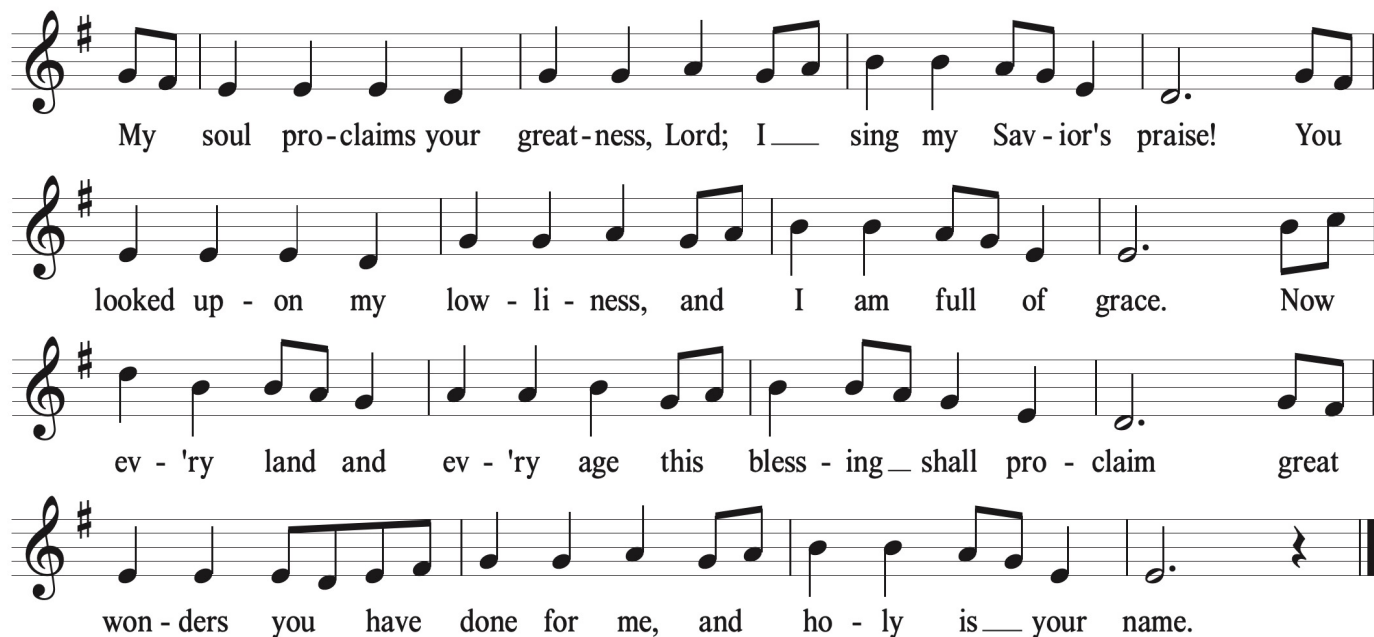
ELW 490

Blessed Be the God of Israel

ELW 250

## TABLE BLESSING

## POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE



## LEAVING TO SERVE

## BENEDICTION

The God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing, so that we may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit, through Christ Jesus for whom we wait.

**Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

Jesus Shall Reign

ELW 434

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Wait for the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending

*HELMSLEY*

Thomas Olivers

arr. William Lloyd Webber

## **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 Susie DePasquale for serving as our guest organist today and 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](http://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](mailto: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](mailto:pastor.hoffman@blcfairport.org) or [pastor.amy@blcfairport.org](mailto:pastor.amy@blcfairport.org)

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Prayer of the Day is from *What Are We Waiting For* by William H. Petersen

## From Life to Death and Death to Life

In our baptisms we move *spiritually from death to life*. We are reminded of this in the words from the service of Holy Baptism: “In baptism our gracious heavenly Father frees us from sin and death by joining us to the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ” (*Evangelical Lutheran Worship*, 227). We begin in death, and grace raises us to life. Still, we tend to focus on the spiritual nature of this change or transformation.

It is easy to forget that by the very nature of that baptism, we can in an instant move *physically from life to death* for the sake of the life we are gifted with in baptism. We hear the words of promise and trust in the gifts and blessings of baptism, but overlook the accompanying responsibility. Like a teenager with a brand new driver’s license we relish our newfound freedom and may forget all those other drivers on the road whose safety depends upon the new driver.

The new life we receive in baptism is a life that is lived to God each day. On any given day we may be called upon to renounce, in some way, the God we serve and love. On any given day, we may be called upon to stand up for life—or for *a* life, or for *our own* life—or for someone’s freedom or safety, or for love, perhaps even under threat of death. Many around the world live that kind of life every day for the sake of the gospel. Jesus encouraged disciples to always be ready for the tests and trials that will somehow surely come. As we grow in the obedience, courage, patience, and love we need to keep the faith in difficult times.