

Sunday, July 28, 2024 10th Sunday after Pentecost



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

Sunday, July 28, 2024 ~ 10th Sunday after Pentecost

PRELUDE

Drone, Barcarole, and Glee on "Royal Oak" (All Things Bright and Beautiful)

English folk tune setting, Richard H. Kerr

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today is the first of five Sundays with gospel readings from John 6, the first four of which focus on Jesus as bread of life. Today Jesus feeds thousands of people with five loaves and two fish. What we have, what we bring to Jesus' table, seems like it is not nearly enough to meet all the needs we see around us. But it is not the adequacy of our supplies or our skills that finally makes the difference: it is the power of Jesus working in the littlest and least to transform this world into the world God desires, a world where all the hungry are satisfied.

GATHERING

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS
Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, **Amen.**

Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundance, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God, our provider,

help us. It is hard to believe there is enough to share. We question your ways when they differ from the ways of the world in which we live. We turn to our own understanding rather than trusting in you. We take offense at your teachings and your ways. Turn us again to you. Where else can we turn? Share with us the words of eternal life and feed us for life in the world. Amen

Beloved people of God: in Jesus, the manna from heaven, you are fed and nourished. By Jesus, the worker of miracles, there is always more than enough. Through Jesus, + the bread of life, you are shown God's mercy: you are forgiven and loved into abundant life.

Amen. Blessed be God forever.

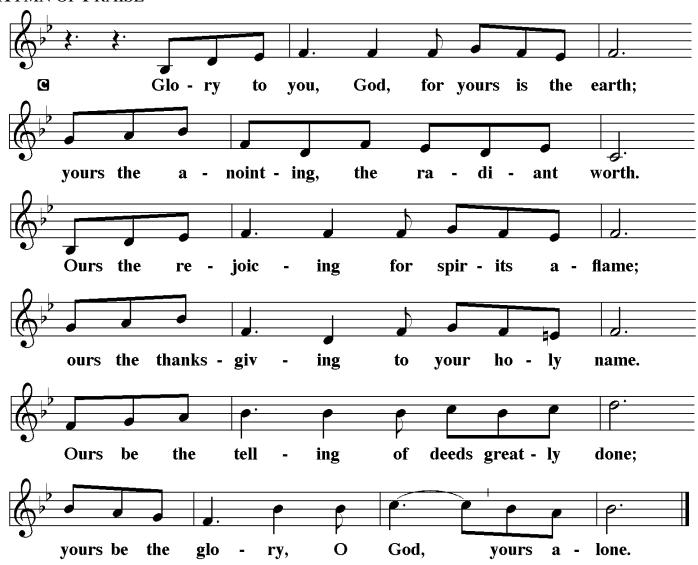
GATHERING HYMN	Shout for Joy Loud and Long	WOV 793
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GREETING

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



PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Gracious God, you have placed within the hearts of all your children a longing for your word and a hunger for your truth. Grant that we may know your Son to be the true bread of heaven and share this bread with all the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

HEARING GOD'S WORD

READING: Psalm 145:10-18

You open wide your hand and satisfy the desire of every living thing. (Ps. 145:16)

¹⁰ All your works shall praise you, O LORD,

and your faithful ones shall bless you.

- ¹¹ They shall tell of the glory of your kingdom and speak of your power,
- ¹² that all people may know of your power and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.
- ¹³ Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom; your dominion endures throughout all ages.

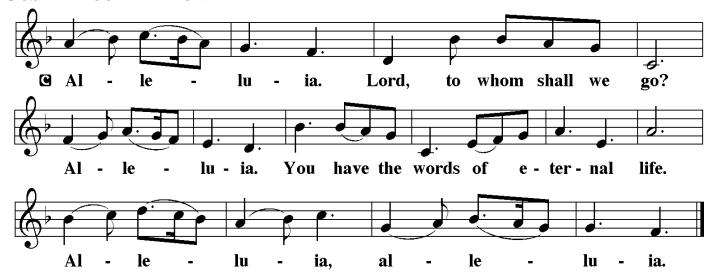
You, LORD, are faithful in all your words, and loving in all your works.

