



**Baldwin Christian Reformed Church**  
*Rooted in God's Word, Growing in the Faith,  
 Bearing Fruit in the World*  
**Lord's Day 46 November 15, 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 Gathers His People**

**Prelude**

**Welcome and Announcements**

**Call to Worship:** Psalm 123:1-4

I lift up my eyes to you, to you whose throne is in heaven. As the eyes of slaves look to the hand of their master, as the eyes of a maid look to the hand of her mistress, so our eyes look to the LORD our God, till he shows us his mercy. Have mercy on us, O LORD, have mercy on us, for we have endured much contempt. We have endured much ridicule from the proud, much contempt from the arrogant.

**\*Opening Song:** **God of Wonders** (Byrd/Hindalong)

**\*God's Greeting**

**\*Song:** **By Faith** (Getty/Getty/Townend)

**We Humble Ourselves Before the Lord**

**Call to Confession:** Heidelberg Catechism Q&A 126

Pastor: What does ["Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors"] mean?

**All: ...Because of Christ's blood, do not hold against us, poor sinners that we are, any of the sins we do or the evil that constantly clings to us.**

**Forgive us just as we are fully determined, as evidence of your grace in us, to forgive our neighbors.**

**Prayer of Confession:** Adapted from The Worship Sourcebook 2.2.23

**Assurance of Pardon:** John 15:9-17

"As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. If you obey my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have obeyed my Father's commands and remain in his love. I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends. You are my friends if you do what I command. I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you. You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit—fruit that will last. Then the Father will give you whatever you ask in my name. This is my command: Love each other."

**Song of Response:** **O God, Our Help in Ages Past** v.1-3, 6 (Watts)

**Prayers of the People**

**God Speaks From His Word**

**Children's Message**

**Scripture:** Acts 27:1-44

When it was decided that we would sail for Italy, Paul and some other prisoners were handed over to a centurion named Julius, who belonged to the Imperial Regiment. We boarded a ship from Adramyttium about to sail for ports along the coast of the province of Asia, and we put out to sea. Aristarchus, a Macedonian from Thessalonica, was with us. The next day we landed at Sidon; and Julius, in kindness to Paul, allowed him to go to his friends so they might provide for his needs. From there we put out to sea again and passed to the lee of Cyprus because the winds were against us. When we had sailed across the open sea off the coast of Cilicia and Pamphylia, we landed at Myra in Lycia. There the centurion found an Alexandrian ship sailing for Italy and put us on board. We made slow headway for many days and had difficulty arriving off Cnidus. When the wind did not allow us to hold our course, we sailed to the lee of Crete, opposite Salmone.

We moved along the coast with difficulty and came to a place called Fair Havens, near the town of Lasea.

Much time had been lost, and sailing had already become dangerous because by now it was after the Fast. So Paul warned them, "Men, I can see that our voyage is going to be disastrous and bring great loss to ship and cargo, and to our own lives also." But the centurion, instead of listening to what Paul said, followed the advice of the pilot and of the owner of the ship. Since the harbor was unsuitable to winter in, the majority decided that we should sail on, hoping to reach Phoenix and winter there. This was a harbor in Crete, facing both southwest and northwest.

When a gentle south wind began to blow, they thought they had obtained what they wanted; so they weighed anchor and sailed along the shore of Crete. Before very long, a wind of hurricane force, called the "northeaster," swept down from the island. The ship was caught by the storm and could not head into the wind; so we gave way to it and were driven along. As we passed to the lee of a small island called Cauda, we were hardly able to make the lifeboat secure. When the men had hoisted it aboard, they passed ropes under the ship itself to hold it together. Fearing that they would run aground on the sandbars of Syrtis, they lowered the sea anchor and let the ship be driven along. We took such a violent battering from the storm that the next day they began to throw the cargo overboard. On the third day, they threw the ship's tackle overboard with their own hands. When neither sun nor stars appeared for many days and the storm continued raging, we finally gave up all hope of being saved.

After the men had gone a long time without food, Paul stood up before them and said: "Men, you should have taken my advice not to sail from Crete; then you would have spared yourselves this damage and loss. But now I urge you to keep up your courage, because not one of you will be lost; only the ship will be destroyed. Last night an angel of the God whose I am and whom I serve stood beside me and said, 'Do not be afraid, Paul. You must stand trial before Caesar; and God has graciously given you the lives of all who sail with you.' So keep up your courage, men, for I have faith in God that it will happen just as he told me. Nevertheless, we must run aground on some island."

