

## The Loaf-Keeper

Our English word “lord” comes from Middle English words meaning “loaf-keeper” or “loaf-ward (guard).” I imagine a scene from the Middle Ages with peasants slavishly working the land. Then I see wealthy lords hoarding power and control over that same land, and in a sense holding the keys to the pantry. They kept and guarded the loaves. They decided who would receive resources to survive based on how much work they had done, how much debt they owed, and whether they seemed deserving.

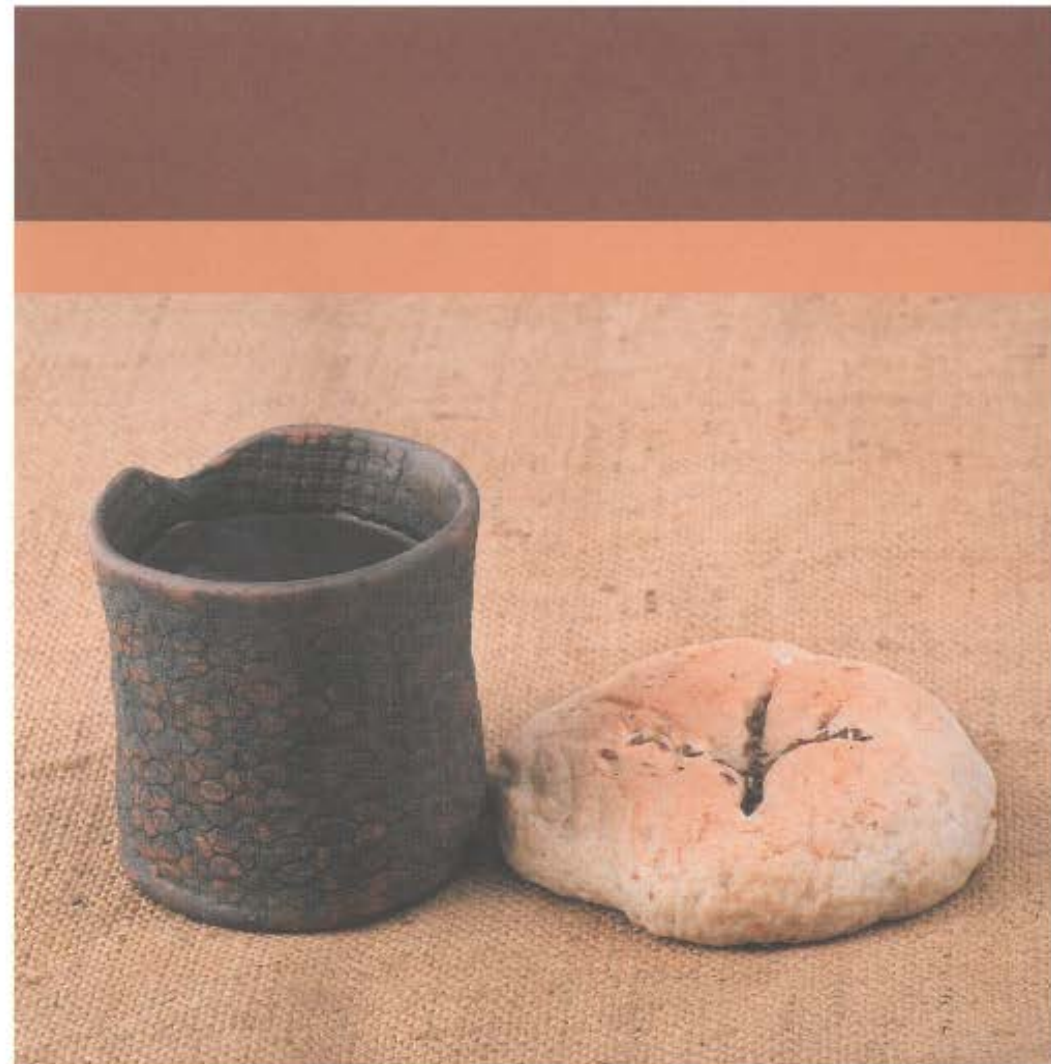
I could be wrong, but I doubt translators thought about the Middle English meaning of “lord” when they completed the King James Bible in 1611. In time, it simply meant “one with authority, control, and power.” Yet, the original meaning could not be better. Jesus is the Loaf-Keeper, but in the most beautiful and caring way. And even more than that, he’s the Bread of Life. It doesn’t matter how hard someone has worked, or how deserving they seem to be. Jesus holds out his bread to anyone who will accept the grace and transforming love that he wants to share in abundance.

