

Christ Moravian Church

Congregational Newsletter for the weekend of November 14th, 2021

Christ Church Watchword for the Year 2021 Psalm 42:1

"As the deer longs for flowing streams, so my soul longs for you, O God."



Moravian Daily Text Watchword for the Week:

*"I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God,
who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.*

Revelation 1:8

Worship Focus: "Serving with Christ"

Greetings Friends in Christ:

It's getting colder. It's dark so late in the morning and so early in the evening. The snow will arrive soon and probably be here to stay. Winter has arrived. It's in days as this that the "light of Christ", the "bright morning star of God's love" seems to shine with greater brightness and beauty than the rest of the year.

This weekend concludes an entire church year of faith experiences during COVID-19, and we will never forget the events of this year. We have changed, and as the next week arrives, we move into the promising season of Advent.

I, personally, am ready for this season that God will unfold for us. With the continued cautions of "in-person" gatherings limiting our numbers, we at CMC will do our utmost to continue to offer the church community special worship videos that seek to nurture our faith before Christmas. The "light of Christ" will come to shine in us and through us!

Check out the announcements for Advent and Christmas as certain events will invite pre-registration in order to plan for the event to be safely conducted.

Watch the upcoming newsletters for further details and info that will guide us through this special holiday season.

Wishing you all a blessed weekend,

Pastor Steve Gohdes

Upcoming Events

**Sunday
November 21st:**
"Bible Buddies"
meet at 8:30 am
via Zoom

Zoom details for this Bible Study Class are on the Events page of your e-mail.

Anyone who may be interested in joining the group, please speak with Barb Ward.

Watch for "Some Good News" During Advent.....

**Saturday
December 4th:**
Men's Group
meets at 8:30 am
via Zoom

For more information, visit our website @
www.christmoravian.com



Worshippers in-person are welcomed

Mandatory Restrictions for Places of Worship:

- Capacity limited to 1/3 fire code occupancy.
 - Masks are mandatory.
- 2 metres physical distancing between households, or 2 close contacts for those living alone.

Envelope Update

As of October 31st we have received \$140,995 and our budget for envelope giving at that date is \$159,500.

Ken Schultz, Envelope Steward

Women's Fellowship

On December 1st at 10:00 am the Women's Fellowship Group of the church will be decorating the beeswax candles for the Christmas Eve worship service. You're invited to come and help us do this needed task for our church . Please contact Pat Wollf to reserve your spot for this craft day. We plan to finish 300 candles in one day so bring a snack, coffee and tea will be provided.

Beeswax Christmas Candle Distribution

Recognizing many will experience the Christmas Eve service online this year, you're invited to pick up your Moravian Beeswax Candle at the church . They will be available for pick up from December 6th – December 20th at the church between 9:00 am and noon. As well, Envelope Steward Ken Schultz will also have your 2022 envelopes ready for pick up.

Prayer Support for Lohrey Family

We are saddened to announce the death of Barb Lohrey on Thursday, November 11 as she was taken into the loving arms of Christ for her eternal life. Please keep Roger and son, Casey, in your prayers of support, love, and compassion at this time of grief. Plans for the Memorial Service will be forthcoming at a more appropriate time for the family and friends. All of us at CMC have been richly blessed by the joy-filled, faithful, and beautiful life that Barb has lived.

Worship Assistance Needed!

As we carefully gather for "In Person" worship, assistance is now needed.

- **Greeter/Host/Usher** - Holly Heffernan is coordinating the welcome hosts who will monitor the health issues for worship. Please contact her to volunteer.
- **Audio/Visual/Tech Support** - CMC invites tech minded folks to assist with the A/V support. Orientation and Training will be offered. Speak with Pastor Steve to join this team.

Committee Members Wanted:

Mission and Outreach is an important part of the work of the Church in sharing the message of God's transforming love and living out Christ's call to serve our neighbours. If you are interested in joining the Mission and Outreach Committee, or would like to learn more, please contact Donna Gordon or Pat Wollf.

Weekly Reminders...

- Please know that you may contact the church office for any needs that may arise. Feel free to phone (403-271-2700) to speak with us or leave a message, or contact the church office by e-mail at moravian@nucleus.com.
- **If you require assistance in getting to an Influenza or COVID-19 vaccine appointment, please call the office.**
- Cash and food donations for the Acadia Food Pantry are most appreciated. Food items may be dropped off at the church and placed in the blue bin by the side door. Contact Donna Gordon if you would like to volunteer.
- Indranie Perera continues to receive recycling for support of Sri Lanka. She wishes to express sincere thanks to all who contribute to this worthwhile cause.

