



Sunday, October 5, 2025
17th Sunday after Pentecost



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

PRELUDE

In This Very Room

Fred Bock
tune, Ron and Carol Harris

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A little faith goes a long way is Jesus' point in the gospel. A mustard seed's-worth of faith has miraculous potential. The patience, tenacity, and endurance required for the life of faith are the blessings received in holy baptism, holy communion, and the word read and proclaimed in this assembly. Anticipate them. Receive them with thanksgiving.

GATHERING

Una versión en español de la orden de culto de hoy está disponible en el himnario azul All Creation Sings que comienza en la página 8.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who creates, redeems, and sustains all of creation.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

To you, O God,

all hearts are open, to you all desires are known. We come to you, confessing our sins. Forgive us in your mercy, and remember us in your love. Show us your ways; teach us your paths; and lead us in justice and truth, for the sake of your goodness in Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

By water and the Holy Spirit God gives you a new birth, and through the death and resurrection of † Jesus Christ, God forgives you all your sins. The God of mercy and might strengthen you in all goodness and keep you in eternal life.

Amen.

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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Benevolent, merciful God: When we are empty, fill us. When we are weak in faith, strengthen us. When we are cold in love, warm us, that with fervor we may love our neighbors and serve them for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

(LOBE DEN HERREN)

Kevin McChesney
tune, German hymnal, 1665

The Chancel Bells

HEARING GOD'S WORD

DISMISSAL TO WORSHIP FOR KIDS AND JOY!

*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 designated spaces. **Worship for Kids** (Ages 3 – Grade 2) meets across the hall from the sanctuary and **JOY!** (Grades 3 – 5) meets downstairs. Kids will return during the offering so they can participate in Communion.*

READING: Lamentations 3:19-26

¹⁹ The thought of my affliction and my homelessness

is wormwood and gall!

²⁰ My soul continually thinks of it

and is bowed down within me.

²¹ But this I call to mind,

and therefore I have hope:

²² The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases,

his mercies never come to an end;

²³ they are new every morning;

great is your faithfulness.

²⁴ “The Lord is my portion,” says my soul,

“therefore I will hope in him.”

²⁵ The Lord is good to those who wait for him,
to the soul that seeks him.

²⁶ It is good that one should wait quietly
for the salvation of the Lord.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION – Sung two times

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

A - le - lu - ya, a - le - lu - ya. El Se - ñor re - su - ci - tó.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Christ is ris - en, ris'n in - deed.

The holy gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL: Luke 17:5-10

On the way to Jerusalem, Jesus instructs his followers about the power of faith and the duties of discipleship. He calls his disciples to adopt the attitude of servants whose actions are responses to their identity rather than works seeking reward.

⁵ The apostles said to the Lord, “Increase our faith!” ⁶ The Lord replied, “If you had faith the size of a mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, ‘Be uprooted and planted in the sea,’ and it would obey you.

⁷ “Who among you would say to your slave who has just come in from plowing or tending sheep in the field, ‘Come here at once and take your place at the

table’? ⁸ Would you not rather say to him, ‘Prepare supper for me; put on your apron and serve me while I eat and drink; later you may eat and drink’? ⁹ Do you thank the slave for doing what was commanded? ¹⁰ So you also, when you have done all that you were ordered to do, say, ‘We are worthless slaves; we have done only what we ought to have done!’ ”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY**In This Very Room**

Stanzas 1: Cantors

2, 3: All

1. In this ver-y room there's quite e-nough love for one like me,
 2. In this ver-y room there's quite e-nough love for all of us,
 3. In this ver-y room there's quite e-nough love for all the world,

and in this ver-y room there's quite e-nough joy for one like me;
 and in this ver-y room there's quite e-nough joy for all of us;
 and in this ver-y room there's quite e-nough joy for all the world;

and there's quite e-nough hope and quite e-nough power to chase a-way an-y

gloom, for Je-sus, Lord Je - sus, is in this ver-y room.

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,
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.

