



Baldwin Christian Reformed Church
*Rooted in God's Word, Growing in the Faith,
 Bearing Fruit in the World*
Lord's Day 30 July 26, 2020

Welcome to all who have gathered to worship today! It is our goal to glorify the Lord, our Maker and Redeemer, God in whom is our help and hope. When Jesus was on earth, he promised, "...Where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them" (Matthew 18:20). We believe he is with us in church buildings and everywhere. We desire that he would deepen our faith, hope, and love. While things feel a bit different, we rest in the assurance that God reigns and his purposes are not thwarted. "...[Nothing] in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord" (Romans 8:39).

God Welcomes Us to Worship Him Together

Prelude

Welcome

Call to Worship and Opening Prayer: Psalm 105:1-8

Give thanks to the Lord, call on his name; make known among the nations what he has done. Sing to him, sing praise to him; tell of all his wonderful acts. Glory in his holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice. Look to the Lord and his strength; seek his face always.

Remember the wonders he has done, his miracles, and the judgments he pronounced, O descendants of Abraham his servant, O sons of Jacob, his chosen ones. He is the Lord our God; his judgments are in all the earth.

He remembers his covenant forever, the word he commanded, for a thousand generations...

*Opening Song: **No Longer Slaves** (Case/Helser/Johnson)

***God's Greeting**

*Song: **In Christ Alone** (Getty/Townend)

We are Instructed in God's Ways

Call to Confession: 1 John 3:4-10

Everyone who sins breaks the law; in fact, sin is lawlessness. But you know that he appeared so that he might take away our sins. And in him is no sin. No one who lives in him keeps on sinning. No one who continues to sin has either seen him or known him.

Dear children, do not let anyone lead you astray. He who does what is right is righteous. He who does what is sinful is of the devil, because the devil has been sinning from the beginning. The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the devil's work. No one who is born of God will continue to sin, because God's seed remains in him; he cannot go on sinning, because he has been born of God. This is how we know who the children of God are and who the children of the devil are: Anyone who does not do what is right is not a child of God; nor is anyone who does not love his brother.

Prayer of Confession: From The Worship Sourcebook 2.2.21

Pastor: Lord, you showed us true humility by becoming one of us,

All: yet too often we practice pride.

Pastor: You cried alongside your friends and for the city of Jerusalem.

All: yet too often we rush past the pain of others and are clueless about our cities.

Pastor: You loved those who are weak, despised, or cast out,

All: yet too often we love those who are strong, respected, or popular.

Pastor: You freely forgave and healed,

All: yet too often we hold grudges and cause pain.

Pastor: You lived a perfectly holy life,

All: yet too often we do not yearn for righteousness.

Pastor: You prayed that we who believe in you should be united with each other and you,

All: yet too often we focus on the differences that separate us from other believers.

Pastor: You were mocked, whipped, and even killed for us,

All: yet too often we deny you.

Pastor: You call us to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world,

All: yet too often we blend into or hide from our culture. Forgive us, Lord, so that we will shine with your glory. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon: 1 John 3:16-20, 23-24

This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers. If anyone has material possessions and sees his brother in need but has no pity on him, how can the love of God be in him? Dear children, let us love not with words or tongue but with actions and in truth. This then is how we know that we belong to the truth, and how we set our hearts at rest in his presence whenever our hearts condemn us. For God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything...

This is his command: to believe in the name of his Son, Jesus Christ, and to love one another as he commanded us. Those who obey his commands live in him, and he in them. And this is how we know that he lives in us: We know it by the Spirit he gave us.

Song of Response: **Rise Up, O Church of God** (Merrill)

Morning Prayers

God Nurtures Us in His Word

Scripture: Acts 18:1-22

After this, Paul left Athens and went to Corinth. There he met a Jew named Aquila, a native of Pontus, who had recently come from Italy with his wife Priscilla, because Claudius had ordered all the Jews to leave Rome. Paul went to see them, and because he was a tentmaker as they were, he stayed and worked with them. Every Sabbath he reasoned in the synagogue, trying to persuade Jews and Greeks.