On the fourteenth night we were still being driven across the Adriatic Sea, when about midnight the sailors sensed they were approaching land. They took soundings and found that the water was a hundred and twenty feet deep. A short time later they took soundings again and found it was ninety feet deep. Fearing that we would be dashed against the rocks, they dropped four anchors from the stern and prayed for daylight. In an attempt to escape from the ship,

the sailors let the lifeboat down into the sea, pretending they were going to lower some anchors from the bow. Then Paul said to the centurion and the soldiers, "Unless these men stay with the ship, you cannot be saved." So the soldiers cut the ropes that held the lifeboat and let it fall away.

Just before dawn Paul urged them all to eat. "For the last fourteen days," he said, "you have been in constant suspense and have gone without food--you haven't eaten anything. Now I urge you to take some food. You need it to survive. Not one of you will lose a single hair from his head." After he said this, he took some bread and gave thanks to God in front of them all. Then he broke it and began to eat. They were all encouraged and ate some food themselves. Altogether there were 276 of us on board. When they had eaten as much as they wanted, they lightened the ship by throwing the grain into the sea.

When daylight came, they did not recognize the land, but they saw a bay with a sandy beach, where they decided to run the ship aground if they could. Cutting loose the anchors, they left them in the sea and at the same time untied the ropes that held the rudders. Then they hoisted the foresail to the wind and made for the beach. But the ship struck a sandbar and ran aground. The bow stuck fast and would not move, and the stern was broken to pieces by the pounding of the surf.

The soldiers planned to kill the prisoners to prevent any of them from swimming away and escaping. But the centurion wanted to spare Paul's life and kept them from carrying out their plan. He ordered those who could swim to jump overboard first and get to land. The rest were to get there on planks or on pieces of the ship. In this way everyone reached land in safety.

**Message:** Through the Storms

**Prayer of Application**

**We Are Sent to Live for God's Glory**

**\*Song of Response:** Jesus Calls Us, O'er the Tumult v.1,2,4,5 (Alexander)

**\*Benediction**

**\*Closing Song:** God Will Make a Way (Moen)

**\*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 Baldwin Christian School, a parent-driven Classical Christian school dedicated to building character by forming the hearts and minds of students to know, reflect, and express the truth, goodness, and beauty of Jesus Christ. Find out more at [baldwinchristianschool.org](http://baldwinchristianschool.org).

**Next week's offering** is for the General Fund, part of which supports Denominational Ministry Shares for Synodical Administrative Services: Providing financial support for general administration, the Council of Delegates, and synodical services including the annual meeting of synod, study committees and task forces, the collection and distribution of Yearbook data, and more. Find out more about the CRC at [crcna.org](http://crcna.org).

#### **PRAYER REMINDERS**

- Pray for the chaplains of the CRC and the people they serve. Pray also for organizations and institutions to be open to developing and supporting chaplain programs.
- Pray for patience and healing for those recovering from recent procedures and awaiting procedures.
- Continue to pray for God to give encouragement, love, and patience, to our Care Center and Assisted Living Residents: Rozella, Nancy, and Laverne.
- Continue to pray for God to grant healing to Al Van Someren as he continues to receive treatment for cancer.
- Continue to pray for God to end COVID-19 and for a vaccine or cure to be found.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**The Aging and Disability Resource Center** is gearing up for its **Secret Santa Program** to make the holidays a little brighter for a few of St. Croix County's special residents. Secret Santa bags are delivered to individuals with a disability age 18-59, or individuals age 60 or better, who have little or no family in the area, limited income or recently suffered a loss. Is there someone you know who would benefit from such a gift this holiday season? If so, email Amy Roemhild ([amy.roemhild@sccwi.gov](mailto:amy.roemhild@sccwi.gov)) with the name, phone number and address of the individual by December 7, 2020. Although this year looks a bit different, the Secret Santa Program can bring a little cheer!

**A BIG Thank You** to Dennis Van Roekel for sharing his beautiful flowers again this year. We appreciate his thoughtfulness and his generosity in beautifying our sanctuary every week from spring through fall. Thank you!

Once again as the Christmas Season approaches, we would like to decorate our sanctuary with Poinsettias. If you would like to purchase one, the following will be available: Colors: Red, pink, or white; Sizes: Single for \$9.00, Double for \$19, and Triple for \$44. Please sign the sheet under the Missions Board in the Fellowship Hall or call Bonnie Van Someren (715-684-2491) with your order. Checks should be made out to "Dorcas". Thanks.

**BCRC Council—Mission Advocate(s)**—Resonate Global Missions (formerly CRC Home and World Missions) is looking for a person or people in congregations for missionaries and staff to connect with regarding mission work. If that's something you have a passion for and are willing to be used by God for service to him and our church, please let Pastor Dan or another Council member know.

