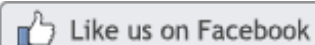


Greetings!

Welcome to Christ Lutheran e-news, a weekly electronic newsletter which highlights programs and activities of our congregation. Feel free to [share with family and friends](#).



Christ Lutheran Church

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Even before a single voter went to the polls today, more than 2/3 the number of votes cast in 2016 had already been cast by mail-in or absentee balloting or early voting. Even so, it has been predicted that we may not know the outcome for days. In an election season that has already been nerve-wracking, sometimes cast in apocalyptic terms, the prospect of a delay adds more anxiety to the mix.

The Church, however, knows something about an apocalypse! No, not the day or season, but only that whatever suffering we may endure, God will ultimately reign with justice and mercy. Our assurance lies in that hope, and our responsibility remains to live and act in faith in the meantime.

For CLC, that means a prayer vigil that began early this morning, as polls officially opened at 7:00am, and will continue into early tomorrow morning. A sign-up sheet went out yesterday for folks to offer non-partisan prayers for our nation in half-hour or one-hour blocks. (Suggestions for how to pray for those time periods, long for most Lutherans (!), accompanied the sign-up.

Whether or not you claim a block in the schedule, do pray for God's will to be done, and for true healing of the deep divides in our country.



Announcements

[Sign up for the prayer vigil](#). Join in a closing meditation Wednesday, November 4 at 7 am around the fire bowl.

Today The Hymn Society is offering a 12-hour "[Election Day Concert](#)" designed to give your spirit a rest from the anxiety of waiting for election results. Tune in from 1 pm - 1am EST.

Music Notes

Tom Berryman, Music Director

Our singers and players at Christ Lutheran regularly record hymns, instrumental and choral music for our ZOOM services and other events online: a wonderful and generous offering. This past Sunday, for All Saints Day, we created a virtual congregation, singing the quintessential All Saints hymn,

For All the Saints. Using my recording of the CLC organ with a "click track", six singers listened with headphones and recorded their parts, mostly at home. I then aligned each of their vocal recordings with the organ track, balanced the volume, adjusted the phrasing and tone and added presence.

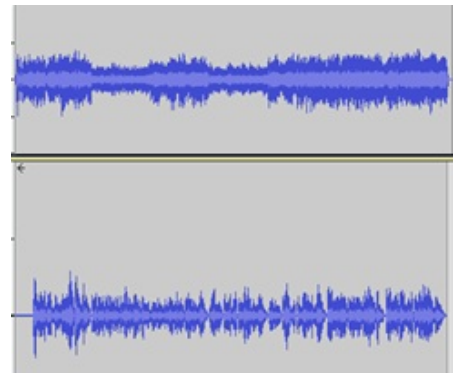


Here's a glimpse of three of the voices that were included this past week for the opening hymn. Notice how distinctive each track seems: some have more percussive vowels, some have a more continuous tone, some are a bit louder. All are reasonably well aligned with each other.

The second illustration shows the final, combined recording that you heard on Sunday. The organ is combined with all six singers.

Notice that the wave forms are much larger (louder). The "clatter" of our organ's

mechanicals adds to the regular percussive vowel spikes.



The resulting recording barely approaches the joy and thrill of singing together, but it does serve as a reminder, pale as it is, that we are still singing God's praises, if remotely.

Youth

Gail Weston-Roberts, Youth and Family Services Coordinator

Young people in grades 9-12 in Natick, Sudbury, or Weston are invited to apply to Metrowest Foundation's *Youth in Philanthropy* spring 2021 program. Deadline is November 20.

By joining a Youth in Philanthropy (YIP) program you can make a positive impact in your community while teaming up with other students from across MetroWest. Through the program you'll get to visit local organizations, delve into community needs, grant money to causes benefiting youth - and potentially fulfill community service hours! Unlike other volunteer opportunities, YIP puts the power of decision making in your hands and empowers you to be a change-maker. The program provides you with a skill-set you can draw upon throughout your life.

For more information: <https://yipmetrowest.org/students/>

Adult Formation

Sculpting Faith: A Conversation with Christian Sculptor, Tim Schmalz
November 12, 2020 7 PM - 8 PM EST Via Zoom



The sculptor Timothy Schmalz at the Vatican greeting Pope Francis for World Migrants and Refugees Day 2019 and the unveiling of Schmalz's latest work, "Angels Unawares." He is best known for depicting Homeless Jesus sleeping on a park bench. (Wikimedia, 2019)

Join Christian sculptor Tim Schmalz and A Faith That Does Justice Founder Father Peter Gyves, SJ, MD for a conversation about how Christian art can reflect today's global world and serve as a form of prayer in action. They will discuss the Schmalz sculptures, which reflect social injustices related to homelessness, racial justice, and oppression. You will discover how you can apply to your own lives what Schmalz has learned about faith in action through sculpting.

