



# 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



**Wednesday, March 6, 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

Be Still, My Soul  
(FILANDIA)

Jean Sibelius  
arr. David Cherwien  
(ELW 792)

## HOLDEN EVENING PRAYER

### SERVICE OF LIGHT

PROCESSION	p. 2
EVENING HYMN	3
EVENING THANKSGIVING	4
PSALMODY	4-7
PSALM 141 ( <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.**

## HERE AT THE PEAK

Matthew 16:13-20

A reading from Matthew.

<sup>13</sup>Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" <sup>14</sup>And they said, "Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." <sup>15</sup>He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" <sup>16</sup>Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." <sup>17</sup>And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. <sup>18</sup>And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. <sup>19</sup>I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven." <sup>20</sup>Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

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?*

- When in your life have you felt closest to God? What are some of the “mountaintop” moments of your faith?
- In your own words, how would you describe Jesus? Who do you say that Jesus is?
- What actions feel like praise for you?
- When did your faith become your own? What do you remember about that moment or season?
- Jesus affirms Peter, calling him the “rock of the church.” What affirmations have helped you live into your call or trust your God-given gifts?

OFFERING OF MUSIC  
Close Your Eyes and See

Pepper Choplin

THE MAGNIFICAT  
LITANY AND PRAYERS  
FINAL BLESSING

pp. 8-9  
10-11  
12

SENDING HYMN	All Praise to Thee, My God, This Night	ELW 565
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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:  
Nancy Price, cantor  
Chrisanne Gates, cantor/pianist  
Sue Cardinal, flute

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“Close Your Eyes and See”: Pepper Choplin © 2005 GlorySound. Published by Shawnee Press, Inc. (HL.35004118)  
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**