

Chris Moravian Church
Pastoral Letter for the weekend of October 4th, 2020
Sunday Worship Focus: World-Wide Holy Communion

Greetings Friends in Christ:

I mention in this week's worship video experience that worship this week holds special meaning for us, as it is "World-Wide Holy Communion Sunday". I've often used this weekend to reflect on the many special friends and loved ones I've been privileged to know from around the world. You may do this as well. In this weekend, take a moment to lift in prayer those friends in your life from across the world and know that God's love is offered abundantly for all. As this is a Eucharist Service, you may have your elements of bread and juice prepared.

The Finance Committee will soon offer an update of the financial circumstances of the congregation. Envelope Steward, Mr. Ken Schultz, notes that our projected envelope giving for the end of September is \$138,645, and as of Sept. 30 we have received \$130,026. We are ever so thankful and grateful for the continued generous financial support for the life of the church's ministry and mission, especially during this time of separation.

The Re-Opening Task Force appointed by the Executive Board is finalizing its work in minimizing the risk factors of re-gathering in the church facility. See the attached report that lays out these guidelines and protocols.

Indranie Perera continues to collect recycling at the church, as this goes a long way to help support the needs in far away Sri Lanka. Drop your recycling at the church and Indranie collects it on a regular basis. Thanks.

The CMC Men's Breakfast Group will meet on a Zoom connection on Saturday October 3rd at 8:30am. See the attached link to get connected.

The Sunday Morning "Bible Buddies" Study Group will meet again on Sunday at 9:00am. That zoom link, and the Bible Study lesson will be attached.

Other usual info is in these attachments as well.

Enjoy the great fall days.

God's peace and joy be yours,

Pastor Steve Gohdes

Children's Worship Bulletin

Coloring Page

The Ten Commandments

Exodus 20:1-17

Word Search Puzzle

W G Y O F W S T R P E B H T A
G A E Q A O E M D S F Y O H D
D P U E G V E S U O K Q N I U
L S M N O S H O E R N Y O D L
W A O C U T H K E V D K R O T
N L L S L I S H Y X E E E L E
Y R I O D A T S Q A G N R Y R
A M E B R A R T A K J Q T O Y
F M L M F D S L N B Q W B H W
E A O D E S T E A L B H Y R O
R C L T P M M J U K G A K O R
W N S S H L B W T I Y A T N S
I Z W S E E G E E L U L C H H
F H H O L Y R N R F L I V E I
E L R C P T E S T I M O N Y P

SABBATH	NAME	MURDER	LIVE	HOUSE
WIFE	FALSE	REMEMBER	DAY	IDOL
COVET	WORSHIP	MOTHER	LONG	FATHER
LORD	NEIGHBOR	DONKEY	SEVENTH	STEAL
MISUSE	HONOR	ADULTERY	TESTIMONY	HOLY

Christ Moravian Church
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THE TEN COMMANDMENTS (EXODUS 19:20-20:17)



And God spoke all these words: "I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery."
Exodus 20:1-2 (NIV)

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Decoder Puzzle

Each number represents a letter of the alphabet.
Substitute the correct letter for the numbers to reveal the coded words.

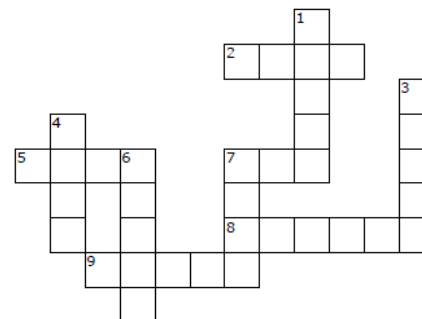
X	G	V	A	C	U	J	N	O	D	Y	W	Z	S	M	L	P	E	I	T	B	R	H	F	K	Q
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26

- 19-10-9-16 _____
- 8-4-15-18 _____
- 14-4-21-21-4-20-23 _____
- 23-9-8-9-22 _____
- 24-4-20-23-18-22 _____
- 15-9-20-23-18-22 _____
- 15-6-22-10-18-22 _____
- 4-10-6-16-20-18-22-11 _____
- 14-20-18-4-16 _____
- 5-9-3-18-20 _____

NAME	ADULTERY	COVET	FATHER	MOTHER
IDOL	SABBATH	MURDER	STEAL	HONOR



Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS

2. You shall not make for yourself an _____. (a false god)
5. You shall have no other _____ before me.
7. You shall _____ commit adultery.
8. You shall not _____. (kill)
9. You shall not give _____ testimony against your neighbor. (untrue)

DOWN

1. You shall not _____. (to want something that belongs to another)
3. _____ your father and your mother.
4. Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it _____.
6. You shall not _____. (to take what does not belong to you)
7. You shall not misuse the _____ of the LORD your God.

