



Christ Church UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Pastor: Andy Oren
Musician: Terryl Dietert
Guitarist: Paul Mayeshiba
Liturgist: Clinton Verley

November 20, 2022

www.uccmke.org
www.facebook.com/christchurchbayview

Welcome to Christ Church!

We are so glad you are here this morning! **Whether you are a visitor or a member, please sign the Friendship Register at the end of your pew.** Please also wear your name tag. If you are a first-time visitor, make your way to the Chapel (across from the Sanctuary) after worship where we have a small gift for you. We begin our worship with five minutes of quiet meditation from 9:25 to 9:30 am. Thanks!

A Word from Pastor Andy - Today we come to the end of the Christian Year, for next Sunday marks the beginning of Advent. Even today, through the prophet Jeremiah, we will hear words that hint at the coming Christ child. And oddly enough, here...just weeks before we celebrate the birth of Jesus...we are presented with a retelling of his crucifixion. Didn't we do this on Good Friday? Why do we have to hear such a brutal story again? Could it be because we have forgotten the meaning of it? Could it be we have forgotten the kind of king Jesus was? Could it be because we refuse to listen when Jesus tells us (yes, you and me!) we will face persecution and even death for having followed him? Maybe this isn't what we signed up for...but it is what Jesus expects of us. But come now, for now is the time for worship!

**Please stand as you are able*

A Quiet Time to Center Ourselves

Prelude *We Gather Together* arr. Bradshaw

Words of Welcome

*Opening Hymns *Jesus, We Are Here* Hymn #659

*The Gloria Hymn #734

Glory be to the Father, and to the son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen. Amen.

***Our Call to Worship**

One: Only thirty-five shopping days until Christmas, only thirty-five days left to buy presents, only thirty-five days left to give to charities.

All: Only thirty-five days left to bake the cookies, go caroling, attend the concerts, the parties and the children's "holiday" pageants at school.

One: Only thirty-five days left to print out the labels, stamp the envelopes, sign each one and mail the holiday greeting cards, wishing everyone their appropriate blessings.

All: Only thirty-five days left to unpack the tree, to string the lights, hang the ornaments, string the garland, stand back and say, "It's a beautiful tree, isn't it, dear?"

One: Only thirty-five days left to plan the huge holiday party, send out the invitations, make the finger foods, clean the house, set the table and dress for the occasion.

All: Only thirty-five days left to wrap the presents run around like a crazy person, stress out, burn out, flip out and wonder what happened to Christmas!

One: So right now, and every Sunday between now and the big day...let's just stop for a moment and breathe. Let us pause for just a moment to remember that in the midst of Christmas there is, in fact, the Christ child. May this place be a place of peaceful sanctuary amidst the madness of the season. Amen.

All: Amen!

*Opening Prayer

Almighty God, I believe you know those words we just shared ring all too true for us. It seems the moment the Thanksgiving table is cleared, we all step into high gear and the race towards Christmas begins. Most of the stores have been at it for weeks already. Is there no way to stop the madness? How can we hold on to you in the midst of all this busyness? How can we keep you front and center in our hearts when our minds are filled with a hundred million different things to do? Help us, O Lord. Help us in these busy days to not let you out of our sight for even one moment. Help us to remember the only gift that really matters is the gift of your love. It's the greatest gift we can ever hope to receive, and it is the greatest gift we can offer. Stay by our side and hold us close. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

***A Hymn for this Moment** *Come Away from Rush and Hurry*

Hymn #655

Readings for this Day

Jeremiah 23:1-6 (NRSV) - Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! says the Lord. Therefore, thus says the Lord, the God of Israel, concerning the shepherds who shepherd my people: It is you who have scattered my flock, and have driven them away, and you have not attended to them. So I will attend to you for your evil doings, says the Lord. Then I myself will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the lands where I have driven them, and I will bring them back to their fold, and they shall be fruitful and multiply. I will raise up shepherds over them who will shepherd them, and they shall not fear any longer, or be dismayed, nor shall any be missing, says the Lord.

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In his days Judah will be saved and Israel will live in safety. And this is the name by which he will be called: 'The Lord is our righteousness.'

A Hymn of Anticipation *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*
(verses 1 & 4)

Hymn #154

Luke 23:33-43 (MSG) - When they got to the place called Skull Hill, they crucified him, along with the criminals, one on his right, the other on his left. Jesus prayed, "Father, forgive them; they don't know what they're doing." Dividing up his clothes, they threw dice for them. The people stood there staring at Jesus, and the ringleaders made faces, taunting, "He saved others. Let's see him save himself! The Messiah of God...ha! The Chosen...ha!" The soldiers also came up and poked fun at him, making a game of it. They toasted him with sour wine: "So you're King of the Jews! Save yourself!" Printed over him was a sign; "This is the King of the Jews."