Paul knew that transforming love. And his letter to the beloved Christians in Philippi lifts up the Loaf-Keeper who offered himself in humility and humanness as a sign of God’s love. It also invites us to allow Jesus’ bread-rising spirit to work in us, calling us to be about Jesus’ bread-rising work in the world. As we celebrate communion around the world today, may we find ourselves nourished, encouraged, and enabled by the Loaf-Keeper. And together, sisters and brothers, let us also lift our voices in one resounding chorus to confess that Jesus Christ is Lord!

—Paula Ziegler Ulrich, chaplain  
Brethren Retirement Community  
Greenville, Ohio

**Text for today:** “Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that *Jesus Christ is Lord*, to the glory of God the Father” (Phil. 2:3-11, NRSV). **Bible readings for today:** Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32; Psalm 25:1-9; Philippians 2:1-13 (11); Matthew 21:23-32.

10-01-17, World Communion Sunday. Printed in the USA.  
Worship resource © 2017 Brethren Press. [www.brethrenpress.com](http://www.brethrenpress.com)



# Jesus Christ is Lord

# BRIDGEWATER CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN

at Worship October 1, 2017 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.

## GATHERING

**PRELUDE** (11:00) “Soul, Adorn Thyself With Gladness” *J. S. Bach*  
BWV 654 from Eighteen Chorales

**CONNECTING WITH EACH OTHER** Jeff Carr  
Please sign and pass the *Friendship Register* pad located at the inside aisle of the pew. Signing helps us learn the names of those worshipping near us. After all have signed, the pad can be passed back to the inside aisle.

**THE BESANÇON CHIME** (11:00) Française d’Armes et Cycles

**SCRIPTURE READING** Psalm 25:1-9

**RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP** from *Sing the Journey*

**Leader:** Come, let us seek rest at the altar of God –  
**People:** **Where even the infant can find comfort and protection;  
where even the weak can find justice and peace.**  
**Leader:** Blessed are those who dwell in God’s presence –  
**People:** **Where even the lily may grow in glory, where even the  
grass may be clothed with life.**  
**All:** ***Blessed are those who trust in you, O Lord, our Home  
and our Provider!***

## PROCLAIMING

**CHILDREN’S TIME** (11:00) Mike Fike  
Children of ALL ages are invited to the front of the sanctuary for a time of building upon and connecting to faith through stories and interactions. Following the Children’s Story, all children preschool through 5<sup>th</sup> grade are invited to attend Children’s Worship in the Agape Room.

**SCRIPTURE READING** Philippians 2:1-13 *NRSV*

**\*HYMN # 570** *We walk by faith* SHANTI

**SCRIPTURE READING** Matthew 21:23-32 *NRSV*

**HOMILY** “*Kneading Faith*” Jeff Carr

## RESPONDING

**REFLECTIONS** (8:30) Music for contemplation, followed by conversation.

**ANTHEM** (11:00) Pilgrim Song *Ryan Murphy*

### OFFERING

#### Invitation

#### Offertory

(8:30) We bring our tithes and offerings to the worship center.

(11:00) Ushers receive our tithes and offerings.

Korean Folk Tune *Joy E. Koning*  
“Christ, You Are the Fullness”

### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

**\*HYMN # 306** *In Christ there is no East or West* ST. PETER

### SERVICE OF COMMUNION

#### Invitation & Thanksgiving

#### Communion of the Bread & Cup

#### Prayer of Thanksgiving

**\*HYMN # 459** *I come with joy to meet my Lord* DOVE OF PEACE  
(vv. 1-2, 5)

### \*BENEDICTION

**POSTLUDE** (11:00) Scherzo on DOVE OF PEACE *John Barr*

\* Rise as able in body and spirit.