2 *In All Things Love...*



Spiritual Programs & Worship Focus November - December 2021

Sunday Worship Focus

Sunday Worship Services are evolving as the combination of “In-Person” and Video Service worship is offered. The average In-Person attendance is now at 35, with the maximum limited to 50, and the views per video service are averaging 70 per week.

Advent

November 28th will begin the Advent Season, and the four Sundays will use the theme “Making Room”. Each week will touch on the four traditional Advent themes of Hope, Peace, Joy and Love, and include special music, word, and voice to invite us to “Make Room” for Christ’s birth in our lives.

Special Announcement: Some Good News will air the four weeks of Advent.

A Blue Season Service of Prayer, Hope, and Healing Wednesday December 15th @ 7:00 pm (by registration)

There is a part of the Christmas season that is difficult for many. It’s realizing the loss, the grief, the stress, the brokenness, more profoundly because of the holiday atmosphere around. This simple service will invite us to come and pray, reflect on Scripture, to know God’s presence in music and in silence.

E-mail the office moravian@nucleus.com, or call 403-271-2700 to register.

Early Christmas Eve Service

On December 10th at 7:00 pm CMC will record a Christmas Eve service with the traditional candlelight, music, message, and readings. Special Music is being arranged along with the Morning Star soloist. The candlelight service will be videotaped with 50 registered participants in the sanctuary. Steve Blackwell will edit the video and make it available on our regular links on December 24th.

E-mail the office moravian@nucleus.com, or call 403-271-2700 to register.

“In-Person” Christmas Eve Service, December 24th @ 7:00 pm

We will begin registering 70 participants {the balcony, fireside room and full sanctuary will be used} for an “In-Person” Christmas Eve Service. Again, the traditional experiences of carols, readings, special music, and the Morning Star solo will be included. Registration for this will begin on December 1st, and if the registration goes over 70 by December 15th, a second service at 9:00 pm will be added.

NO IN-PERSON SUNDAY SERVICE WILL BE OFFERED ON DECEMBER 26th!
The pre-recorded service from December 24th, 2020 will be available this weekend.

Sunday Worship Services will begin again on January 2nd, 2022



Christ the King

John 18:33-37

Word Search Puzzle

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

IDEA	PLACE	RIGHT	WORLD	SERVANTS
TESTIFY	KINGDOM	TRUTH	ARREST	LISTENS
FACT	PEOPLE	REASON	BORN	FIGHT
SAYING	PALACE	PRIEST	KING	EVERYONE



Christ the King
John 18:33-37

Decoder Puzzle

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

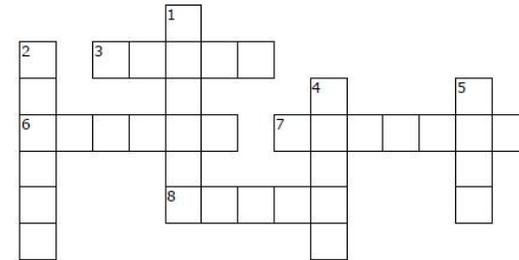
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
E	Z	I	K	S	Y	O	F	P	J	N	V	R	T	W	U	G	Q	A	M	X	C	L	D	H	B

- 19-13-13-1-5-14 _____
- 9-19-23-19-22-1 _____
- 26-7-13-11 _____
- 14-13-16-14-25 _____
- 15-7-13-23-24 _____
- 8-3-17-25-14 _____
- 14-1-5-14-3-8-6 _____
- 4-3-11-17 _____

WORLD	BORN	KING	PALACE
FIGHT	TESTIFY	TRUTH	ARREST



Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS

- The earth or universe
- To make an effort to hear something
- An area or territory ruled by king or queen
- A statement proven to be or accepted as accurate or factual

DOWN

- To capture and hold under the authority of law
- Where a king or queen lives
- To battle, quarrel, or argue; a conflict between two or more people
- Brought into life by birth

ARREST	LISTEN	FIGHT	BORN
WORLD	PALACE	KINGDOM	TRUTH



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Focus on John 18:33–37

WHAT is important to know?