FALSE NAME	IDOL COVET	STEAL HOLY	HONOR NOT	MURDER GODS
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Worship & Event Links for October 4th, 2020

Topic: CMC Men's Group

Canadian District is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: CMC Men's Group

Time: **Oct 3, 2020 08:30 AM** Edmonton

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83421302216?pwd=c2RzbEJWN3dQNE1RejN3RkpKbC9vdz09>

Meeting ID: 834 2130 2216

Passcode: 230437

Dial by your location

+1 587 328 1099 Canada

Meeting ID: 834 2130 2216

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/kcmNDRocHi>

Topic: CMC Bible Buddies

Attached is this week's (Oct 4) lesson, Matthew 21:33-46 "Perils of Rejection"

Canadian District is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: CMC Bible Buddies

Time: Oct 4, 2020 09:00 AM Edmonton

Every week on Sun, until Oct 25, 2020, 4 occurrence(s)

Oct 4, 2020 09:00 AM

Oct 11, 2020 09:00 AM

Oct 18, 2020 09:00 AM

Oct 25, 2020 09:00 AM

Please download and import the following iCalendar (.ics) files to your calendar system.

Weekly:

https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/tZ0rcuugrjIqHN3yib7cog7C2pRluL9aXNfn/ics?icsToken=98tyKuGhqD4oEtScsB-ORpx5BI_4a_zziFhfgo0OhRbnVCNcZVTVPJwPqdTSdno

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89652809069?pwd=cG9MUnp1MmpNYTFMeFpzK1ZUQytWZz09>

Meeting ID: 896 5280 9069

Passcode: 370623

One tap mobile

+14388097799,,89652809069# Canada

+15873281099,,89652809069# Canada

Dial by your location

+1 587 328 1099 Canada

Children's Activities

<https://kidsupfront.com/kidsathome/>

You could be happily busy!

Glo

Links to Online Worship:

Christ Moravian

<https://www.christmoravian.com>

Good Shepherd

<https://www.goodshepherdmoravian.org>

Millwoods

<https://www.mcchurch.ca/>

Rio Terrace

<https://www.rioterracechurch.org/live>

Moravian Church Northern Province

<https://www.moravian.org>

for details of events happening within the wider Moravian Church

Focus on Matthew 21:33–46

WHAT is important to know?

— From “Exegetical Perspective,” Susan Grove Eastman

What shall we make of this judgment on Israel’s religious leaders? We note that here Jesus does not reject the whole people of Israel; his conflict with the chief priests is preceded and triggered by his healings of the blind and the lame, who come to him within the temple precincts (21:14). The suffering, impoverished, and illiterate common people rightly acclaim him; the educated leaders do not. Thus the accusations against Israel in Isaiah 5:8–30 echo in the background of Jesus’ teaching here: the outcast and the poor suffer, while the wealthy continually enrich only themselves.

WHERE is God in these words?

— From “Theological Perspective,” Andrew Purves

Calvin has a second point: whatever the contrivances of those who actively reject or betray Jesus, seeking to destroy him, the cornerstone remains secure, holding up the building. The attack on Jesus Christ is ultimately fruitless. Jesus, says Calvin, suffers no loss or diminution when he is rejected or betrayed. In spite of betrayal, he retains the place given to him from the Father. Whatever the honor given to and apparent success of those who attack Christ, the authority and purpose of God will prevail. “This was the Lord’s doing” (v. 42).

SO WHAT does this mean for our lives?

— From “Pastoral Perspective,”

Richard E. Spalding

Our weathering of the challenges to our ethics and convictions posed by responsible stewardship—of the “vineyard” of this earth, of the values we live by, of the soundness of our relationships—begins with the realization that God will maintain at least sufficient distance to enable us to determine our own fruitfulness or to make our own mistakes. Though, of course, God is not an absentee landlord, mature faith means practicing sound values and sound devotion on our own, even when God seems distant.

NOW WHAT is God’s word calling us to do?

— From “Homiletical Perspective,”

Marvin A. McMickle

Another way in which we reject God occurs when we reject some of God’s people for reasons of our own. Human beings are capable of doing terrible things to other people whom they are somehow able to define as less worthy, less human, less valuable than themselves. If we can manage to turn another human being into the “other,” there is no limit to what we will do or will allow to be done to them. We can be as brutal to one another as were the men who beat, stoned, and killed people in Matthew 21:35–37. When we reject some of God’s people, we are rejecting the God who made them.