One of the criminals hanging alongside cursed him: "Some Messiah you are! Save yourself! Save us!" But the other one made him shut up: "Have you no fear of God? You're getting the same as him. We deserve this, but not him...he did nothing to deserve this." Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you enter your kingdom." He said, "Don't worry, I will. Today you will join me in paradise."

Gift of Music

Thank the Lord

Christ Church Choir

Sermon

What Kind of King Are You?

Andy Oren

***Sermon Response**

Crown Him with Many Crowns

Hymn #317

in the crowded life we lead,
find the room for hope to enter,
find the frame where we are freed:
clear the chaos and the clutter, clear our eyes that we can see
all the things that really matter, be at peace, and simply be.

Prayers of the People

Hear Our Prayers, O God...

- Please remember **Ken & Susie's son-in-law, Karl and his family**, who recently lost his father and who is restarting chemo.
- Pray for healing and patience for **Pastor Andy's friend, Dave L**, who is recovering from a broken leg.
- Please pray for **Darlene's friend, Virg and her daughter Dani and her family** as Dani was moved into hospice.
- Pray for healing for our sister in the Lord, **Loretta S**, who is continuing chemo and radiation treatments.
- Continued prayers for **Joe R** as recovers at home. Prayers also for **Madeline** as she provides care and support for Joe.
- **Danette, Rachelle & Renolle V** ask for healing for their sister, **Enith C.** as she recovers from surgery.
- Prayers for **Susie K** would be appreciated as she is recovering at home from Covid.
- Please pray for **Judy B's, daughter Chris**, as her cancer is back again. Pray for the upcoming surgeries and radiation.

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

Call to Offering *(our offering plate is located in the rear of the sanctuary)*

The message of salvation is meant to be shared, and we are a people called to extend this good news in every way we can. When we give our gifts, we give a part of ourselves, for we have traded our labor, our time and our talent for what we now give away. All we possess belongs to God, to whose purpose we now dedicate our gifts and ourselves.

*Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*Prayer of Dedication

Our choir called us to "thank the Lord" and so when we think of this church and our place within, we give thanks. When we consider the saving faithfulness of Jesus, we give thanks. And when we consider all the blessings we have received and from which we give a portion back, we give thanks. Bless these gifts as we as we who have given them. Amen.

Prayer of Confession

We know, O God, that we have not always lived as you hope we would. We have allowed ourselves to become fragmented in so many different ways. We stand by watching while others struggle to simply survive. We cast our lots with those who worship power and success. We scoff at your words that call us to a different way of living. Forgive us, O God, we pray.

Words of Assurance

Friends, the Good News is that God remembers...God remembers not our sins or our foolish ways, but rather God remembers us and redeems us. God continues to prepare a way of grace, hope and new life for us all. Amen.

L: May the peace of God be with you.

C: And also with you.

L: People of God, lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the One who has favored us with grace.

L: God's beloved children, sing now of your hopes and dreams.

C: We bless the One who remembers us and redeems us to new life.

L: Joyfully, we lift our songs of praise to you, O God...Therefore, we join our voices with the fruitful and the foolish of every time and place, as we sing of your joy;

C: Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.

L: Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ...that mysterious story we call faith;

C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

L: As we come to this Table of Peace...singing our joy and praise to you, Almighty God. We remember that on the night...

Sharing the Bread and the Cup

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Loving God, we thank you that you have fed us here by this sacrament, united us with Christ, and given us a foretaste of the heavenly banquet in your eternal kingdom. Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory, in Jesus' name. Amen.

***Words for the Journey**

One: Go now, and always remember that God is with us.

All: God around us, God before us, God beside us.

One: God in the wilderness and God on the mountaintop.

All: God in our work and God in our play.

One: God on our journey and in all the seasons of our lives.

All: God of the past, God of the present and of the future, God with us now and always and everywhere. Amen.

***Benediction & Sending Forth**

Postlude

Varied Harmonization of "The Ash Grove"

arr. Otte

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Have a blessed Thanksgiving!



