



*Moses and Aaron then went into the tent of meeting.  
When they came out, they blessed the people; and the glory  
of the Lord appeared to all the people. Leviticus 9: 23*



**Welcome** to everyone who has joined us for worship through the on-line services. We pray that God will bless these times of worship in our homes, and we pray for the time when we may worship together again.

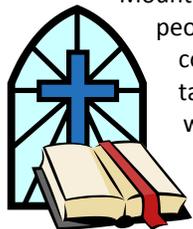
## **Sunday Morning Message**

Our message for Sunday morning is rooted in Leviticus 9. I encourage you read (or at least scan) Leviticus 1-8 in order to see the list of sacrifices that the people and priests were required to offer. Leviticus 8 contains the account of the ordination (and clothing) of the first High Priest, Aaron.

In our Lenten series, we are looking at the movement of the people of this world. We began by looking at the direction people travelled in the Old Testament, beginning in Genesis. Adam and Eve, after they sinned, were expelled from the Garden of Eden from the east side and they began to travel eastward. Cain, after he killed his brother, went east, and there he realized that he was outside the notice and blessing of God, vulnerable to attack and wandering without stability. Following the flood Noah's descendants went east once again, moving away from God to build for themselves a city and tower (Babel) which would enable them to live self-sufficient lives without depending on God. Their efforts led to their being plunged into chaos and separation, a kind of death in itself.

God remained faithful to this world, and in Genesis 12 he called Abraham to turn around. Abraham was the first person to begin moving in a westward direction, and he did so only because it was God who initiated the move. Abraham became close to God and a relationship was established between him and his descendants.

Many years later, after Abraham's descendants had been slaves in Egypt, God brought them to himself and met with them on Mount Sinai. He reestablished his relationship with them, but access to the presence of God was forbidden. God was holy and the people were still sinful.



Mount Sinai was the place where God came close to his people, but the people were going to be on the move. To make it possible that God continue to dwell among his people, he instructed Moses to build a tabernacle. This tent-like structure was a sort of Mount Sinai, for God was able to live among his people there. The tabernacle contained the throne room (the Most Holy Place) and the throne (the Ark of the Covenant) of God. As the people moved, God would remain among them.

But the people remained separated from God. Last week we saw how, at the end of the book of Exodus, God dwelt among his people, but he could not meet with them. The priests were meant to be mediators between God and the people, walking into the tabernacle with the prayers of the people and returning to the people with the blessings and instructions of God. But after God came to dwell in the tabernacle, even the priests were not allowed into the presence of God. First there had to be sacrifices.

The book of Leviticus begins with a list of five sacrifices, each one for a different purpose but all accomplishing the same thing: the people's sins were no longer held against them. Today we are going to see how the sacrifices went beyond merely cleansing the people of their sin to actually signifying their entrance into the presence of God, something that was fulfilled in the ascension of Jesus Christ into heaven. Leviticus 9 takes us one step closer to being able to dwell in the presence of God.

It may seem that we have abandoned the opening theme of movement toward God (west), but next week we return to that theme as we consider the entry of Jesus into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday.

But today we look at Leviticus 9, the institution of the sacrificial system, and we will think about what significance that has for us today.

## **SERVICE SCHEDULE**

All church services and activities are cancelled or postponed until further notice. Sunday morning services will continue to be available online.

To watch services on line:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCODTNoKAr8Y83bpNQvd4xow>

Or search Blyth Christian Reformed Church on You Tube,

Or the watch icon on The Bridge App.

## **OFFERING SCHEDULE**

**Today:** (1) Church (2) World Renew (Refugees)

**Next Week:** (1) Church (2) Huron Christian School

### **Upcoming Offerings:**

April 12 Mission Montreal

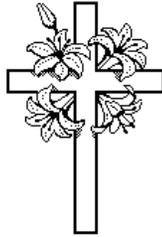
April 19 Resonate

April 26 London Christian High

May 3 New Ground (Formerly Operation Manna)



## **KEEP IN PRAYER**



- ◆ We want to remember all those who have various illnesses in this time. The attention of our world is focused on the COVID virus, but there are still many who have other health issues. Their struggles and challenges are accentuated because the number of visitors to the hospital is significantly limited. Pray especially for children who are hospitalized who might find themselves in a situation where they cannot see their parents.

## **UPCOMING EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Church Offerings:** During this time of social isolation we would still appreciate offerings for the church as many expenses continue. If anyone would like to join PAR (automatic deposit), or make changes to their deposits please let Tony know. Donations made by cheque to the Blyth CRC can be mailed to the treasurer. Please mark on the cheque if the donation is for the budget or the 2nd offering cause. Thank you

**Seeking nominations for the offices of elder and deacon:** council is asking the congregation for nominations for the offices of elder and deacon. We ask you to prayerfully look through the Church Directory, to identify members who you think have the potential of serving our church as leaders.

**Attention all Committee's/Leaders:** Our Spring Congregation Meeting is scheduled for Mon, April 6, 2020 – ***this date may change***. All groups and committees are asked to submit a written report to be included in the package. Please email to [info@blythcrc.ca](mailto:info@blythcrc.ca) Please include information about the last year, blessings, and concerns, that you would like the congregation to know about. If you are interested in presenting a verbal report instead or in addition to the written report, let Fred or Rick know. The ministry reports will be primarily distributed by email; a limited number of printed copies will be made available.

**Vacation Bible School:** Welcoming Children to the “Rocky Railway -Jesus power pulls us through!” on Monday July 13 - Thursday July 16, 9-11:45 a.m. at the Blyth United Church for ages SK-Gr.6. Register online at <http://tinyurl.com/blythvbs2020> .