The Schmalz sculpture, *Angels Unawares*, was inspired by the biblical admonition "Do not neglect hospitality, for through it some have unknowingly entertained angels (Heb 13:2)." The sculpture was unveiled in St. Peter's Square on World Day of Migrants and Refugees in 2019. [Hear from the artist about that experience.](#)

[Register for free here.](#)



The third and final discussion of Pastor Lenny Duncan's *Dear Church: A Love Letter to America's Whitest Denomination* will be one week from tomorrow, Wednesday, November 11, at 6:00 p.m.

Please request an invitation from Pastor Bourret if you'd like to take part.

CLC Book Group

December's selection is *The Cloister*, a novel by James Carroll based on a medieval love story. *New York Times* reviewer, Sam Roberts writes, "(Carroll) plausibly links the indelible 900-year-old love affair between Abélard and Héloïse to a chance encounter in Washington Heights between a conflicted parish priest and a Jewish refugee from Nazi-occupied Europe.

"*The Cloister*" poetically pingpongs between Abélard's abbey in Saint-Denis in the 1100s, elsewhere in France during and after World War II, and Upper Manhattan in the early 1950s."

Join us on Monday, December 7, at 7:30 pm for a discussion. Contact Marianne Swenson, mswenson10@comcast.net to be added to the meeting.

Call to Action



© Our partners at the Metrowest Immigrant Solidarity Network in Framingham have brought to our attention a need for volunteers to help distribute prepared breakfasts and lunches at the Framingham YMCA: Mondays & Thursdays, 3-4:30pm @ 160 Hollis St., Framingham

The YMCA is distributing prepared breakfasts and lunches to children & families in south Framingham beginning today! They need 2 volunteers per day to pass out meals.

Please [sign-up here to volunteer.](#)

Have you returned your completed pledge card and time and talent form? Remember: the amount you commit to share with CLC for our shared ministries is less important than a pledge itself. Now more than ever, we share in one another's joys and struggles. Our thanks to all who have already returned your commitments!

Are you a Thrivent member? We could use an Action Team grant to help fund the outdoor Christmas tree lighting and Carol Hum-a-long on December 18. The funds could help pay for a large tree, lights, and refreshments. Please contact Pastor Bourret if you're willing to apply, and for any assistance applying. Every Thrivent member is entitled to two \$250 grants per calendar year. Don't let those resources go to waste!

thrivent

Metrowest Medical Center continues to need prayer shawls or small quilts or blankets to distribute to patients, particularly those nearing death. Crafters may knit or crochet, sew, or even tie fleece blankets. Please drop off any finished items at CLC and we will be sure to get those to MMC.

Looking Ahead

A number of people have indicated an interest in **resuming adult forum**, via Zoom, of course. Plans are already in place to hold **Agape meals** during the "Sunday School" hour during Advent. If you would like to participate in Zoom adult forum after Christmas, please indicate your interest and ideas to Pastor Bourret. One possibility: viewing and discussing a series of very brief videos related to implicit bias.



[New website](#) - Participate!

Please take a look and let us know how we might improve this new tool!

Even though we are unable to physically congregate, the new website is a great way to stay connected. Each day, a [Daily Reflection](#) is posted, for example. These are individually crafted readings to keep us heart-centered and spiritually focused. Check out the [calendar](#) for a list of ways to stay connected and engaged. We want to hear from each of you on how we can improve the site and represent fully and accurately our community.

If the Covid lockdown means you are mailing your weekly contribution to the church, you can instead click on "[Give Now](#)" and donate online via Vanco, the service that currently processes the *Simply Giving* pledges. It is a secure site that takes out the worry out of fulfilling your

pledge.

READINGS FOR THIS WEEK

23th Sunday after Pentecost
November 8, 2020

[Amos 5:18-24](#)

[Psalm 70](#)

[1 Thessalonians 4:13-18](#)

[Matthew 25:1-13](#)

Sing For Joy

Enhance your understanding of the weekly scripture readings by listening to [Sing For Joy](#) from St. Olaf College. The Sing For Joy radio program, produced by St. Olaf College, has a simple mission: to explore the weekly themes of Christian worship by providing the best in sacred choral music and thoughtful

commentary. The musical performances eloquently "do the talking," while the concise remarks from host Pastor Bruce Benson illuminate the meaning of the texts.

Do you have information for our weekly e-news?
Please be in touch by [email](#) if you have news to include.

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