— From “Exegetical Perspective,” Robert A. Bryant

The Johannine theme of truth is central to this text. Indeed, the final references to truth in John occur here. John began his Gospel by identifying Jesus with God's truth (1:1–5, 9–14, 32–34; etc.), demonstrated the truthfulness of Jesus' perceptions (1:47; 2:25; etc.), and proved that Jesus' teaching bears witness to the truth (4:23–26; 5:33; 8:32, 40, 45, 46). Jesus also imparted truth to his disciples (14:6, 15–17, 25–26; 15:26; 16:7, 13–15; 17:17, 19). The opponents of Jesus, however, have rejected the “truth” (8:44) and sided with the “world” (11:47–53). In this last reference to truth, Jesus declares that his kingdom is present in everyone who hears and accepts his testimony.

WHERE is God in these words?

— From “Theological Perspective,” Emilie M. Townes

We are aided in accepting the challenges of discerning obedience by remembering that the truth Jesus calls us to, in this passage and others, originates in God and not in humanity. This truth is neither relative nor provisional. It is eternal and an intricate part of God's ongoing revelation in our lives and in creation. God truly is a God of love and grace, who wills the blessings of creation in our lives. This can be brought out with compelling effect by exploring Jesus' words, “Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice” (v. 37), and then following this with Pilate's question, which Jesus does not answer: “What is truth?” (v. 38).

SO WHAT does this mean for our lives?

— From “Pastoral Perspective,”

Rodger Y. Nishioka

The reign of God is larger than any individual, even Jesus himself. Surely the kingdom is present wherever Jesus is present. It is present wherever we experience the reign of God through God's invitation, healing, and restoration—but our belonging is not up to each one of us alone. Our belonging is up to God. That is the new reality that Jesus proclaims. That is the new truth to which all of us—the community of those invited, healed, and restored—belong.

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

— From “Homiletical Perspective,”

Pete Peery

Here in the very last encounter Jesus has with a human being before his death, an encounter that leads to his death, he makes an offer to Pilate. “Everyone who belongs to truth listens to my voice,” says Jesus to Pilate. Even to Pilate Jesus offers to be the good shepherd, the good shepherding king, who, when his sheep listen to his voice, are led into abundant life (John 10). This is always Jesus' offer. But to receive it means facing the truth about our lives, the truth Jesus holds up before us. Pilate refuses to face that truth. “What is truth?” he declares dismissively. What about those confronted by Jesus as this text is heard today? Jesus still offers the invitation to be authentic about how it is with us, and being authentic, to be led by the shepherding king into abundant life.

Truths

Instructions: Review the focus scripture and truths learned for the sessions in this quarter. Add your understanding of the truth learned in today's focus scripture. Write a job description for disciples; include characteristics needed and tasks required of disciples.

Date	Focus Scripture	Truths Learned
September 5, 2021	Mark 7:24–37	Disciples overcome ethnic, gender, and other boundaries to show God's mercy.
September 12, 2021	Mark 8:27–38	Disciples can expect to suffer. The Christian life is not about being powerful.
September 19, 2021	Mark 9:30–37	Christian leadership and authority are based on service and humility.
September 26, 2021	James 5:13–20	Christians pray in community.
October 3, 2021	Mark 10:2–16	Discipleship is more than following a strict set of rules. One receives the kingdom of God like a child.
October 10, 2021	Mark 10:17–31	Wealth is a serious obstacle for disciples who are to follow Jesus' model of servanthood because it offers a false sense of security.
October 17, 2021	Mark 10:35–45	Disciples are not concerned about being first. They are to serve others.
October 24, 2021	Mark 10:46–52	Like the blind Bartimaeus who dropped his cloak and trusted Jesus would heal him, disciples risk all to have faith that Jesus will open their eyes to his truth.
October 31, 2021	Ruth 1:1–18	Like Ruth, disciples are committed to fierce inclusivity, especially to those whom society condemns because of national origin, religion, gender, ethnic background, and so on.
November 7, 2021	Mark 12:38–44	Like the poor widow who gave her two coins to the temple treasury, disciples offer all they have to others.
November 14, 2021	Mark 13:1–8	In spite of future predictions of destruction, fear and suffering, disciples continue the mission Christ began.
November 21, 2021	John 18:33–37	