



# CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

## ENews

Thursday, November 9, 2023

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## Church News

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### November is Native American Heritage Month



The ELCA continues to offer opportunities for us to explore our relationships with Indigenous Peoples. Find the links to join zoom presentations [here](#)

Tuesday November 28 at 8:00pm: Presentation: Settler

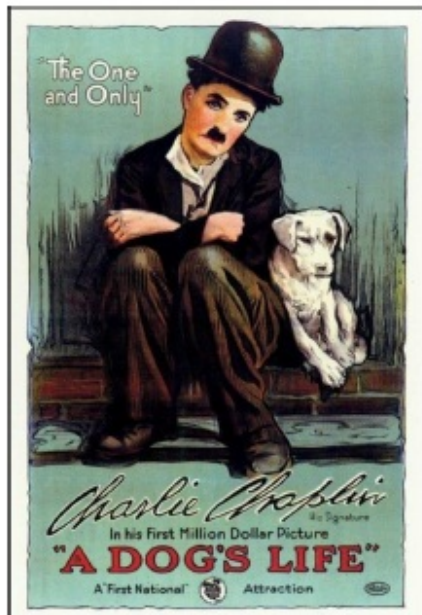
Narrative

Thursday November 30 at 8:00pm: Indigenous Thought and Theology

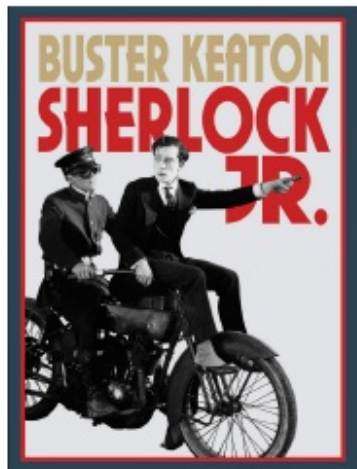
There are also many interesting and informative programs on the [PBS website](#)

The Social Justice Team encourages you to learn about our complicity as white Christians in the harms inflicted on Native Peoples and to consider how we might participate in repair and reconciliation.

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**silent  
movie  
night**  
two short films  
in a  
double feature!



**Saturday  
November 18  
7pm**

**christ lutheran church**

113 union Street natick, ma  
[christnatick.org](http://christnatick.org)

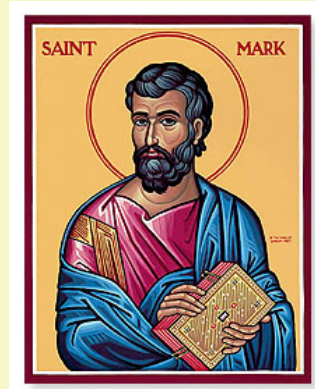
Donations benefit  
the Metro-West  
Asylee Program

**pianist, Rob Humphreville**  
*improvises the score before your very ears!*

## Adult Education at CLC

Our return to Adult Education opportunities at CLC continues in December with a three week focus on the gospel of Mark! With the change in liturgical year that begins with Advent, we will shift from the gospel of Matthew as our orienting perspective to hearing excerpts from Mark on Sundays. We'll learn a little bit about the author of Mark's point of view as a way to listen with our whole selves to the stories offered.

- December 3 - Who is "Mark"?
- December 10 - How do we listen to Mark?
- December 17 - Living a life of Holy urgency



The sessions will be after worship on Sunday, beginning at 11:30 AM. We are going to try and offer this session in hybrid format so everyone can be together for learning.

Folks joining online can click [here](#) to join the sessions.

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## Reflections on Stewardship



### What Will Growing Look Like?

Christ Lutheran has always been a generous community. While we have often had modest deficits in our budget, our year-end dilemma has frequently been to determine how we will give away our budget surplus! The members of Christ Lutheran have provided ample resources to answer God's call to witness and service and to support our current ministries at 113 Union Street.

This year, we are facing some new challenges. During this post-pandemic and transition time, some of our members have moved on to other churches for various reasons, which means that fewer people will be making

pledges this year. Costs are increasing, as we all are aware. More importantly, Christ Lutheran is entering a period of transformation, discerning how God is calling us to witness and serve in new ways! What will "growing" look like? Will we grow in numbers? Will we grow in our own faith? How will we expand our welcome to immigrants? How will we expand our welcome to the community? How will we reach out to youth and families? To our growing digital community? How will we find new opportunities to stand with people that society has pushed to the margins?