## MEETINGS & OPPORTUNITIES FOR SERVICE & NURTURE

October 1-7, 2017 (All events are p.m. unless noted)

This is a church events calendar and does not include all building events use.  
Please be sure to schedule ALL EVENTS through the church office.

<b>Today</b>	9 a.m.	Bell Choir Rehearsal	Choir Room
		Children's Worship during Worship at 11	Agape Room
	Noon	Youth Fundraiser Lunch (Menu: Spaghetti and Salad)	Social Hall
	5:00	Sr. Hi. Movie Night – Home of the Zepps	
<b>Mon.</b>	7:00	Executive Committee	Lounge
<b>Tues.</b>	2:00	Another Voice	Maple Terrace
	7:00	Food Pantry	Social Hall
<b>Wed.</b>	11-1	Bridgewater Home Auxiliary Lunch	Social Hall
	2:00	Pastor's Book Study	Lounge
	5:15	Cherub Choir Rehearsal	Agape Room
	5:45	Carol Choir Rehearsal	Agape Room
	6:30	YORFFs Rehearsal	Room # 35
	7:00	Fellowship & Recreation Commission	Youth Room
	7:00	Ministerial Services Commission	Altruistic Room
	7:00	Mission & Service Commission	Lounge
	7:00	Worship & Music Commission	Seekers Room
<b>Thurs.</b>	6:00	Brethren Student Movement	Carter Center
	7:30	Sanctus Choir Rehearsal	Choir Room

### NEXT SUNDAY– October 8, 2017 – 16<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

**Worship:** 8:30 & 11:00 a.m. – Sanctuary

Preaching: Pastor Chris Zepp

Sermon: “Learning to Walk in the Dark”

Scriptures: Matthew 21:33-46; Philippians 3:4b-14

**Bell Choir Rehearsal** – 9 a.m. – Choir Room

**Sunday School** – 9:45 a.m. – Classrooms

## BRIDGEWATER CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN

*An inclusive family of faith seeking to follow Jesus  
and live the love of God.*

### ***Our Mission...***

*As an inclusive community of faith, we commit ourselves to embody the love of God and to share our diverse lives and gifts with each other and the world. Through faith formation, worship, mission, and fellowship we boldly proclaim the peace and love of Christ. Together we work for justice, extend grace, and partner with God to offer abundant life, healing, and hope to our community and the world.*

### ***Our Values...***

*Sharing life together and including all persons in our common life.  
Growing in faith, compassion, and understanding.  
Serving one another and our neighbor's good.  
Sharing the love of God and the God that is love.*

### PASTORAL MINISTRY STAFF

**Jeff Carr** – Senior Pastor

**Chris Zepp** – Associate Pastor

### ADMINISTRATIVE AND FACILITIES MINISTRY STAFF

**Fortunato Correa** – Custodian

**Phil Flory** – Treasurer

**Shannon Puffenbarger** – Administrative Assistant

**Leon Rhodes** – Head Teller

**Glenna Wampler** – Business Manager

### PROGRAM & MUSIC MINISTRY STAFF

**Kathleen Arndt** – Child Care Center Administrator

**John Barr** – Organist

**Jim Benedict** – Bell Choir Director

**Jeanie Eye** – Christian Education Director

**Mary Beth Flory** – Pianist

**Marianne Houff** – Children's Choir Director

**Ellsworth Neff** – Sound, Light, Video Coordinator

**Curtis Nolley** – Sanctus Choir Director & Music Coordinator

**Clarke & Hope Staton** – Youth Ministry Coordinators

### CONTACT INFORMATION

420 College View Drive, Bridgewater, VA 22812

[www.bwcob.org](http://www.bwcob.org) / (540) 828-3711

Normal office hours are Monday-Friday from 8 a.m.-Noon, and 1-5 p.m.

## **SUNDAY MORNING INFORMATION & TODAY'S VOLUNTEERS**

### **HOSPITALITY CENTER in the Greeting Hall**

Nametags; large-print Bibles, hymnals, & bulletins; listening receivers; and information are available here.

### **SUNDAY SCHOOL: 9:45 a.m.**

*All Are Welcome* brochures, available in the pews and literature rack, list specific Christian Education opportunities and locations.