- ¹⁴ The Lord upholds all those who fall and lifts up those who are bowed down.
- ¹⁵ The eyes of all wait upon you, O LORD, and you give them their food in due season.
- ¹⁶ You open wide your hand and satisfy the desire of every living thing.
- ¹⁷ You are righteous in all your ways and loving in all your works.
- ¹⁸ You are near to all who call upon you, to all who call upon you faithfully.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



The holy gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL: John 6: 1-21

In John's gospel, the miracles of Jesus are called "signs," because they reveal the true character of God. As such, they remain within the mystery of God and cannot be brought under human control.

¹ Jesus went to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, also called the Sea of Tiberias. ² A large crowd kept following him, because they saw the signs that he was doing for the sick. ³ Jesus went up the mountain and sat down there with his disciples. ⁴ Now the Passover, the festival of the Jews, was near. ⁵ When he looked up and saw a large crowd coming toward him, Jesus said to Philip, "Where are we to buy bread for these people to eat?" ⁶He said this to test him, for he himself knew what he was going to do. ⁷ Philip answered him, "Six months' wages would not buy enough bread for each of them to get a little." 8 One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said to him, 9 "There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish. But what are they among so many people?" ¹⁰ Jesus said, "Make the people sit down." Now there was a great deal of grass in the place; so they sat down, about five thousand in all. 11 Then Jesus took the loaves, and when he had given thanks, he distributed them to those who were seated; so also the fish, as much as they wanted. ¹² When they were satisfied, he told his disciples, "Gather up the fragments left over, so that nothing may be lost." ¹³ So they gathered them up, and from the fragments of the five barley loaves, left by those

who had eaten, they filled twelve baskets. ¹⁴ When the people saw the sign that he had done, they began to say, "This is indeed the prophet who is to come into the world."

¹⁵ When Jesus realized that they were about to come and take him by force to make him king, he withdrew again to the mountain by himself.

¹⁶ When evening came, his disciples went down to the sea, ¹⁷ got into a boat, and started across the sea to Capernaum. It was now dark, and Jesus had not yet come to them. ¹⁸ The sea became rough because a strong wind was blowing. ¹⁹ When they had rowed about three or four miles, they saw Jesus walking on the sea and coming near the boat, and they were terrified. ²⁰ But he said to them, "It is I; do not be afraid." ²¹ Then they wanted to take him into the boat, and immediately the boat reached the land toward which they were going. The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ WOV 754

APOSTLES' CREED

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,

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 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.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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

We come before the triune God to pray for our communities, ourselves, and our world.

A brief silence.

#1 God of field and forest, streams and seas, you are the fullness of all things. As grains of wheat grow upon the earth and fish swim in the waters, sustain your creation. Protect harvests and give every person food in due season. Continue to be with our congregation as we partner with Moll Farms to help provide fresh food for the residents of Evergreen East. Merciful God, receive our prayer.

#2 God of generations, you work in us far more than we can ask or imagine. Bless the church you have called into being across time and space, and fill it with the power of the Spirit for loving service. Merciful God, receive our prayer.

#3 God of grace, you root us and ground us in love. As you inspired our ancestors in this place in their ministry, sustain us also in new endeavors, that your glory may be made known, and your lovingkindness shared anew. Merciful God, receive our prayer.

By the power of your Spirit, you nurture and bring growth. Strengthen the connections we share with these members and friends of Bethlehem and their families: Doris, Volker, Jeff & Ruth, Pam, and Rick & Sharon. Bring new life and growth to this congregation and to the ministry of our siblings in our twinned parish in Shurugwi, Zimbabwe. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

The eyes of all wait upon you, O Lord, and you are near to all who call upon you.