The Stewardship Team invites you to consider the possibilities for new ventures and opportunities to spread the grace and love of God to a world in need of healing and renewal. Realizing this growth will only be possible if all of us work together, increasing our financial support for our ministries here at Christ Lutheran as each of us is able. How will we grow in our stewardship of the resources that have been placed in our hands to be shared for the good of the world? **This Sunday 11/12, we invite you to offer your pledges of money, time, and talent to the ministries of Christ Lutheran Church.**

*Thus says the Lord, the one who created you, O Israel, who formed you, O Jacob: "Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine." - Isaiah 43:1*

With gratitude,

The Stewardship Team

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## Readings for Sunday, November 12, 2023

Click on the link for the text:

**First Reading:** [Amos 5:18-24](#)

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

**Gospel:** [Matthew 25:1-13](#)



## Worship Assistants for Sunday, November 12, 2023

<b>Greeters</b>	Martha Cronin and Mary Avalos
<b>Assisting Minister</b>	Carol Virshbo
<b>Reader</b>	Mary Pollard
<b>Communion Assistant</b>	Russell Pollard
<b>Tellers</b>	Frank Miller and Ellen Zagajeski
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Carol Virshbo and Ellen Zagajeski
<b>Fellowship Hosts</b>	Lisa Eck & David Ripp and Gyongyi Molnar
<b>Broadcast Team</b>	Ryan Schnepfer and Elinor Holm

## Music Notes

The CLC Choir, with flutist, Anne Weaver will offer Karen Marrolli's "The Stranger's Guise" for the Offertory Music on Sunday, November 12. Based on a traditional Celtic poem, *The Rune of Hospitality*, the text reflects on welcoming the stranger, often Christ in disguise.

*We saw a stranger yesterday,  
We put food in the eating place,  
Drink in the drinking place,  
Music in the listening place.  
And with the sacred name of the Triune God  
We were blessed, and our house,  
Our cattle and our dear ones.  
As the lark says in her song:  
Often, often, often goes the Christ  
In the stranger's guise.*

Tom Berryman  
Director musices



**RUNE OF HOSPITALITY.**  
I SAW A STRANGER YESTREEN;  
I PUT FOOD IN THE EATING PLACE,  
DRINK IN THE DRINKING PLACE,  
MUSIC IN THE LISTENING PLACE;  
AND IN THE BLESSED NAME OF THE TRIUNE  
HE BLESSED MYSELF AND MY HOUSE,  
MY CATTLE AND MY DEAR ONES.  
AND THE LARK SAID IN HER SONG  
OFTEN, OFTEN, OFTEN,  
GOES THE CHRIST IN THE STRANGER'S GUISE,  
OFTEN, OFTEN, OFTEN,  
GOES THE CHRIST IN THE STRANGER'S GUISE.  
— AN OLD GAELIC RUNE —

## Hymns for Sunday, November 12, 2023

**Gospel Acclamation:** Hallelujah (ELW 173)

**Hymn of the Day:** Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning (ACS 949)

**Offertory Hymn:** Listen, God Is Calling (ELW 513)

**Communion Hymn:** When Peace Like a River (ELW 785)

**Stewardship Hymn:** For Such a Time as This (ACS 1003)

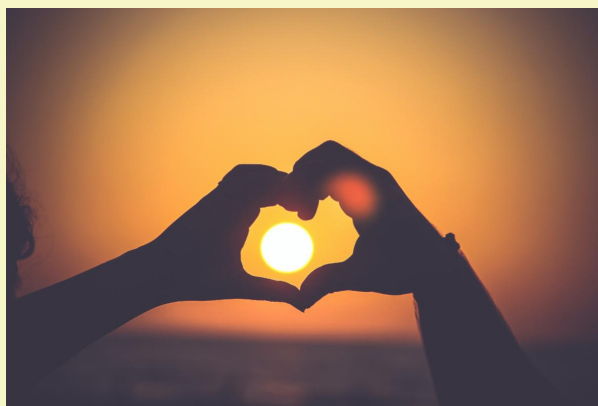
**Sending Hymn:** Soon and Very Soon (ELW 439)

## Last Sunday's Service Recording

## Endowment News

Dear Friends at Christ Natick:

Your Endowment Committee makes disbursements from the Endowment Fund to provide additional support to deserving organizations outside our Church. Past examples have included the Natick Service Council, New England Synod's Campus Ministries, and Roxbury Lutheran Church. Disbursements are small, usually in the \$500 range, but show our recognition and support for the various organizations' important work in the world.



The Endowment Committee asks members and friends of the Congregation to nominate deserving organizations and a brief blurb as to why they should be selected. The Committee will review the suggestions and work to choose a few to support this year. Please feel free to send to Kathleen Kirleis at [kekirleis@yahoo.com](mailto:kekirleis@yahoo.com) or to me, Marianne Swenson, at [mwenson10@comcast.net](mailto:mwenson10@comcast.net).

Thank you to your thoughtful consideration - and to all the many faithful people whose contributions have made this possible! To donate, simply place in the plate or mail to the church with a notation for the Endowment Fund. Donations have been made to honor birthdays, anniversaries, graduations and to commemorate those who have passed. Or without a reason at all! All donations gladly and gratefully accepted!

