

Christ Moravian Church

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

Jesus asked, "But who do you say that I am?" Mark 8:29



A Return to Home!

As this fall of 2021 arrives, we are facing further challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic. All of us were yearning, praying, optimistic about a fall season that would have some familiar experiences, but alas, we are still walking like "aliens in a strange land". In a number of my visits and conversations with folks, I hear a repetitious theme; "We just want to go home!"

It may seem now that our devotional life, prayer life, our time of mediation will invite us home in a new sense. Returning to those foundational verses of scripture lead us back to home. Returning to songs of faith that speak to God's presence in the dark shadows of our journey lead us back to home. Or coming home to a special place, a sacred path to walk, a quiet room of prayer, these too invite us to come home to God's presence again.

We often sing a lovely song of prayer in worship at CMC based on the inspiring prayer of Saint Francis. "Make me a Channel of Your Peace", is sung in our sanctuary at times that invite us to know the peace, faith, and love of God wherever or whenever we are at home.

Read these verses below and come "home" for a few minutes in your day.

The Prayer of Saint Francis!

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace;
Where there is hatred, let me sow love;
Where there is injury, pardon;
Where there is doubt, faith;
Where there is despair, hope;
Where there is darkness, light;
Where there is sadness, joy.

O Divine Master;
Grant that I may no so much seek to be consoled, as to console;
To be understood, as to understand;
To be loved, as to love;

For it is in giving that we receive,
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned,
And it is in dying that we are born to Eternal life. Amen.

Blessings to each in their home,
Pastor Gohdes

Upcoming Events

"Bible Buddies"
meet on
Sunday,
September 12th
at 8:30 am
via Zoom

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



“One Day Garage Sale” at the CMC Parking Lot. CANCELLED !!!

Due to concerns surrounding health issues, we are cancelling the planned one-day Garage Sale.

Autumn Worship on September 12th ~ due to weather concerns, the service has been moved indoors. Worshippers in person are welcomed ~ masked & physically distanced.

September 19th Worship indoors – call or e-mail the church office with any questions.

Annual General Meeting News !

September 19th, 2021 @ 1:00 pm via Zoom

You will have received the agenda, past Church Council minutes and Zoom link in an e-mail sent from the church office on September 2nd.

Financial Stewardship Update:

Envelope Steward Ken Schultz reports financial giving up to this point in the year.

At the end of August our budget for envelope income is \$126,875 and as of that date we have received \$112,670.

Please continue to pray for the ministry of CMC as the fall season leads us forward.

PLEASE CONSIDER ATTENDING THIS WORKSHOP FEATURE CMC’S OWN JORGE AVILES

**Understanding Truth & Reconciliation
from a Faith Based Perspective**

Saturday, September 25, 10 am – 12 pm

In-person or via Zoom

Christ Moravian Church

600 Acadia Drive, SE, Calgary

News from the Moravian Board of World Mission:

Moravian Disaster Response

**Update on Haiti, Hurricane Ida Impacts,
and Afghanistan Refugee Resettlement**

Please see the Moravian Board of World Mission [BWM] attachment to this e-mail for more information and instructions on how you can help.

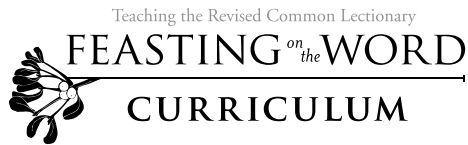
Weekly Reminders...

- Please know that you may call the church office for any needs that may arise. Feel free to phone (403-271-2700) to speak with us or leave a message. Another option is that you may contact the church office by e-mail at moravian@nucleus.com [this is monitored daily] with any questions or communication.
- If you require assistance in getting to your COVID-19 vaccine appointment, please call the office.
- 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.

In All Things Love...

September 12, 2021

Who Do You Say
That I Am?



Adult
Resource Sheet 1

Focus on Mark 8:27–38

WHAT is important to know?

— From “Exegetical Perspective,” Sharon H. Ringe

In Mark’s Gospel, though, Jesus is not portrayed as marching forward on a campaign that has been clear from the beginning. The time of sorting in the wilderness following his baptism by John the Baptist (1:12–13) appears as the first step in a process during which Jesus himself is portrayed as clarifying his mission and realizing bit by bit the depth and breadth of its implications. “Who do people say that I am?” would have been an appropriate vehicle by which to identify the next steps in his ministry. In this case, the response places him clearly in the line of prophetic spokespersons anointed to bring God’s word to the people.