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Coffee Hour
Decorating cards
Book Club 11am

Quilting
Tuesday, Nov 22 at 9:30am

Handbell Rehearsal
Wednesday, Nov 23 at 9am

Share Our Suppers
Friday, Nov 25 at 4:45pm (*Dean & Pam K, Lynn S, & Randene W*)

NEXT SUNDAY
Hanging of the Greens
Nativity Scene Setup
Snow Shoveling Schedule
Nov 20 thru 26 - Brian O
Nov 27 thru Dec 3 - Chuck T

Please plan to attend the
Annual Meeting
Sunday, December 11th after church

ENDOWMENT GRANT REQUEST

The Endowment Committee has begun taking grant requests for 2022. Outreach programs that support the life of Christ Church and the Milwaukee community will be considered and awarded monies from the available funds. Forms are available in the racks in the hallway near the chapel. Grants are awarded only one time annually. Consider upcoming projects and services that could benefit from these funds. The committee will meet in December to review the grant requests. The deadline is **November 30, 2022**. Please return requests to the office.

Christ Church Book Club

Our next meeting is **TODAY!!!** We will meet in the Fellowship Hall at **11:00 am** to discuss *The Stranger in the Lifeboat* by Mitch Albom. We look forward to an interesting discussion and fellowship time. If you have any questions please contact us.

Thanks, *Debbie Hansen, Mary Ann Mowery*

Advent Activities

TODAY!!! there will be an opportunity to assemble and decorate card ornaments for our shut-ins and the Share Our Supper guests. No sign-up is necessary, as this will take place during and after coffee hour. We will be decorating card ornaments that Jan, one of our crafty crafters, has crafted for us. See Jill or Jan if you have any questions.

HANGING OF THE GREENS

Sunday, November 27 at 10:30am

Join in the FUN of decorating the church sanctuary, chapel, and hallway for the Christmas Season. All are welcome (AND NEEDED)!

NATIVITY SCENE SETUP

Sunday, November 27, 2022, Following Coffee Hour

On Sunday, November 27 we will begin the Advent Season by erecting our churches Nativity Scene which has signaled to the Bay View area for many decades that Christmas is coming. Following the worship service, grab a snack and some coffee, then join us outside to assemble the Nativity and place the figurines. The more help we have, the easier it is to assemble. There is no sign-up. Just show up. See you then!



Women's Christmas Brunch

Sunday, December 4 at 10:45am in the Fellowship Hall

We will gather for coffee, fellowship, and a craft project following church. Brunch will be served at 11:30 a.m. A presentation: "Expectations" by Pastor Michelle Henrichs will follow. All women of the congregation are invited. Please sign up on the bulletin board at the Lenox Street entrance so we know how many people are attending by November 27th. If you would like to provide food or assist with the event, please contact the Social Concerns Committee: *Debbie Hansen, Mary Ann Mowery, Sara Rogers, or Randene Wick*.

Holiday Gift Match Program

We are once again partnering with the BVCC to provide Christmas gifts for seniors and children. The gift tags will be available in the chapel after worship beginning November 20th and gifts need to be returned by Sunday December 4th. Detailed information will be available when you pick up your gift tag. Thanks for helping make the holidays brighter for those in our community.

The Social Concerns Committee: *Debbie Hansen, Mary Ann Mowery, Sarah Rogers, Randene Wick*

"There's a Song in the Air!"

The fact that we are blessed with such gifted singers provides us with a couple of choices on **Saturday, December 10th**. Jill Unglub has organized an outing which begins with a noon lunch at The Open Flame Restaurant (5081 S. 108th St.) followed by a trip to Hales Corners Lutheran Church (12300 W. Janesville Road) to hear *A Midwinter Noel* concert featuring our own Pam Kothrade!

But wait! There's more! Julie Oren and Nancy Schlaack are part of Cantare Chorale and they will be performing *Songs of the Season* at 2:00 p.m. on **Saturday, December 10th** at Martin Luther Lutheran Church (9235 W. Bluemound Road). Cost for this is \$10 and you can see Julie or Nancy for tickets or simply purchase them at the door. So many things to do!

And there's even more...John Helt will be singing with Milwaukee's ACappella Choir on

Friday, December 2nd at 7pm

Mount Carmel Lutheran Church
8424 W. Center St.
Milwaukee, WI 53222

Sunday, December 4th at 3pm

St. Luke's Lutheran Church
6705 Northway
Greendale, WI 53129

If you should need pastoral support, please contact **Andy Oren** at **414-698-2387** or **aoren@att.net** or the **Church Office** at **414-481-3530** or **office@uccmke.org**



You can make your offering to Christ Church at **www.uccmke.org/donate** or by mailing a check to **Christ Church**
915 E Oklahoma Ave
Milwaukee, WI 53207

OFFICE HOURS: Tuesday & Thursday, 8am–1pm; Wednesday, 9:30am–1:30pm

facebook Livestream of Worship Service

To view the livestream of the worship service "live," watch on Christ Church's main facebook page: **www.facebook.com/christchurchbayview**