

Christ Lutheran Church Community News



This past week our last confirmand, Henrik Stjernfeldt, made public affirmation of faith. All three of our confirmands, Henrik, Anna Carlson, and Kirsten Kirleis, offered cogent and personal expressions of the shape their faith has taken at this point in their lives. Our thanks to each for their powerful witness!

Several adults joined Henrik in affirming their faith, becoming members of Christ Lutheran Church. We give thanks for their partnership in sharing the gospel: Comlanvi Agbodjinou and Zourfahou Nadio Namory, Juliet Seaberg, Gyongyi Molnar, Martin Carlson, and Mary Jane Young. We welcome you!

This Sunday is the last Sunday of the Church year, called “Christ the King” or “The Reign of Christ.” It will also be Pr. Bourret’s last Sunday at Christ Lutheran Church. We hope that many will be on hand to bid her and Jeff farewell, but also and especially to worship together the One who has inaugurated God’s reign of justice, mercy, and peace.

Thanks to all who have turned in pledges and time and talent forms for 2022—a record number of 45 in the first week! Thanks also to the **Stewardship Pie-Baking Committee**: Sandy Smith, Russell Pollard, Celeste Larson, George Hall, and Jeff Kinney, Chair, for producing more than 50 apple and pumpkin pies!

CLC Transition

This week we are approaching the end of Stage One in the Transition Process as set forth by the New England Synod – *Saying Goodbye*. On Sunday, at the 10:00 am worship, Pastor Rebecca Bourret will preach and preside one final time before retiring at the end of the November. Please join us either in person or via YouTube as we give thanks for her ministry among us with *a Litany of Godspeed and Farewell*, as well as special visitors and musical offerings.

Cards, letters, or other remembrances (no personal gifts, please) will be received through the end of the month, by mail to CLC at 113 Union St., Natick, MA 01760.

Music Notes

Tom Berryman, Music Director

Lots of music is planned for **Sunday, November 21, the Feast of Christ the King** and Pastor Bourret's farewell service.

The CLC Bells will be playing Jason W. Krug's *Shout of Acclamation* for the Prelude and Procession. They will also play a setting of the Gregorian hymn *Adoro te devote* by Anne Krentz Organ during the Communion.

The CLC Choir will sing Peter Hallock's setting of Psalm 83 from *Ionian Psalter* and will invite the congregation to join in singing the late Wittenberg University composer, Donald Busarow's setting of *All hail the power of Jesus' Name* for the Offertory Hymn.

Instrumentalists on Sunday are Joan Ellersick (viola), Kathy Sheperd (violin) and Anne Weaver (flute) will join the organ/piano/voices for the hymns. I will play the Bach *Prelude in E Flat Major* for the Postlude Music.

Hymns for November 21

Canticle of Praise: *Arise, my soul, arise* ELW 827

Hymn of the Day: *Lo, He comes with clouds descending* ELW 435

Offertory Hymn: *All hail the power of Jesus' Name*

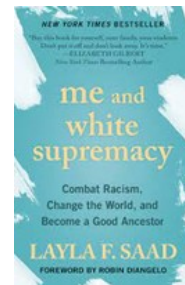
Communion Hymn: *Beautiful Savior* ELW 838

Sending Hymn: *Jesus shall reign where'er the sun* ELW 434

Adult Formation

In the Sunday forum, we have just begun working through *Me and White Supremacy* by Layla F. Saad. We're reading through a brief essay each day, and come together on Sundays to discuss the questions or "prompts" offered at the end of each. This week we'll look at days 2 and three.

The book is about \$12.50, and there are one or two copies at CLC. Even if you don't have the book, you can profitably participate in the conversation, so join us in the Memorial Room Sundays at 9:00!