WHERE is God in these words?

— From “Theological Perspective,” Martha L. Moore-Keish

No matter how we interpret the place of suffering in the atonement, this passage makes it clear that the title “Messiah” is being reinterpreted. This helps illumine why Jesus rebukes Peter, saying, “You are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things” (v. 33). Although this might suggest a strong dualism of divine and human worlds, it is better understood as a clash of understandings of what it means to be Messiah. According to human conceptions of “Messiah,” suffering should be conquered rather than embraced, but according to “divine things,” suffering and death are necessary to being God’s anointed.

SO WHAT does this mean for our lives?

— From “Pastoral Perspective,” Harry B. Adams

The experience of Peter serves as an alert for us. We can indeed use our experience of relating to other people as an analogy for how we can relate to Jesus, and we can express our understanding of who he is for us in various ways. But when we speak of Jesus and who he is for us, we need to do so with the humility and the reserve that comes from awareness that we may have the title right but may not fully understand its meaning. What does it mean for us if we call Jesus Savior? What does it mean for us if we call Jesus Son of God? What does it mean for us if we too call Jesus Messiah?

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

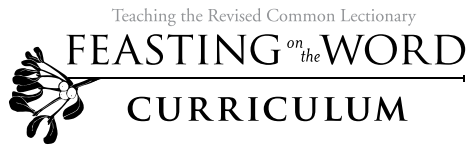
— From “Homiletical Perspective,”

Nathan G. Jennings

Regardless of the possibility that years of Sunday school have properly indoctrinated us into the “right” answers about who Jesus is and the meaning of his life, the radical new meaning of being the Messiah found in this text is not what we inherently wish for or expect at a fundamental level as human beings, given our fallen condition. But only when we have heard the true meaning of what it means to be the Messiah are we in a place to hear his call to us: follow me. Discipleship, therefore, is the necessary outcome of confessing *this* Jesus to be the Messiah.

September 12, 2021

Who Do You Say
That I Am?



Adult
Resource Sheet 2

Follow the Leader

Discipleship = following the leader

Paraphrase of Mark 8:34–35: Jesus said to his disciples, “To become my follower, deny yourself and take up your cross and follow me. Lose your life for my sake, for the sake of the gospel—this will save you.”

“Are there those who would deny that Jesus is the Messiah, or simply relativize the radical meaning of following this Jesus? Does our community want a ‘softer’ gospel? Would some like to see Jesus as blending in nicely with current political, economic, and social norms?”

“Or, worse, do we find the radical political, social, and economic ramifications of this kind of Messiah easy to smooth over into a ‘Gentle Jesus, meek and mild’ who is unconcerned with such earthly matters?”

“Are there some who are unable to see that, as radically political, social, and economic the ramifications of Jesus as Messiah might be, these flow out of and are defined by the greater world of the kingdom of God that Jesus ushers in, and not the other way around?”

“Are there some who would find the cost of discipleship a little too ‘cheap’? Or who see the call to discipleship as nothing more than a call to radical social reform, rather than a participation in the pattern of the suffering Messiah?”

—From Nathan G. Jennings, *Feasting on the Word, Year B, Volume 4* (Louisville, KY: Westminster John Knox Press, 2009), 71.

“This text demands from faithful readers a decision: will we follow this man to the place that he is going? It therefore demands that [we] convey the reality and urgency of this decision in the life of the individual congregant and in the life of the congregation as a whole. That may well be a cross for [us] to bear.”

—From Nathan G. Jennings, *Feasting on the Word, Year B, Volume 4* (Louisville, KY: Westminster John Knox Press, 2009), 73.

For Reflection:

What does it mean to follow *this* Jesus, the Messiah?

What will you deny and what cross will you take up as a disciple of Jesus?