When Silas and Timothy came from Macedonia, Paul devoted himself exclusively to preaching, testifying to the Jews that Jesus was the Christ. But when the Jews opposed Paul and became abusive, he shook out his clothes in protest and said to them, "Your blood be on your own heads! I am clear of my responsibility. From now on I will go to the Gentiles."

Then Paul left the synagogue and went next door to the house of Titius Justus, a worshiper of God. Crispus, the synagogue ruler, and his entire household believed in the Lord; and many of the Corinthians who heard him believed and were baptized.

One night the Lord spoke to Paul in a vision: "Do not be afraid; keep on speaking, do not be silent. For I am with you, and no one is going to attack and harm you, because I have many people in this city." So Paul stayed for a year and a half, teaching them the word of God.

While Gallio was proconsul of Achaia, the Jews made a united attack on Paul and brought him into court. "This man," they charged, "is persuading the people to worship God in ways contrary to the law."

Just as Paul was about to speak, Gallio said to the Jews, "If you Jews were making a complaint about some misdemeanor or serious crime, it would be reasonable for me to listen to you. But since it involves questions about words and names and your own law--settle the matter yourselves. I will not be a judge of such things." So he had them ejected from the court. Then they all turned on Sosthenes the synagogue ruler and beat him in front of the court. But Gallio showed no concern whatever.

Paul stayed on in Corinth for some time. Then he left the brothers and sailed for Syria, accompanied by Priscilla and Aquila. Before he sailed, he had his hair cut off at Cenchrea because of a vow he had taken. They arrived at Ephesus, where Paul left Priscilla and Aquila. He himself went into the synagogue and reasoned with the Jews. When they asked him to spend more time with them, he declined. But as he left, he promised, "I will come back if it is God's will." Then he set sail from Ephesus. When he landed at Caesarea, he went up and greeted the church and then went down to Antioch.

Message: Don't Give Up

Prayer of Application

We are Sent to Live Trusting Him

*The Apostles' Creed

*Song of Response: **Onward, Christian Soldiers** (Baring-Gould)

*Benediction

*Closing Song: **One Thing Remains (Your Love Never Fails)** (Johnson/Clark/Riddle)

*Postlude

OFFERING NOTES

Rather than passing the plate, those in attendance at worship services may place their offering in one of the plates at the entrance to the sanctuary or offerings may be mailed to Baldwin CRC. Please make sure to note what date/cause your offering is for.

Today's offering is for the General Fund, part of which supports Classis Lake Superior Ministry Shares for a Youth Ministry Champion. Coordinated by Faith Formation Ministries, classes are encouraged to have someone who seeks to empower and

encourage those working on the frontlines of youth ministry in Christian Reformed congregations. Travis Deur, director of youth ministries at Faith CRC in New Brighton, MN, is the Classis Lake Superior champion.

Next week's offering is for Nicole Doornink, a missionary with World Team (Paris, France). Nicole is part of a church-planting team that builds relationships and shares the Gospel with people who have never heard it before. Your support makes it possible for Nicole to live and work in this spiritually dark city, and be a light in places only she can go. Nicole is a granddaughter of Lloyd and Joann Doornink.

PRAYER REMINDERS

- Pray for God to give encouragement, love, and patience, to our Care Center and Assisted Living Residents: Laverne, Nancy, Myra and Rozella.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Deacon Nomination: After prayerful consideration, Chad Van Someren was asked by Council and has been willing to let his name stand as a deacon nominee. If there are any concerns, please contact your district elder by **tomorrow**.

Back to God Ministries International—Finding Strength and Support in Scripture—This four-part Bible study podcast series and ebook from Groundwork can help you or someone you love draw power from God's Word to grow in your faith when dealing with dementia, anxiety, depression, and chronic illness or pain. Get it when you subscribe to Groundwork at groundworkonline.com/findingstrength.

Back to God Ministries International—Groundwork: Justice, Lament, and Flourishing—How do we incorporate a sense of longing for justice into our prayer life? How do we look and work for it in our communities and our world? Study Luke 18:1-8 and Exodus 20:8-11 with us to discover how we can participate in God's design for justice and flourishing. Listen now or subscribe to weekly emails at GroundworkOnline.com.