CLC Book Group

"Shakespeare: The World as Stage"

By Bill Bryson

Monday, December 6, 2021 at 7:30

William Shakespeare, the most celebrated poet in the English language, left behind nearly a million words of text, but his biography has long been a thicket of wild supposition arranged around scant facts. With a steady hand and his trademark wit, Bill Bryson sorts through this colorful muddle to reveal the man himself. His Shakespeare is like no one else's—the beneficiary of Bryson's genial nature, his engaging skepticism, and a gift for storytelling unrivaled in our time.

Call to Action

For the seventh year Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service is collecting handmade cards to send to immigrant families in detention. It's a great project to undertake after Thanksgiving dinner, with or without a football game playing in the background! Instructions below.



Step 1:

Write messages of hope and encouragement in English and Spanish on holiday cards (see Spanish messages below for inspiration). Draw a picture or share your favorite poem, quote, or Bible verse to personalize the card. Sign the card (first name and city/state). **DO NOT** put cards in individual envelopes.

Sample greetings:

Dear friend,	Querid@ amig@:
Greetings from [city/state]. My name is [name].	Saludos desde [city/state]. Me llamo [name].
Merry Christmas.	Feliz Navidad.
Please know that you are not alone nor forgotten.	Quiero que sepa que no está sol@, ni olvidad@.
I am praying for you and your family. I am also fighting for justice for you and your family, and for all our brothers and sisters who leave their countries in search of a better life.	Rezo por usted y su familia. También lucho por justicia para usted y su familia y para todos nuestros hermanos y hermanas que dejan su país en busca de una vida mejor.
Please know that thousands of people are working to keep you and your family safe. You are not forgotten.	Miles de personas están trabajando para cuidar a su familia y a usted. No los hemos olvidado.
Never forget that we are praying and fighting for you and your family.	Recuerde siempre que estamos orando y luchando por su familia y usted.
God's blessings and peace at Christmas and for the New Year.	Bendiciones de Dios y paz en Navidad y para el Año Nuevo.
May God bless you!	¡Que Dios l@ bendiga!

Step 2:

Please place all cards in one large manila envelope or box and mail the cards to the closest Partner Hub. Our Hope for the Holidays™ partners will make sure that your cards are received by our immigrant neighbors and friends. **Please make sure cards are sent in and arrive by December 3rd.**

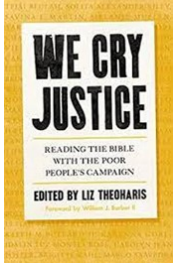
For more information, or if you'd like to become more involved in bringing hope to families in detention, click here: <https://www.lirs.org/take-action/hope-for-the-holidays/>

Haven't yet turned in your pledge card and time and talent form? Please do so as soon as possible, so that the Finance and Property Committee has ample time to prepare a responsible, mission-focused budget for 2022.

Both forms are available on our website: www.christnatick.org, under "Give Now."

Looking Ahead

An Advent midweek Bible study will be offered Wednesdays at 7:30 via Zoom. Participants will be using *We Cry Justice*, with weekly



Bible passages and essays written by various authors. The compilation is edited by Rev. Dr. Liz Theoharis with a Foreword by Rev. Dr. William J. Barber II, who co-chair the Poor People's Campaign. The book is available through several retailers for about \$15-18.

From the Kairos center: *More than thirty contributors spanning different races, genders, geographic locations, professions, and more were brought together to do a deep dive into the true liberation of the gospel, and what it means for poor and low income people. This devotional breathes new life into familiar passages, and centers righteous justice and liberation for poor people as the primary lens through which the Bible is read.*

CLC will again offer a tree-lighting and carol-sing this year—yes, this year we will be able to sing along with the Bell Choir—on Saturday, December 18. Light refreshments will follow. This is in lieu of carol singing at a local spot like the Morse Tavern. Perhaps next year we can return to indoor singing in a public space. Whom will you invite?



READINGS FOR THIS WEEK November 21, 2021

First Reading
Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14

Psalm
Psalm 93

Second Reading
Revelation 1:4b-8

Gospel
John 18:33-37



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