Children's Worship Bulletin

Take Up Your Cross

Mark 8:27-38

Word Search Puzzle

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

WORLD	CHRIST	LIFE	TEACH	DISCIPLES
DENY	KILLED	SOUL	FOLLOW	SATAN
FORFEIT	VILLAGES	LOSE	GOSPEL	GAIN
PROPHETS	SUFFER	SAVE	RISE	CROSS

Christ Moravian Church
Calgary, Alberta

Fill in the Blanks

Complete the sentences by filling in the blanks with the correct words from the word bank at the bottom of the page.

Then he called the crowd to him along with his _____ and said:
"If anyone would come after me, he must _____ himself and take up
his _____ and _____ me. For whoever wants to _____
his _____ will lose it, but whoever _____ his life for me and
for the gospel will _____ it. What good is it for a man to _____
the whole world, yet forfeit his _____? Or what can a man give in
exchange for his soul?"

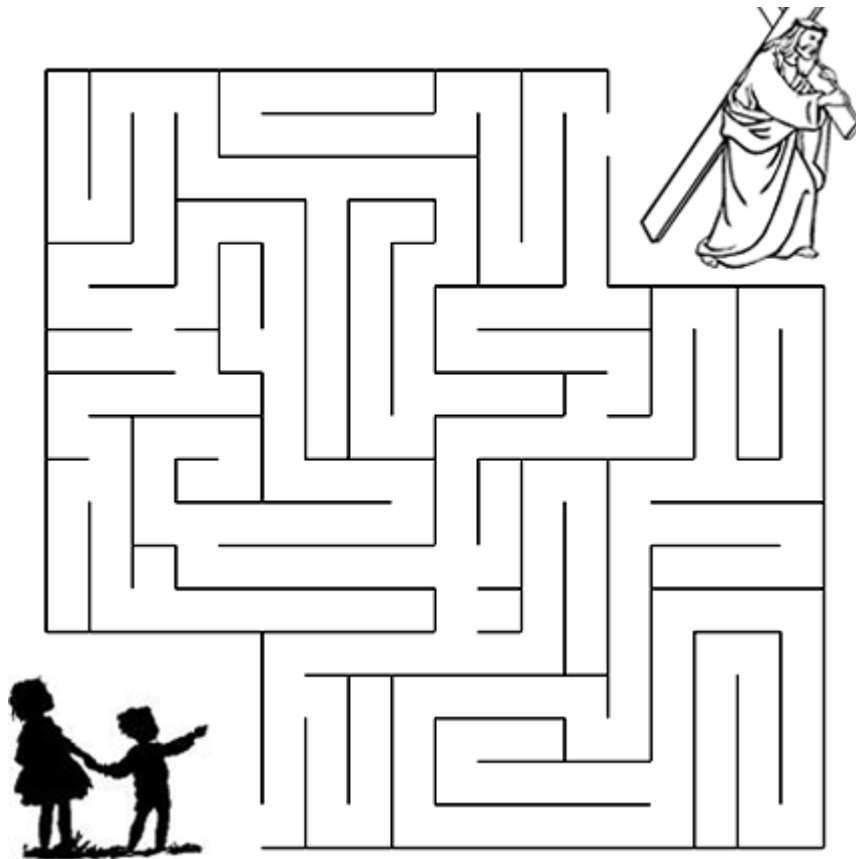
Mark 8:34-37 (NIV)

cross	life	loses	soul	follow
gain	disciples	deny	save	save



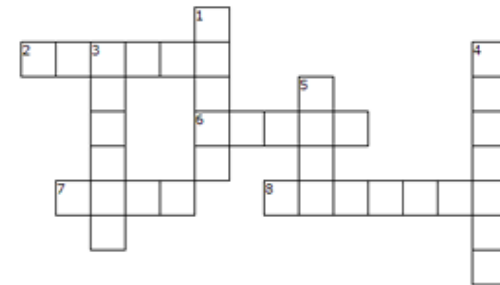
Maze Puzzle

Can you find the path to Jesus?



Take Your Cross

Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS

2. To experience injury, pain, or death
6. The evil enemy of God; the leader of the fallen angels
7. The spiritual part of a person which exists after death
8. The expected savior of the world

DOWN

1. The object upon which Jesus was crucified
3. To take someone as our leader or model
4. A person who speaks for God
5. To keep something from harm or loss

SUFFER	SATAN	SOUL	CROSS
MESSIAH	PROPHET	FOLLOW	SAVE