Gracious God, we come to you in prayer for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

#1 O God of the church, you give the church a treasure in Jesus Christ. Draw us into the gift of faith passed down from generation to generation. Remind your people that faith the size of a mustard seed is enough. God of mercy,
hear our prayer.

#2 O God of creation, you nourish the earth with grace and mercy. Bring favorable weather during the harvest season and sustain all creation along with all who labor in the field. Ensure the welfare of animal companions whose presence offers comfort, safety, and joy. God of mercy,
hear our prayer.

#3 O God of this congregation, you nurture our faith. Thank you for those of all ages who teach, lead, and learn in this congregation and beyond. Give growth to the seeds of faith watered by faithful examples of baptismal living. God of mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for the Rev. Yehiel Curry as he begins his call as the presiding bishop of the ELCA; and for our siblings in faith in our twinned parish in Shurugwi, Zimbabwe. May our partnerships remind us of your abundance. God of mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We know that all people matter in your eyes and you know their cares and concerns, their hopes and joys. We pray for those whose needs are known to us.

We pray for those in need of healing, especially:

- Volker H who is recovering from anticipated surgery on 9/30
- Ben E who was injured in a fall
- Jim M for health concerns
- Katie, sister of Sandy J, who is recovering from a severe fall

Hear the names of those we raise to you in our hearts or on our voice.

Silence for individual prayer.

God of mercy,
hear our prayer.

We entrust these prayers to you, O God, in the name of Jesus Christ, our redeemer and friend.

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

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

(FAITHFULNESS)

words, Thomas O. Chisholm

music, William M. Runyan / arr. Craig Courtney

The Chancel Choir

OFFERTORY



God, bless the la - bor we bring to serve you, that with our



neigh - bor we may be fed. Sow - ing or till - ing, we would work



with you, har - vest - ing, mill - ing for dai - ly bread.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray. Holy God, gracious and merciful,
you bring forth food from the earth and nourish your whole creation. Turn our hearts toward those who hunger in any way, that all may know your care; and prepare us now to feast on the bread of life, 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.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

Blessed are you, O God, creator of heaven and earth. You rescued your covenant people, led them on all their journeys, and taught them by the prophets. You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Pour out your Holy Spirit in this meal,
and make us one in this community of faith and with your people throughout the world.

Glory and praise to you, O God,
Author of life, Word made flesh, Power of the Most High, now and forever.
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

Jesus welcomes sinners and eats with them. Come to this meal of mercy.

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 -
O Lamb . . of God, you . . take a - way the



ca - do del mun - do: ten pie - dad de no - so - tros.
sin of the world; . . . have . . mer - cy up - on us.



Cor - de - ro de Dios, tú que qui - tas el pe -
O Lamb . . of God, you . . take a - way the



ca - do del mun - do: ten pie - dad de no - so - tros.
sin of the world; . . . have . . mer - cy up - on us.

Cor - de - ro de Dios, tú que qui - tas el pe -
 O Lamb . . of God, you . . take a - way the
 ca - do del mun - do: ten pie - dad de no -
 sin of the world; . . . have . . mer - cy up -
 so - tros, ten pie - dad de no - so - stros.
 on us, have . . . mer - cy up - on us.
 Da - nos tu paz. A - mén.
 Grant us your peace. A - men.

HYMNS FOR COMMUNION

Bread of Life, Our Host and Meal
 You Satisfy the Hungry Heart

ELW 464
 ELW 484

TABLE BLESSING

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE

En - via - do soy de Dios, mi ma - no lis - ta es - tá
 The Lord now sends us forth with hands to serve and give,
pa - ra cons - truir con él un mun - do fra - ter - nal.
 to make of all the earth a bet - ter place to live.
Los án - ge - les no son en - via - dos a cam - biar
 The an - gels are not sent in - to our world of pain

un mun - do de do - lor por un mun - do me - jor;
 to do what we were meant to do in Je - sus' name;

me ha to - ca - do a mí ha - cer - lo rea - li - dad.
 that falls to you and me and all who are made free.