Context and Connection

Part 1 Setting the Context

Matthew's version of the parable of the Wicked Tenants is the second in a series of three parables that Jesus tells in the temple. The setting and context of the parable are crucial to its interpretation. Jesus has entered Jerusalem riding on a colt and been acclaimed as the messianic Son of David, and "the whole city was in turmoil" (Matthew 21:6–10). This acclamation of Jesus as the Son of David continues when he goes to the temple and overturns the tables of the money changers, prompting the chief priests and scribes to ask angrily, "Do you hear what these are saying?" (21:16). Jesus leaves the city for the night. When he returns the next morning, he curses a fruitless fig tree, symbolizing the coming destruction of Jerusalem and disempowerment of the temple leadership (21:18–19; cf. Matthew 3:10). After this he enters the temple and, not surprisingly, encounters a challenge to his authority from the chief priests and elders (21:23–27). The three parables that follow respond to this challenge, and each speaks directly to these Jewish leaders, not to the people as a whole. Thus, when in the first parable Jesus says, "The tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you" (21:31), he judges the religious leaders, not the Jews as a people (21:45).

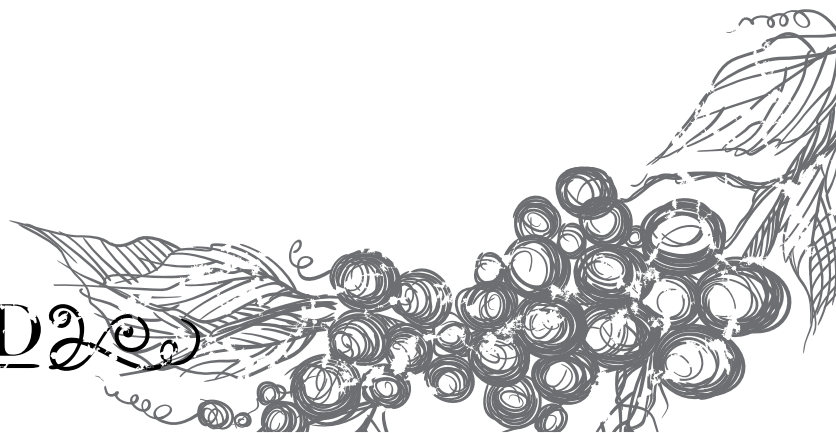
—Excerpted from Susan Grove Eastham, *Feasting on the Word, Year A, Volume 4* (Louisville, KY: Westminster John Knox Press, 2011), 141

Part 2 Connecting Then with Now

The parable of the Wicked Tenants is remarkably helpful for guiding reflection on the life of the church today. While it must be interpreted in its historical context as part of the teaching of Jesus against the religious leaders of his day, and of the reach of the gospel beyond the confines of Israel, the parable must not remain locked within the limitations of past history. As gospel it has contemporary significance. John Calvin, in his commentary on this parable, noted as much for his day. Calvin identified two theological points of continuing relevance: (1) we should expect people, and especially religious leaders, to try to hinder the reign of Christ; (2) whatever contrivances are mounted against the church, God will be victorious.

—Excerpted from Edward Purves, *Feasting on the Word, Year A, Volume 4* (Louisville, KY: Westminster John Knox Press, 2011), 140

 **VINEYARD** 



Christ Moravian Church

COVID-19 Risk Mitigation Strategies

As a faith community, Christ Moravian Community Church takes seriously the importance of caring for the health and wellbeing of our congregants and tenants, as well as the community at large. We carefully follow City of Calgary and Alberta Ministry of Health Guidelines for COVID-19 and expect those who enter our building to do likewise.

Since the beginning of the pandemic worship services have been exclusively offered online and this option will continue for the foreseeable future. Minimal business is conducted at the church facility.

As Christ Community Moravian Church begins to reopen its space to renters and small gatherings, a team has been formed to develop policies, procedures and preventive measures to minimize risks and curb the virus. In accordance with public health guidelines, these measures include but are not limited to:

- Increased frequency of cleaning and elevated sanitization practices, especially for frequently touched surfaces.
- Mandatory hand sanitization upon entry and hand sanitizers available throughout the building.
- Development of health and hygiene protocols for those using shared office space.
- Compulsory wearing of masks as per City of Calgary Bylaw.
- Implementation of physical distancing protocols whenever possible.
- Limiting the number of attendees for events.
- Elimination of congregational hugging, singing, responsive readings and wind instruments during worship services attended by the congregation.
- Elimination of shared food and beverages.
- Implementation of record keeping for contact tracing.
- Provision of awareness materials and signage for staff and attendees with regard to health screening, hygiene, respiratory and self-isolation practices.
- Renters and user groups must sign a document stating they will comply with Public Health orders and COVID-19 Guidance documents issued by the City of Calgary and Alberta Ministry of Health while occupying and using the building.

We at Christ Moravian Community Church are dedicated to staying up to date on the latest developments and recommendations from provincial and local public health officials.

Let us continue to be kind and thoughtful towards one another as we navigate this new normal and safeguard everyone's health and wellbeing.

Updated, September 27, 2020