**PARKING ASSISTANCE:** 10:30-10:55 a.m. every Sunday.

### **CHILDREN ARE WELCOME!**

Children are always welcome among us and in our corporate worship gatherings. Activity bags are available in the greeting hall for their use and enjoyment. Additionally, childcare for children ages birth to kindergarten is available as well as a "cry room" for those who wish to listen and see the worship service in a separate room from the sanctuary. Ushers are more than willing to help you locate these resources.

**Pianist** (8:30) – Kathy Shrader

**Head Usher** – Devin Bowman

**Decorators** – Heather & Ryan Kiracofe

**Deacon Caregivers** – Betty & Sheldon Propst

**Worship Leader** – Joyce Wampler

**Van Driver** – Rod Miller

## **ATTENDANCE / STEWARDSHIP FOR SUNDAY: 09/24/17**

**Worship Attendance: 8:30 – 16 11:00 – 196 Sunday School: 154**

Pledges & Envelope Giving	\$9,281.00
Loose Offering	471.00
Books	32.00
Utilities – Refugee	210.00
Disaster Relief	850.00
Backpack Program	20.00
Seekers Sunday School Class	59.00
JOY Circle	100.00
Friendship Circle	12.00
Sojourners Sunday School Class	5.00
McIntyre Assistance Fund	675.00

## **TODAY'S ANTHEM TEXT: Ryan Murphy**

My brethren, I have found a land that doth abound with fruit as sweet as honey;

The more I eat, I find, the more I am inclined to shout and sing hosanna. My soul doth long to go where I may fully know the glory of my Savior; And as I pass along I'll sing the Christian song, I'm going to live forever. Perhaps you think me wild, or simple as a child; I am a child of glory; I am born from above, my soul is filled with love; I love to tell the story. My soul doth long to go where I may fully know the glory of my Savior; And as I pass along I'll sing the Christian song, I'm going to live forever. My soul doth long to go, my soul now sits and sings and practices its wings, and contemplates the hour when the messenger shall say, 'Come quit this house of clay, and with bright angels tower.'

My soul doth long to go where I may fully know the glory of my Savior; And as I pass along I'll sing the Christian song, I'm going to live forever.

© 2012 by Oxford University Press

All rights reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-717854

**Philippians 2:1-13** New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)  
**Imitating Christ's Humility**

<sup>2</sup> If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, <sup>2</sup> make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. <sup>3</sup> Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. <sup>4</sup> Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. <sup>5</sup> Let the same mind be in you that was<sup>[a]</sup> in Christ Jesus,

<sup>6</sup> who, though he was in the form of God,  
did not regard equality with God  
as something to be exploited,  
<sup>7</sup> but emptied himself,  
taking the form of a slave,  
being born in human likeness.

And being found in human form,

<sup>8</sup> he humbled himself  
and became obedient to the point of death—  
even death on a cross.

<sup>9</sup> Therefore God also highly exalted him  
and gave him the name  
that is above every name,

<sup>10</sup> so that at the name of Jesus  
every knee should bend,  
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

<sup>11</sup> and every tongue should confess  
that Jesus Christ is Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father.

**Shining as Lights in the World**

<sup>12</sup> Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; <sup>13</sup> for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

**Matthew 21:23-32** New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)  
**The Authority of Jesus Questioned**

<sup>23</sup> When he entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, “By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?” <sup>24</sup> Jesus said to them, “I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. <sup>25</sup> Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?” And they argued with one another, “If we say, ‘From heaven,’ he will say to us, ‘Why then did you not believe him?’ <sup>26</sup> But if we say, ‘Of human origin,’ we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet.” <sup>27</sup> So they answered Jesus, “We do not know.” And he said to them, “Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

**The Parable of the Two Sons**

<sup>28</sup> “What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, ‘Son, go and work in the vineyard today.’ <sup>29</sup> He answered, ‘I will not’; but later he changed his mind and went. <sup>30</sup> The father<sup>[a]</sup> went to the second and said the same; and he answered, ‘I go, sir’; but he did not go. <sup>31</sup> Which of the two did the will of his father?” They said, “The first.” Jesus said to them, “Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. <sup>32</sup> For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him.