We give thanks for people who serve faithfully, especially:

- The Rev. Dr. Charles Zang, father of Pastor Hoffman, who celebrates 50 years of ordination on Sunday, July 28, 2024
- Lt Daniel Bucchin, son of Mary Osgood's cousin, Jessie, who has been deployed and will serve in the Sudan until May 2025

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

• Dorothy C., grandmother of Eric C, who died on July 8, 2024

We pray for those in need of healing, especially:

- Kathy S, who is healing after tearing her rotator cuff
- Karen B, who is now receiving additional support at home while in hospice care
- Lisa R as she transitions to nursing care at St. Ann's Home and continues healing from recent falls
- Margot, sister-in-law of Mary O, who fell and broke her wrist
- Andy, brother of Mary O., who will have surgery to remove a melanoma on 7/29
- Joan L, who is recovering from anticipated surgery on 7/19 to remove an ovarian cyst

Hear these prayers we raise to you in our hearts or on our voice.

Silence for individual prayer.

Merciful God,

Receive our prayer.

Receive our prayers, O God, and come quickly to our aid, through the power of the Spirit and the love of Jesus Christ.

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

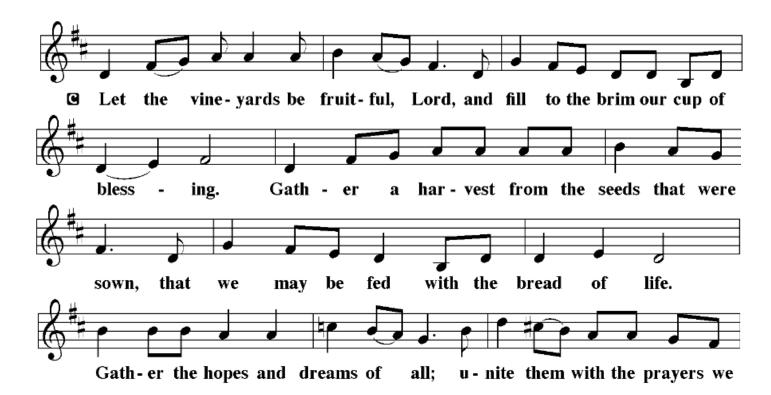
Information about supporting Bethlehem's ministry with your offerings is available in the Welcome insert in your pew rack or by visiting blcfairport.org/support-our-ministry.

OFFERING OF MUSIC

"Morning Has Broken" – Theme and Variations (BUNESSAN)

Gaelic folk tune setting, Kees Schoonenbeek

OFFERTORY





OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray. Jesus, bread of life,

you have set this table with your very self, and called us to the feast of plenty. Gather what has been sown among us, and strengthen us in this meal. Make us to be what we receive here, your body for the life of the world. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also 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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

God, you open wide your hands and feed all creation with your goodness. Open us to receive all that you give us – your mercy, your grace, your love, your very self. Amen

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Spirit, we pray as Jesus 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

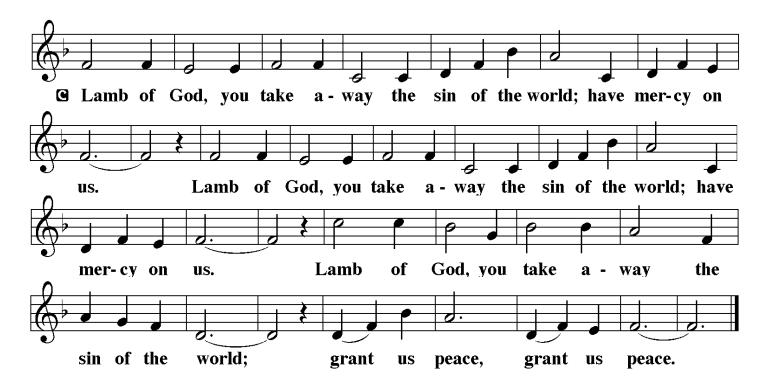
Christ has set the table with more than enough for all. Come!

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.