A - yú - da - me, Se - ñor, a ha - cer tu vo - lun - tad.
 Help us, O Lord, we pray, to do your will to - day.

LEAVING TO SERVE

BENEDICTION

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine upon you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN	How Firm a Foundation	ELW 796
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DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Do not lose heart.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

“Foundation”

Wilbur Held
tune, Early American

*The altar flowers are given in joyful celebration of
Rosemarie and Roger Kolker's 45th wedding anniversary on October 4.*

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:

Cantors: Jeffrey Hansen, Robert Stock, Hans Walter-Peterson, Dave Wideman

Violin: Jane Morale

Percussion: Margie Gaul, Rich Towsley, Dave Wideman

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: Please communicate your needs through the church office by phone (585) 223-0634 or by email office@blcfairport.org. Our co-Pastors are available Sunday – Thursday and on-call for emergencies. Contact them directly to schedule an appointment either by calling the church office or emailing pastor.hoffman@blcfairport.org or pastor.amy@blcfairport.org

Bethlehem's **Annual Meeting** of the congregation will take place on **Sunday, October 26 following worship**. Plan to attend worship on Reformation Sunday (wear Red!) and stay for this opportunity to engage in the work of the congregation.

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



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"Aleluya" Music: anonymous, Honduras © 2020 Holy Communion, Setting 11 (adm. Augsburg Fortress)

"Praise and Thanksgiving" Text: Albert F. Bayly; Music: Gaelic tune (bunessan)

Text © Oxford University Press; Music (arr.) © 2006 Augsburg Fortress

"Cordero de Dios" Music: Rudy Espinoza © 2020 Holy Communion, Setting 11 (adm. Augsburg Fortress)

"The Lord Now Sends Us Forth" – Enviado soy de Dios, Text: Anonymous, Central America; tr. Gerhard M. Cartford

Musci: Anonymous, Central America

"In This Very Room" Tune: Ron and Carol Harris; Arranger: Fred Bock

"Praise to the Lord, the Almighty" Tune: Ernewerten Gesangbuch, Part II, Stralsund, 1665

Arranger: Kevin McChesney © 1991 Agape (adm. Hope Publishing Co.)

"In This Very Room" Words: Ron and Carol Harris; Music: Ron and Carol Harris © 1979 Ron Harris Music

"Great Is Thy Faithfulness" Words: Thomas O. Chisholm; Music: William M. Runyan / arr. Craig Courtney

© 1923, 1951, and this Arr. © 1998 Hope Publishing Co.

"Foundation" Tune: Early American; Setting: Wilbur Held © 1984 Concordia Publishing House

The Righteous Live by Faith

Faith is the theme for today's assigned readings, but not just any faith. It is a life-transforming faith, one that demonstrates the very presence of God moving, alive, and active in God's people. In response to Habakkuk's oracle (Hab. 1:1-4, 2:1-4), the Lord answered him that "the righteous live by their faith" (Hab. 2:4b). But just what does it mean to be righteous? It's a righteousness imparted by God, who creates and claims each of us as God's own sons and daughters, bringing us into this family by our baptisms and by the faith God gives us makes us holy children. Being part of this divine family gives us our worth, even at those times we may not think of ourselves as worthy. In 2 Timothy 1:1-14, the author writes a history of the faith in Timothy's family, beginning with his grandmother and then passed on to his mother and himself. This is how many of us were first brought into the family of God: we had faithful parents who knew of their own God-given righteousness and then passed this gift on to their children. But again, it's all God's doing! Finally, Jesus' disciples boldly ask their teacher to "Increase our faith" (Luke 17:5). They knew that faith was something needed, and Jesus explains that even a small amount of faith can do great wonders. What does it mean to have this sort of faith, a faith that can serve God's purposes here to truly be God's work and yet it's done with our hands? On this Sunday, help the assembly experience this faith that God has given us. It's a gift and connection to our God.