

Sunday, January 26, 2025
Third Sunday after Epiphany



48 Perrin Street, Fairport, NY ~ (585) 223-0634 ~ www.blcfairport.org

PRELUDE

Offertoire

Leon Boëllmann

Offertory, from *Heures mystiques*, vol. 2, op. 30

ANNOUNCEMENTS

God's glory is revealed in the reading of scripture. People stand at attention. People weep. People prostrate themselves in prayer. The unity of the church is another reflection of God's glory. Most gloriously, the promises of God are fulfilled in the person of Jesus Christ. Gather round. Listen up. Glimpse the glory of God.

GATHERING

CALL TO WORSHIP

Praise for the Morning

setting, Michael E. Akers

based on the hymn tunes: NICAEA, BUNESSAN, and DUKE STREET

The Chancel Bells

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, our creator, our protector, our wellspring of life.

Amen.

Trusting that God receives our words and the meditations of our hearts, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Most merciful God,
you speak blessing and compassion into the world. Forgive us for the ways we act with judgment, cruelty, or indifference. We ignore the needs of our neighbors; we resist your call to oppose injustice; we give in to scarcity and fear; we assume the worst about one another. Cleanse us from our faults and release us from their grasp. Show us your lovingkindness. Restore our hearts and repair your world, that we may live in Christ's ways. Amen.

God proclaims these words of assurance: “Do not fear, for I have redeemed you. I have called you by name. You are mine.” In ✠ Christ, you are forgiven. In the Spirit, you are made free. Refreshed by the waters of mercy, live anew as beloved children of God.


Amen.

GATHERING HYMN	Hail to the Lord's Anointed	ELW 311
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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.



¡Glo - ria, glo - ria, glo - ria en las al - tu - ras a Dios!
Glo - ria, glo - ria, glo - ria, glo - ry to God . . on high!

¡Glo - ria, glo - ria, glo - ria en las al - tu - ras a Dios!
Glo - ria, glo - ria, glo - ria, glo - ry to God . . on high!

Y en la tie - rra paz pa - ra a - que - llos que a - ma el Se - ñor.
And on earth . . . peace to God's peo - ple. Glo - ry to God.

Y en la tie - rra paz pa - ra a - que - llos que a - ma el Se - ñor.
And on earth . . . peace to God's peo - ple. Glo - ry to God.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Blessed Lord God, you have caused the holy scriptures to be written for the nourishment of your people. Grant that we may hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that, comforted by your promises, we may embrace and forever hold fast to the hope of eternal life, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord

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: 1 Corinthians 12: 12-31a

The apostle and pastor Paul uses the metaphor of the human body to describe how intimately connected we are in the church. For this struggling congregation in Corinth, Paul delivers a vital message of unity that is a mark of the church today..

¹² For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. ¹³ For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

¹⁴ Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. ¹⁵ If the foot would say, “Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body. ¹⁶ And if the ear would say, “Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body. ¹⁷ If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? ¹⁸ But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. ¹⁹ If all were a single member, where would the body be? ²⁰ As it is, there are many members, yet one body. ²¹ The eye cannot say to the hand, “I have no need of you,” nor again the head to the feet, “I have no need of you.” ²² On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, ²³ and those members of the body that we think less honorable we clothe with greater honor, and our less respectable members are treated with greater respect; ²⁴ whereas our more respectable

members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honor to the inferior member, ²⁵ that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another. ²⁶ If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it.

²⁷ Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. ²⁸ And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers; then deeds of power, then gifts of healing, forms of assistance, forms of leadership, various kinds of tongues. ²⁹ Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? ³⁰ Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? ^{31a} But strive for the greater gifts.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



¡A - le - lu - ya, a - le - lu - ya, a - le - lu - ya!
 Al - le - lu - ia. al - le - lu - ia. al - le - lu - ia!

¡A - le - lu - ya, a - le - lu - ya, a - le - lu - ya!
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

¡A - le - lu - ya, a - le - lu - ya,
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,

a - le - lu - ya! ¡A - le - lu - ya!
 al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

The holy gospel according to Luke.
Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL: Luke 4:14-21

Near the beginning of Jesus' public ministry, he visits his hometown of Nazareth. In the words of Isaiah, he states and claims his identity, purpose, and mission.

¹⁴ Then Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. ¹⁵ He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone.

¹⁶ When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, ¹⁷ and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:

¹⁸ "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,
because he has anointed me
to bring good news to the poor.