**Aging & Disability Resource Center (ADRC)—Secret Santa**—ADRC is gearing up for its Secret Santa Program to make the holidays a little brighter for a few of St. Croix County's special residents. Secret Santa bags are delivered to individuals with a disability age 18-59, or individuals age 60 or better, who have little or no family in the area, limited income or recently suffered a loss. Is there someone you know who would benefit from such a gift this holiday season? If so, email Amy Roemhild ([amy.roemhild@sccwi.gov](mailto:amy.roemhild@sccwi.gov)) with the name, phone number and address of the individual by December 7.

**Back to God Ministries International—Groundwork: The Final Events of Jesus' Earthly Life**—Continue studying John's gospel with Groundwork in John 18-20 with the stories of Jesus' arrest, trial, crucifixion, resurrection, and post-resurrection appearances. Let the final events of Jesus' earthly life lead you to believe more fully in him. Listen now or subscribe to weekly emails at [GroundworkOnline.com](http://GroundworkOnline.com).

**CRC Ministries—Free Advent Devotional**—*He Will Be Our Peace* is an email devotional series put together by World Renew, Resonate Global Mission, and the CRC Office of Social Justice that features reflections from CRC ministries around the world during Advent 2020. Each devotion will be delivered to your email inbox every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, starting December 2, through Christmas Day. Join us as we journey through lamenting injustice to looking forward to the coming of the Prince of Peace using the book of Micah. Go to [justice.crcna.org/advent](http://justice.crcna.org/advent) to sign up today!

**Faith Formation Ministries—At-Home Faith Formation Tip**—It can be relatively easy to donate money to a cause we care about, but it can be harder to decide to give of our time. Has the Spirit been tugging on your heart when a certain person, cause, or

organization is mentioned? Be attentive to those prompts. How might God be calling you to act on them?

**World Renew—Hurricane Eta Response in Latin America**—Right now, 2.5 million people are facing the many devastating impacts of Hurricane Eta. Since November 3, over 300,000 people have been displaced. World Renew is working alongside its Christian partners in Latin America to deliver essential items like food, water, hygiene kits, and shelter items to families most affected by this disaster. Thank you for making an immediate impact through your gifts and prayers. To donate online, please go to: [www.worldrenew.net](http://www.worldrenew.net). To donate by phone, please call us at: 800-552-7972.

**Happy Birthday** this week to Ruthanne Fick and Al VanSomeren on the 16th, Marlys Berrevoets and Akeyla Roloff on the 17th, Ian Phillips on the 18th, Russ Roloff on the 20th and Diane VanSomeren on the 21st.

**Baldwin Christian Reformed Church**

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**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
- High School Sunday School** - Catechism, After morning worship during the school year
- Men's Life** - Men's study group, Thursday evenings during the school year
- Lending Hands Ministry**
- Share-A-Meal Ministry**

***Ministries with Meetings on hold until Spring 2021***

- Adult and Children's Sunday School** - Providing at-home materials
- Dorcas Society** - Women's study and service group, third Tuesday afternoons
- Friendship Ministry** - For those with physical/mental disabilities, Tuesday evenings
- GEMS** - Young girls up to 8th grade, Monday evenings during the school year
- Nursing Home Ministry** - Sunday afternoon services led by area churches
- The Rebellion Youth Ministry** - High school and middle school, Wednesday evenings
- Women's Bible Study** - Women's study group, Monday evenings during the school year

**THIS WEEK AT BALDWIN CRC**

<b>Sunday:</b>	<b>9:30 AM</b>	Worship
	<b>11:00 AM</b>	OCC Packing Party
	<b>4:00 PM</b>	Bible Study: Genesis 22:15-23:20
<b>Thursday:</b>	<b>7:00 PM</b>	Men's Life

**SERVING OTHERS**

Greeters  
Praise Team  
Sound Tech

**TODAY (Nov. 15)**

June and Kay  
Jim and Marius  
Eric & Kelly G.

**NEXT SUNDAY (Nov. 22)**

Dennis  
Dave and Edith  
Russ and Owen

**LOOKING AHEAD**

\*Nov. 26  
Nov. 29  
Dec. 6  
Dec. 13

**GREETERS**

Paul & Billie Jo  
Cheryl, Lois, and Ruthanne  
Dan & Sue H.  
Ted & Wendy

*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.*

**Church Council**

**Elders**

Jim Lokker, Vice-President  
Dave Ashton, President  
Dan De Graff, Pastor

**Districts (By Last Name)**

A-K  
L-S  
T-Z

**Deacons**

Chad Van Someren  
Eric Gullixson, Clerk  
Marius Kool

**Have an announcement? Simply email [BCRCbulletin@gmail.com](mailto: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.**