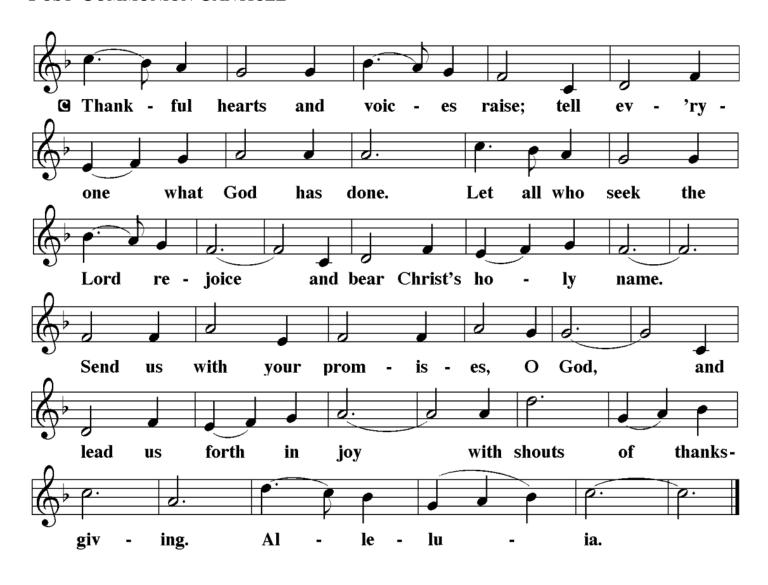
THE COMMUNION





COMMUNION HYMN Day by Day

WOV 746



LEAVING TO SERVE

BENEDICTION (adapted from Ephesians 3:16-19)

May you be strengthened in your inner being with power through God's spirit, and may Christ dwell in your hearts though faith as you are being rooted and grounded in love. May you have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of + Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with the fullness of God.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN All Things Bright and Beautiful WOV 767
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DISMISSAL

Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE
Pasticcio
from *Organ Book*, op. 91, no. 10

Jean Langlais

BLC Musicians

Raelynn Clare, Music Director and Organist Rich Towsley, Director of The Folk Group and BLC Dulcimers Additional musical leadership provided by: Sue Cardinal, flute

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? Talk with one of the pastors following worship or send an email to volunteersupport@blcfairport.org and we'll follow up!

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: Pastor Amy is on vacation from July 29 – August 11. Please contact Pastor Hoffman if you need pastoral assistance during this time. Contact her directly to schedule an appointment either by calling (585) 223-0634 or emailing pastor.hoffman@blcfairport.org.

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Drone, Barcarole, and Glee on "Royal Oak" Music: English folk tune Arranger: Richard H. Kerr

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"Morning Has Broken" – Theme and Variations, Music: Gaelic folk tune

Arranger: Kees Schoonenbeek, © Canzona Music (www.keesschoonenbeek.com)

Loaves Were Broken, Words Were Spoken (ACS 966, Text: Herman G. Stuempfle Jr.

Music: Marty Haugen, Text © 2006 and Music © 1987 GIA Publications, Inc.

"Pasticcio" (from Organ Book, op. 91, no. 10), Music: Jean Langlais

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Rollin' in the Dough—and Fishes

In recent years many books have been printed that focus on baking vast assortments of breads—from rye to pumpernickel, French to Italian. Today, however, we encounter a bread that points to both a deeper longing, physically and spiritually, and an even more fulfilling outcome than the tastiest assortment of baked bread. This abundance of bread satisfies hunger, transforms lives, and ushers in a new vision of the holy in community. Recognizing the power of action, John calls to mind the ways prophets fed and nourished the people, and then he multiplies this in the person and action of Jesus. Jesus uses earthly gifts to provide for the gathered community—the gospel's vision of Jesus' life and God's abundance in creation. Second Kings and John allow our congregations to wonder with the faithful servants and disciples how God will provide. We are invited into a conversation that might start by reflecting on a sentence written by the late United Nations Secretary General Dag Hammarskjold: "Each morning we must hold out the chalice of our being to receive, to carry, and give back." The scriptures today open a door for us to think about how individuals and communities are nourished and sustained by God, and also imagine how we become vessels of the holy who are now opened to the call of service. How might ordinary gifts (and ordinary people) become the ways God's love and mercy are multiplied in sustenance for neighbor, community, and world? Through our questions, our acts of giving, and our proclamation of the works of God in Christ Jesus, we are invited to experience what it means to be rooted in God's sustaining love and to proclaim this God who invites us into the unimaginable vision of abundance.