He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives
and recovery of sight to the blind,
to let the oppressed go free,

¹⁹ to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."

²⁰ And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. ²¹ Then he began to say to them, "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing."

The gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

APOSTLES' CREED

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,
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.

With the Spirit of Christ shining upon us, let us boldly pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

#1 As your word is opened in our midst, we give thanks for all who share scripture: for parents, grandparents, and godparents; teachers and mentors; deacons, pastors, bishops, and scholars. Inspire passion for the stories of faith. God of grace.
hear our prayer.

#2 As heavens declare your glory and the sky proclaims your work, we lift our voices in awe of quarks and atoms, vast stars and solar systems. Guide us to speak on behalf of your handiwork. God of grace.

hear our prayer.

#3 As Jesus proclaimed life and freedom in his community, energize communities and nations to eliminate poverty, engage in prison ministry and transformative justice, and envision new ways of working together for your promised reign. God of grace.

hear our prayer.

Gracious God, in this season when we celebrate your presence among us, help us to better know and care for these children, youth and young adults: Tor, Trysta, Tyler, Vanessa, and Vivian. Strengthen the connections we share with the ministries we serve, especially the ministry of our twinned parish in Shurugwi, Zimbabwe. God of grace.

hear our prayer.

Gracious God, you are near to all who call upon you.

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

- Whitey L., friend of Jeff and Ruth Hedin, who died on 1/20
- Jim C, whose funeral will be held on 1/25

We pray for those in need of healing, especially:

- Ravarashe, a member of our sister Shurugwi parish in Zimbabwe, whose uncle died in a mining accident the week of 1/6
- Barbara S, the mother of Kathy F's daughter-in-law, Denise
- Connie S, recovering from anticipated surgery on 1/13

We pray for all the people affected by the California fires – for family & friends of those who died, for those who lost their homes, and for the first responders who protect them.

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

Silence for individual prayer.

God of grace.

hear our prayer.

We entrust our prayers to you, O God, in the sure and certain hope that your promise is revealed among the people.

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

Thank you for your offerings that support the ongoing ministry that we share. 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 or scan the QR (quick response) code on the right and you'll be brought to BLC's mobile giving page.



OFFERING OF MUSIC

Set Your Heart on the Higher Gifts

music / text, Steven C. Warner
based on I Corinthians 12:31-13:13

The Chancel Choir

OFFERTORY



Build us up, Lord, build us up; set in
us a strong foun - da - tion. Lead us to do your
ho - ly will; form and shape your new cre - a - tion.
Build us up, Lord, build us up; as we
guide and teach each oth - er, help us to share your love with the
world: ev - 'ry sis - ter, ev - 'ry broth - er.
Grow - ing in Christ, we plant seeds for the king - dom; we fol - low in
faith what's be - gun! Lord, set in our hearts the pow'r of your
word to spread the news of your Son!

The musical score is written on ten staves, each with a treble clef. The melody is composed of eighth and quarter notes, with some measures containing rests. The lyrics are printed below the staves, aligned with the corresponding notes. The piece concludes with a double bar line on the final staff.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray. Blessed are you, O God,
**source of every gift of your creation. By these gifts and with our lives, help us
to serve one another and all in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and
Lord. Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