Faith Formation Ministries—At-Home Faith Formation Tip—Mealtime prayers remind us that God provides for us and model for kids how to connect with God regularly and sincerely. Here's a table prayer by Maureen Edwards, from Blessed Be Our Table, "Loving God, bless our food and drink, our friendship and our laughter, that we may be renewed in body, mind, and spirit to work together for the coming of your kingdom of justice, love, and peace. Amen."

Save the Date: Silent Messengers are going to be sharing "Celebrating A Savior" in a fun and exciting final venue for 2020 **next Sunday evening**. It will be an outdoor service so you will bring your favorite lawn chair. We will be doing a grill out/picnic starting at 5:30pm with the service beginning at 7:00pm at the Baldwin CRC church outdoor space to the south of the church building. There will be ice cream following the service. We are excited to honor our seniors and others who will be retiring from the ministry so please plan to join us. No need to bring anything but your lawn chair (and maybe some bug spray!).

Blood Drive- There will be a blood drive at Zion Lutheran Church, Woodville, Thursday, August 20, 11am to 5pm. To make appointment call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter Zion Lutheran Church in the search box. "You can still go out and give blood. We're worried about potential blood shortages in the future. Social distancing does not have to mean social disengagement." - US Surgeon General

THIS WEEK AT BALDWIN CRC

Sunday: **9:30 AM** Worship

SERVING OTHERS

Greeters
Praise Team
Sound Tech

TODAY (July 26)

Doug and Betty
KayLee, Kenzie, Marius
Mark and Murray

NEXT SUNDAY (Aug. 2)

Duane & Diane
Edith, Kenzie Jim L.
Russ and Owen

LOOKING AHEAD

Aug. 9
Aug. 16
Aug. 23

GREETERS

Jerry & Bonnie
Rachel & Dee
Rich & Carol

If you are uncomfortable with attending in-person at this time or unavailable, please find a replacement or let Dave Ashton know and he will assist. and Kelly P. so she can update the bulletin.

Help Restore Baldwin Christian School

As most of you know, BCS was badly damaged by the June 29 flood. Some of you have already pitched in by volunteering as we cleaned out the classrooms and by making donations. We know that BCS has been in your prayers, too. Thank you!

An update on our progress: the restoration company completed its work this week and the school passed the mold test conducted by an independent third party. Now we're ready to rebuild! A committee has been formed to lead this effort.

We still need much prayer, though, as we face the challenge of getting the school ready for the fall and of paying for the repairs and resupplying the classrooms.

We are so appreciative of your monthly contributions to our school's operations and of the church's offer of more classroom space, if needed.

Here are some additional ways you can help:

1. Stop by Nilssen's Food Stand on Thursday, July 23 and Saturday, July 25 from 11 to 6 pm and buy a meal or two.
2. Donate via the 'Showers of Blessing' page on the school's web site: baldwinchristianschool.org/showers
3. Help Christie resupply her Kindergarten room by purchasing an item from her Amazon wish list posted on baldwinchristianschool.org/wish-lists or on the school's Facebook page.

Baldwin Christian Reformed Church

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Email: contact@baldwincrc.org
Website: baldwincrc.org

Sunday Morning Worship - 9:30 AM

Recorded services may be viewed on the Sermons page of our website, the Baldwin CRC YouTube page, and Tuesdays at 10:30 AM and Fridays at 7:00 PM on local channel 16.

Fellowship Ministry Opportunities

Sunday School - For all ages, after the morning worship during the school year

GEMS - for young girls up to 8th grade

The Rebellion Youth Ministry - High School & Junior High, meets at First Reformed

Friendship Ministry - for those with physical and mental disabilities

Dorcas Society - women's study and service group

Women's Bible Study

Men's Bible Study

Crafters - women's fellowship, no crafting skills required, all types of crafts welcome

Lending Hands Ministry

Share-A-Meal Ministry

Nursing Home Ministry - in conjunction with all of the community churches

Church Council

ELDERS

Dan De Graff, Pastor
Dave Ashton
Dan Hanson
Jim Lokker
Al Van Someren

DEACONS

Eric Gullixson
Marius Kool
Russ Roloff

**Have an announcement? Simply email BCRCbulletin@gmail.com
Please note: All announcements must be received no later than noon on Thursday in order to be included in the upcoming bulletin.**