



Baldwin Christian Reformed Church
*Rooted in God's Word, Growing in the Faith,
 Bearing Fruit in the World*
Lord's Day 34 August 23, 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 Calls Us to Worship Him

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship and Opening Prayer: Psalm 133:1-3

How good and pleasant it is when brothers live together in unity! It is like precious oil poured on the head, running down on the beard, running down on Aaron's beard, down upon the collar of his robes. It is as if the dew of Hermon were falling on Mount Zion. For there the LORD bestows his blessing, even life forevermore.

***Opening Song:** All Who Are Thirsty (Brown/Robertson)

***God's Greeting**

***Song:** All I Have is Christ (Kauflin)

God Invites Us to His Redeeming Work

Preparatory Exhortation: Psalter 983-984

Song of Response: Fill Thou My Life, O Lord, My God (Bonar)

Prayers of the People

God Provides Us with His Word

Scripture: Acts 19:23-41

About that time there arose a great disturbance about the Way. A silversmith named Demetrius, who made silver shrines of Artemis, brought in no little

business for the craftsmen. He called them together, along with the workmen in related trades, and said: "Men, you know we receive a good income from this business. And you see and hear how this fellow Paul has convinced and led astray large numbers of people here in Ephesus and in practically the whole province of Asia. He says that man-made gods are no gods at all. There is danger not only that our trade will lose its good name, but also that the temple of the great goddess Artemis will be discredited, and the goddess herself, who is worshiped throughout the province of Asia and the world, will be robbed of her divine majesty."

When they heard this, they were furious and began shouting: "Great is Artemis of the Ephesians!" Soon the whole city was in an uproar. The people seized Gaius and Aristarchus, Paul's traveling companions from Macedonia, and rushed as one man into the theater. Paul wanted to appear before the crowd, but the disciples would not let him. Even some of the officials of the province, friends of Paul, sent him a message begging him not to venture into the theater.

The assembly was in confusion: Some were shouting one thing, some another. Most of the people did not even know why they were there. The Jews pushed Alexander to the front, and some of the crowd shouted instructions to him. He motioned for silence in order to make a defense before the people. But when they realized he was a Jew, they all shouted in unison for about two hours: "Great is Artemis of the Ephesians!"

The city clerk quieted the crowd and said: "Men of Ephesus, doesn't all the world know that the city of Ephesus is the guardian of the temple of the great Artemis and of her image, which fell from heaven? Therefore, since these facts are undeniable, you ought to be quiet and not do anything rash. You have brought these men here, though they have neither robbed temples nor blasphemed our goddess. If, then, Demetrius and his fellow craftsmen have a grievance against anybody, the courts are open and there are proconsuls. They can press charges. If there is anything further you want to bring up, it must be settled in a legal assembly. As it is, we are in danger of being charged with rioting because of today's events. In that case we would not be able to account for this commotion, since there is no reason for it." After he had said this, he dismissed the assembly.

Message: "Why Are We Here?"

Prayer of Application

We Respond and are Sent to Live in Gratitude

***Song of Response:** Give Me Jesus (Camp)

***Benediction**

***Closing Song:** Savior, Again to Your Dear Name We Raise (Ellerton)

***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 Denominational Ministry Shares for Back to God Ministries International (BTGMI). BTGMI sends out a message of hope as the media ministry of the CRCNA. Indigenous ministry teams proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ through the web, radio, television, phone, print and social media produced in the "heart languages" of people around the world. By God's grace, this outreach opens doors for salvation and discipleship, broadcasting the gospel in otherwise closed regions. Find out more at backtogod.net. NOTE: BTGMI will be named ReFrame Ministries starting in 2021.

Next week's offering is for the BCRC Benevolent Fund, which provides financial aid to those in need as requested of the deacons. These funds may be used to pay bills, medical costs, disaster relief, or for other needs in difficult times.

PRAYER REMINDERS

- Pray for God to give encouragement, love, and patience, to our Care Center and Assisted Living Residents: Laverne, Nancy, Myra and Rozella.
- Continue to pray for God to grant healing to Randy Lokker, who received injections for ongoing back pain this past week.
- Continue to pray for God to grant healing to Wesley Simbro, who is being treated for stroke-like symptoms and has not regained full lung function.
- Continue to pray for God to grant healing and wisdom to Al Van Someren, who has a lymph node on his chest which tested positive for renal cell cancer. They are currently in the process of checking out treatments.
- Pray for God to grant encouragement and wisdom to our local schools as their teachers prepare for the upcoming school year and administration/boards make normal and COVID-related decisions affecting students and classes.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BCS update: Baldwin Christian School is so thankful for the support your congregation has given us. Besides the regular monthly offering, people from CRC have donated \$6300 to help us recover from the damage done by the June 29 flood and have purchased many items from the classroom wish lists. Thank you! We're having an Open House on Tuesday August 18 from 6-8 pm for prospective families. You're also welcome to stop by then to see how the reconstruction is going. Thank you for being such a blessing to us.

Note of thanks: Thank you to each of you for praying for a successful angioplasty and stent placement on Aug. 2nd. God is good! All the time! Thank you too for the other ways you showed your caring. It's wonderful to belong to the family of Baldwin CRC!

Rachel Van Someren

Back to God Ministries International—Groundwork: Trust God's Providence—As the pandemic continues and the inequality in our society becomes glaringly apparent, many of us long for assurance that God still cares. Study Psalm 104:27-30, Deuteronomy 8:3-18, Romans 8:28, and Jeremiah 19:1-3 with us to remember where God is and why we trust him. Listen now or subscribe to weekly emails at GroundworkOnline.com.

Faith Formation Ministries—At-Home Faith Formation Tip—"We need help setting aside all the doing that we clutch so tightly, so that our hands can be open to receive the gifts God has in store...We need time to be. Time to reflect...Time to draw close to a God who revealed God's own name, which turns out not to have anything to do with doing, but everything to do with being: I Am Who I Am." (From a blog post titled "When Doing More Isn't Enough" by Austin Crenshaw Shelley)

THIS WEEK AT BALDWIN CRC

Sunday:	9:30 AM	Worship
Tuesday:	6:30 PM	Music/Song Select Committee

SERVING OTHERS

Greeters
Praise Team
Sound Tech

TODAY (Aug. 23)

Rich & Carol
Jim, Libby & Bonnie
Mark & Murray

NEXT SUNDAY (Aug. 30)

Steve & Tammy VS
Dave, Edith & Kenzie
Russ & Owen

Happy Birthday today to Lois Rosendal and Billie Jo Korn!

Baldwin Christian Reformed Church

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Baldwin, WI 54002
715-684-2928
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

Afternoon Bible Study - For all ages, Sunday afternoons during the school year

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

Dorcas Society - Women's study and service group--*Meetings on hold until 2021*

Friendship Ministry - For those with physical/mental disabilities--*On hold until 2021*

GEMS - For young girls up to 8th grade

Lending Hands Ministry

Men's Life - Men's study group

Nursing Home Ministry--*Sunday afternoon services led by area churches on hold*

The Rebellion Youth Ministry - High school and middle school--*On hold until 2021*

Share-A-Meal Ministry

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

Women's Bible Study - Women's study group--*On hold until 2021*

Church Council

ELDERS

Dan De Graff, Pastor

Dave Ashton, President

Jim Lokker, Vice-President

DEACONS

Eric Gullixson, Clerk

Marius Kool

Chad Van Someren

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.**