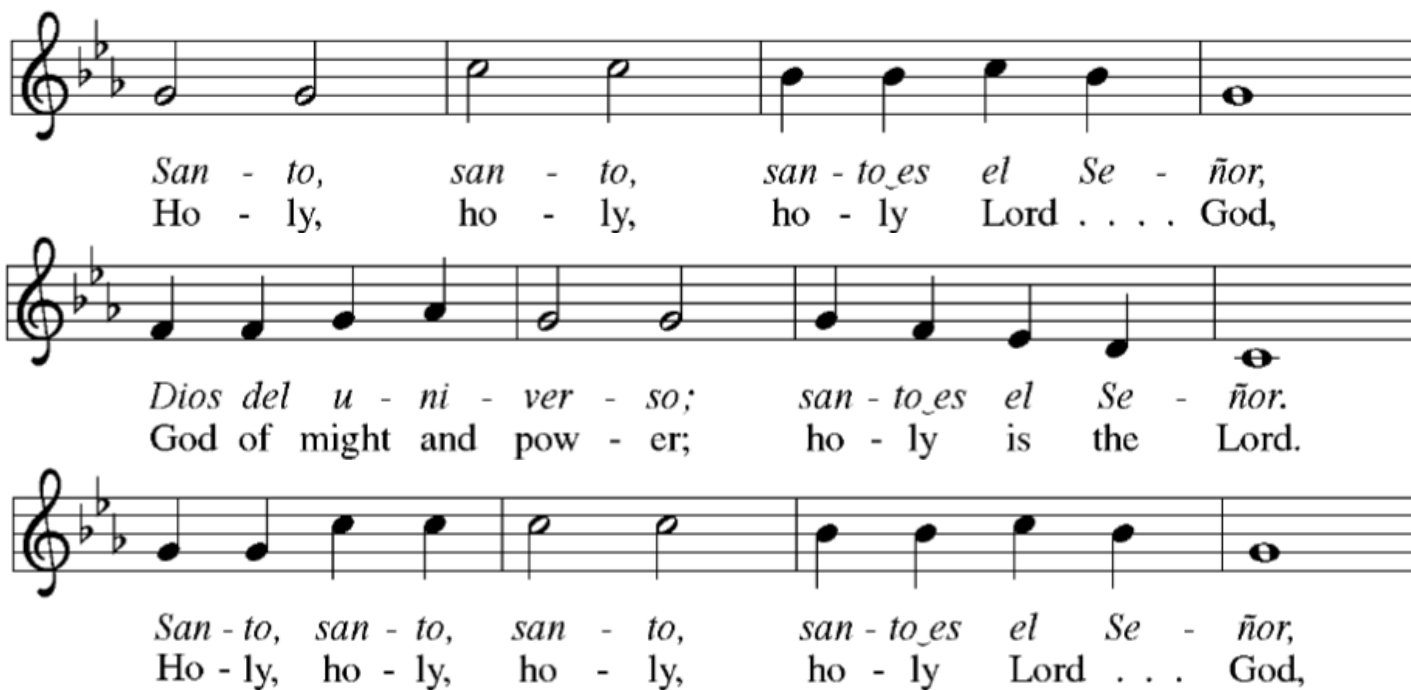
Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy. . . we praise your name and join their
unending hymn:



San - to, san - to, san - to_es el Se - ñor,
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God,

Dios del u - ni - ver - so; san - to_es el Se - ñor.
God of might and pow - er; ho - ly is the Lord.

San - to, san - to, san - to, san - to_es el Se - ñor,
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God,



Dios del u - ni - ver - so; san - to es el Se - ñor.
God of might and pow - er; ho - ly is the Lord.



Ho - san - na en el cie - lo, ho - san - na en la
Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na here on



tie - rra. Ben - di - to el que vie - ne en el
earth. Blest is he who comes in the



nom - bre del Se - ñor. Ho - san - na en el
name . . . of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the



cie - *lo*, *ho* - *san* - *na* *en* *la* *tie* - *rra*. *Ben* -
high - *est*, *ho* - *san* - *na* *here* *on* *earth*.



di - to el que vie - ne en el nom - bre del Se - ñor.
Blest is he who comes in the name . . . of the Lord.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

The joy of the Lord is our strength. Come, eat this meal of gladness.

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



Cor - de - ro de Dios, tú que qui-tas el pe-ca-do del mun-do;
O Lamb of . . God, you . . take a-way the sin of the world; . .



ten pie-dad de no - so-tros, ten pie-dad de no - so-tros.
have . . mer-cy up - on us, have . . mer-cy up - on us.



Cor-de - ro de Dios, tú que qui-tas el pe-ca-do del mun-do;
O Lamb of . . God, you . . take a-way the sin of the world; . .



ten pie-dad de no - so-tros, ten pie-dad de no - so-tros.
have . . mer-cy up - on us, have . . mer-cy up - on us.



Cor-de - ro de Dios, tú que qui-tas el pe-ca-do del mun-do;
O Lamb of . . God, you . . take a-way the sin of the world; . .



da - nos tu paz, da - nos tu paz.
grant us your peace, grant us your peace.

HYMNS FOR COMMUNION

We Come Now to Your Table

ACS 970

Choir: 1st time

All: 2nd and 3rd times

We Come Now to Your Table

The musical score is written for a choir and is divided into three systems. Each system consists of a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The key signature has one flat (B-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are written below the vocal line.

System 1:
Vocal: We come now to your ta - ble, Lord, you are the Liv - ing Bread.
Piano: Accompaniment for the first line.

System 2:
Vocal: We come now to your ta - ble, Lord, let ev - 'ry soul be fed.
Piano: Accompaniment for the second line.

