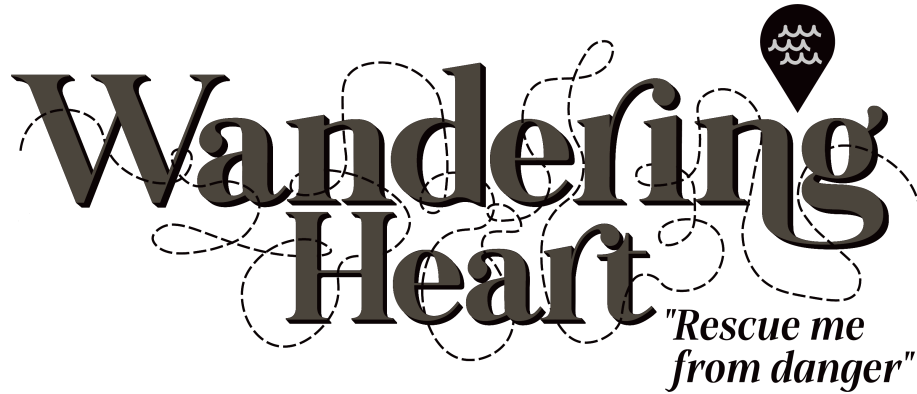




BETHLEHEM
LUTHERAN CHURCH

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



**Wandering
Heart** "Rescue me
from danger"

Wednesday, February 28, 2024

Each week throughout this season, we are providing the opportunity to linger and focus our attention on one passage of scripture along with poetry and art inspired by it. In the silence of reflection your Wandering Heart is invited to rest and wonder.

PRELUDE

Love Unknown
(Meditation)

John Ireland
setting, Matthew H. Corl

HOLDEN EVENING PRAYER

SERVICE OF LIGHT

PROCESSION		p. 2
EVENING HYMN		3
EVENING THANKSGIVING		4
PSALMODY	PSALM 141	4-7
	<i>(Group I –Organ Side; Group II –Good Shepherd Side)</i>	

PRAYER

May our prayers come before you, O God, as incense, and may your presence surround and fill us, so that in union with all creation, we might sing your praise and your love in our lives.

Amen.

INTO THE WATERS

Matthew 14:22-33

A reading from Matthew.

²²Immediately he made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. ²³And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, ²⁴but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them. ²⁵And early in the morning he came walking toward them on the sea. ²⁶But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out in fear. ²⁷But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid."

²⁸Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." ²⁹He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus. ³⁰But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, "Lord, save me!" ³¹Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, "You of little faith, why did you doubt?" ³²When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. ³³And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

A bell will mark the beginning and end of this time of silence. During this time, you are invited to ponder using the poetry and art inspired by this gospel reading that are included on your insert or focus on one of the following questions. Where does your wandering heart take you?

- What truths or wounds weigh heavily on you today? What things cause you to sink?
- When the storms in your life rage, what do you do? How do you pray? Where do you go?
- Peter gets out of the boat and walks toward Jesus. When in your life have you intentionally moved closer to Jesus? What prompted that?

- Who in our world needs rescuing right now?
- When Peter begins to sin, Jesus reaches for him immediately. What does this tell you about God? About Jesus? About the storms of our life?
- Jesus tells Peter, “Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid.” Where in your life do you need courage?
- When Peter sings, Jesus asks, “Why did you doubt?” Do you think Peter doubted himself or Christ? How does doubt show up in your life?

OFFERING OF MUSIC

What Wondrous Love Is This?

W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*
arr. Ruth Smith

THE MAGNIFICAT

pp. 8-9

LITANY AND PRAYERS

10-11

FINAL BLESSING

12

SENDING HYMN	When Twilight Comes	ELW 566
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DISMISSAL

Go in the peace of Christ.

Thanks be to God.

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

Additional musical leadership provided by:

Dave Wideman, cantor

Neil Vokes, cantor

Sue Cardinal, flute

GerryAnn Westcott, hammered dulcimer

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(Adapted by Pastor Amy Walter-Peterson and Pastor Abigail Hoffman.)

“Love Unknown”: Matthew H. Corl © The Trustees of the John Ireland Charitable Trust

“What Wonderful Love Is This”: Ruth Smith © 2014 Cabin Cove Music

Holden Evening Prayer: Marty Haugen © 1990 - 2016 G.I.A. Publications, Inc.

Lent and Holy Week at Bethlehem

Wednesdays in Lent

6 – 6:45 pm – Simple Supper

Each Wednesday in the Fellowship Hall we will host a simple supper of one-pot dishes.

Please sign-up using the [Sign-Up Genius](#) on the BLC website or the kiosk in the Narthex to bring your one-pot wonder or other accompaniments...or just show up to enjoy the meal and fellowship.

Check the Star for details or ask Mark Finke.

7 pm – Holden Evening Prayer, in person and livestream

Share in a beloved liturgy as we worship, pray, and reflect on a small portion of the previous Sunday's text in community.

Holy Week and Easter

During Holy Week we follow Jesus' journey from his triumphal entry into the city to a desolate cross to an empty tomb.

Palm/Passion Sunday, March 24 at 8:55 am

Maundy Thursday, March 28

Noon (in person and livestream) – Individual Absolution and Holy Communion in the Sanctuary

6 pm – *New format!* – Remembering Jesus' last supper with his disciples, we will begin worship with a shared meal around tables in the Fellowship Hall and end in silence in the sanctuary after the altar is stripped

Good Friday, March 29 at 7 pm

**Easter Sunday, March 31 at 8:55 am (in person and livestream)
and 11 am (in person only)**

Easter Breakfast served 9:45 – 10:45 am