Peace+

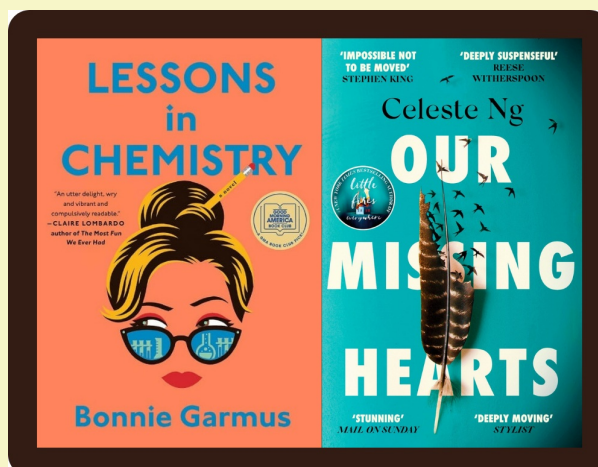
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## Book Group

The CLC Book Group has announced their next two book reads for the community!

December 11 - *Lessons in Chemistry* by Bonnie Garmus

January 15 - *Our Missing Hearts* by Celeste Ng.



If you don't already receive Book Group emails, contact [Marianne Swenson](#) for the zoom link.

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## Community News

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# NEIGHBORS IN CRISIS

Your gift to Lutheran World Relief will deliver urgently needed support and care to innocent civilians in Israel and Gaza.

[lwr.org/crisis](http://lwr.org/crisis)



AP Photo/Maya Altieruzzo

Thank you for sharing God's love with your neighbors when and where they need it most.

## Anti-Racism Author Talk

The Synod's Anti-Racism Advisory Board, together in partnership with Calumet Lutheran Ministries is so excited to bring this opportunity forward for the people of the New England Synod and of Calumet Nation. Many thanks to author and economist Jeff Fuhrer for being with us in November on Zoom. [Join the antiracism prayer meeting](#) that we host by Zoom on the **1st Monday and 3rd Thursday** of the month at 7:15 pm. [Click on the picture below for more information.](#)

The graphic features a teal background with a white floral pattern on the left and right sides. In the center, there is a white box containing the text "Author Talk" and "This November — on Zoom". Below this, it says "There is no cost for the book for the first 100 people who sign up for the event by OCT 20". To the right of the text is a small portrait of Jeff Fuhrer and a book cover for "The Myth That Made Us" by Jeff Fuhrer. The book cover is dark with white text and a small image of a shoe. Below the book cover, the text reads "HOW FALSE BELIEFS ABOUT RACISM AND MERITOCRACY BROKE OUR ECONOMY (AND HOW TO FIX IT) JEFF FUHRER". At the bottom of the graphic, it says "The synod's Anti-Racist Advisory Board & Calumet invites People of Faith to read & then gather for conversation." followed by the dates and times: "MON, NOV 20, 6:30-7:45 PM" and "TUES, NOV 21, 9:30-10:45 AM".

**“Author Talk”**  
**This November — on Zoom**

*There is no cost for the book for the first 100 people who sign up for the event by OCT 20*

**THE MYTH THAT MADE US**  
HOW FALSE BELIEFS ABOUT RACISM AND MERITOCRACY BROKE OUR ECONOMY (AND HOW TO FIX IT)  
JEFF FUHRER

The synod's **Anti-Racist Advisory Board & Calumet** invites **People of Faith** to read & then gather for conversation.

**MON, NOV 20, 6:30-7:45 PM**  
**TUES, NOV 21, 9:30-10:45 AM**

HOW FALSE BELIEFS ABOUT

### The New England Synod Reads: *The Myth that Made Us*

I am very excited about the opportunity that the Synod's Anti-Racism Team and Camp Calumet have provided to discuss this book! I heard the author, who is a member of St. John's Lutheran Church in Sudbury, speak at Synod Assembly in June.

Mr. Fuhrer explains his research about how systemic racism coupled with our economic system

has created and excused gross inequities. Even more importantly, he outlines steps we could take to fix our system and provide reparation for people of color who have been impacted by these unjust systems. I have a copy of the book that I am willing to lend. **Even if you don't read the book, you will benefit from hearing the discussion** and I encourage you to register for one of the sessions. Please join us. It will be time well spent!

Celeste Larson

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## Office News

### Office Hours - Week of November 12, 2023

**Monday:** 10-12

**Tuesday:** 10-12

**Wednesday:** Closed

**Thursday:** 10-12

**Friday:** 10-12



### Lost and Found

#### **Lost & Found**

The Lost and Found Box is in the narthex above the mailboxes. It currently holds two pairs of glasses. Denizens of the box will be disposed of after one month.

### CLC on Social Media

If you have any events with church members you would like to share on our Facebook and Instagram pages, please send a 3-4 sentence paragraph and a picture to *the office* so we can post it.

Please be sure to like the [Christ Lutheran Church](#) page on Facebook to get all of our updates.

You can also follow us, [ChristNatick](#), on [Instagram](#).

Please invite your family friends to join us on social media.



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## Looking Ahead

**Saturday, November 18 @ 7:00 pm:** Silent Movie Night

**Saturday, December 2 @ 3:00 pm :** Bell Choir @ Fran's Flowers

**Sunday, December 3 @ 10:00 am :** Advent Begins!

**Sunday, December 3 @ 2:00 pm :** Bell Choir @ Mary Ann Morse

**Sunday, December 3 @ 3:30 pm :** Tree Lighting at CLC

**Christ Lutheran Church**  
113 Union Street

Natick, MA 01760-6073

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