System 3:
Vocal: You are the Liv - ing Bread, let ev - 'ry soul be fed:
Piano: Accompaniment for the third line.

System 4:
Vocal: and now may ev - 'ry soul be fed with Liv - ing Bread.
Piano: Accompaniment for the fourth line.

HYMNS FOR COMMUNION

Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

ELW 843

TABLE BLESSING**POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

Let us pray. Nourishing God, at this table you have refreshed us with holy gifts of food and drink. Strengthen us for service, and send us out to embody your good news of liberation and healing for the sake of the world. In the name of Christ we pray,

Amen.**LEAVING TO SERVE****BENEDICTION**

The Spirit of the triune God ☩ bless you with joy, anoint you with compassion, and send you in love.

Amen.**SENDING HYMN**

O Zion, Haste

ELW 668

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Live in hope.

Thanks be to God.**POSTLUDE**

MEIRIONYDD

(The Voice of God Is Calling)

tune, William Lloyd
setting, Mahlon Balderston

BLC Pastors

The Rev. Abigail Zang Hoffman and The Rev. Amy Walter-Peterson, co-Pastors

BLC Musicians

Raelynn Clare, Music Director and Organist

Chrisanne Gates, Chancel Choir Director

Rich Towsley, Director of The Folk Group and BLC Dulcimers

Additional musical leadership provided by:

Margie Gaul, percussion

Neil Vokes, percussion

Dave Wideman, percussion

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: 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.

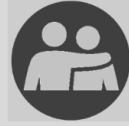


BLC Music Groups Rehearsals

Children's Choir- Sundays at 10:15am
Chancel Bells- Wednesdays at 6pm
Folk Group- Wednesdays at 6:15pm
Chancel Choir- Wednesdays at 7:30pm
Dulcimers- Fridays at 3pm

Support Groups

Meet every two Tuesdays



**GRIEF SUPPORT
GROUP,
11 AM**



**CAREGIVER
SUPPORT
GROUP,
2 PM**

***Join BLC's email list
to receive our weekly
STAR e-newsletter
and other
announcements!***



between sundays 



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podcast here! 

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"Offertoire" - from *Heures mystiques*, vol. 2, op. 30, Music: Leon Boëllmann
© 1996 Belwin-Mills Publishing Corp. (ASCAP)
"Praise for the Morning", Tunes: nicaea, bunessan, and duke street, Arranger: Michael E. Akers, © 2010 Lorenz Publishing Co.
"Set Your Heart on the Higher Gifts", Text: I Corinthians 12:31-13:13 / adapt. by S. C. W.,
Music: Steven C. Warner, © 1992, 1994 World Library Publications
"We Come Now to Your Table", Text: Caribbean Conference of Churches Jamaica workshop
Music: St. Vincent traditional, adapt.; arr. Patrick Prescod, © Caribbean Conference of Churches
"Meirionydd" – The Voice of God Is Calling, Tune: William Lloyd
Arranger: Mahlon Balderston, © 1996 Belwin-Mills Publishing Corp. (ASCAP)

Living “Words with Friends”

Playgrounds still resound with “sticks and stones may break my bones, but words will never hurt me.” But those words ring hollow. As adults, and as children, we know only too well the power of words to do harm. In contrast, the words ring hollow. As adults, and as children, we know only too well the power of words to do harm. In contrast, the scriptures for today point us to the word that bears hope, promise, and life. Human words can hurt or fail, but now we hear this holy word of wisdom, challenge, instruction, and hope that really does form us in God’s promise. Rather than words that tear down, we are invited by the prophets and Jesus into God’s living words with and among friends. Jesus, in coming home and attending the synagogue, reads from the scroll of the prophet Isaiah. Jesus announces good news to those struggling economically on the fringes of society, hope to those who are imprisoned, healing to those without sight, a lifting of the burden from those who are weighed down or oppressed, and even the in-breaking of a holy year of favor. Standing in a tradition of prophets and priests who speak, engage, and teach God’s word, Jesus now offers one thing more—fulfillment. The words of those who dream and hope, who work for justice and mercy on behalf of God, are now true. Today as we look around and see people spending time speaking, reading, and even playing games with words, this is an opportunity to ground ourselves in the one full Word that bears life. This word counters sticks and stones and all that oppresses; Jesus address announces God’s liberating actions. This Word sounds promise to all who hear; it is an invitation to see God at work among God’s people.