**Volunteers:** We are in need of volunteers again. It’s a fantastic week watching children come and learn all the amazing things Jesus can help us through! Please prayerfully consider helping! If you’re interested please talk to Christina or Barb.

## **YOUNG PEOPLE/ADULT’S NEWS**

**Youth Group / Catechism** for gr. 9-12: 7:30 pm on Tuesdays  
Cancelled until further notice.

**AOYC and COVID-19** - The AOYC (All Ontario Youth Convention) Team is keeping up to date on the many good recommendations and closures put in place by health authorities in order to limit the spread of COVID-19. Ultimately, the health and well-being of our conventioners and leaders is our priority, and we appreciate your trust and patience as we wait to see what the coming weeks bring. We hope to have some clear information for you before the end of the month. Wash your hands, love your neighbour, and pray for those most vulnerable to the effects of this virus. Consider how and who you serve in these coming weeks. Let’s remember this surprising season as a time of hope and generosity.

**Young Adults Group** (For ages 18-30)  
Cancelled until further notice



## **OTHER NEWS**

**BEAT THE BUZZER** - Check out our children’s programs at [www.kidscorner.net](http://www.kidscorner.net). In this week’s episode “Beat the Buzzer,” Liz and his friends are very excited about competing in the Beat the Buzzer game ... so excited that they don't complete their assignment for church school, figuring out the difference between grace, mercy, and justice. Listen now at [kidscorner.net](http://kidscorner.net) and subscribe to KC’s weekly emails for future episodes. Download this month’s Kid Corner Easter puzzle and game giveaway The Bible Challenge Activity Book Five. <https://kidscorner.net/activities>.

**GROUNDWORK: I BELIEVE IN GOD, THE SON** - What do we mean when we say “I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord”? Join Groundwork as we study Matthew 16:13-16, John 1:1-18, and Philippians 2:9-11 to discover who we believe Jesus Christ is and what this belief means for how we live our lives. Listen now at [GroundworkOnline.com](http://GroundworkOnline.com) and subscribe to Groundwork’s weekly emails for future episodes.

**Your Opinion on Worship Matters!** - CRCNA in Canada seeks to answer the following question: "How do we, in the area of worship, address the needs of churches living within a broad range of cultural contexts, ie Eastern, Western, Central Canada etc.?" This is your chance to be heard, regardless of age, gender, membership or position in leadership. If you would like to have your unique voice heard, please email [survey@crcna.org](mailto:survey@crcna.org) with the subject line: Please send me a survey!

**Holy Week Devotional for Families** - Families, are you looking for an easy way to celebrate Holy Week at home? DWELL at Home's new devotional God's Big Easter Story is free to download. (And has a color-in printable!) You can read one devotion each day of Holy Week or combine readings over a few days. Find it at [dwellcurriculum.org](http://dwellcurriculum.org) under "Family Support."

**Lent At-Home Faith Formation Tip** - Hold a modified Seder meal with your family or friends to draw connections between the traditional Jewish Passover meal and the Last Supper. This also provides a wonderful opportunity to teach children about communion and how Jesus asked us to remember him when we celebrate it. Author Ann Voskamp offers Christian seder meal instructions at [tinyurl.com/VoskampSeder](http://tinyurl.com/VoskampSeder). (Tip from Faith Formation Ministries; [crcna.org/FaithFormation](http://crcna.org/FaithFormation))

**LIBERTAS MALE CHOIR CONCERTS - CANCELED** - As the coronavirus COVID-19 continues to spread in communities across Canada, we have made the important decision to cancel our upcoming concerts on April 15, 2020 at Holland Christian Homes, Brampton, ON, and on April 16, 2020 at Rehoboth United Reformed Church, Lancaster Rd, Ancaster, ON. All tickets purchased will be refunded. [www.libertasvoices.com](http://www.libertasvoices.com)

**Campus Minister position opening at U of Toronto** - The University of Toronto campus ministry, one of the oldest in the CRC, is looking for a dynamic leader to guide the next chapter of the ministry's story. Given the range of vibrant and diverse ministry communities, the dynamics of the current staff team, and the nature of the U of T, we're looking for someone with significant campus ministry-related experience. A complete position description, as well as a Strategic Plan and a document ("Deep Roots and Fruitfulness") articulating our identity and location within Classis Toronto, are all available on our ministry website ([crc.sa.utoronto.ca/](http://crc.sa.utoronto.ca/)). The application deadline is April 17, with an intended start date of summer 2020. All inquiries and submissions should be directed to [uoftcampusministry@gmail.com](mailto:uoftcampusministry@gmail.com)

**The Banner Available Online** - You can access all of our content for free, including online extras at: [thebanner.org](http://thebanner.org). You can also sign up for our weekly email newsletter at [thebanner.org/Signup](http://thebanner.org/Signup). Or download our free mobile app, giving you real-time online content. Follow us on Facebook ([crcbanner](https://www.facebook.com/crcbanner)) and Twitter ([@crcbanner](https://twitter.com/crcbanner)).

**Join the World Renew Team!** - World Renew is currently recruiting for a Program Coordinator to work with our International Disaster Response Team. This position, based in Burlington, Ontario, will work on the development of funding proposals to further our International Disaster response efforts. Working closely with local colleagues and international partners, the individual in this role will ensure that proposals are well formulated and in line with institutional donor requirements; develop templates and orientation material to help guide the proposal development processes; build and maintain strong communication and relationships with relevant donor staff; and provide surge support in time of sudden onset emergencies.

**Refugee Sunday has gone online!** - When we welcome refugees as a church, we welcome them into our family--and God's family. Today, consider supporting the work of World Renew's Refugee Sponsorship program. Your gift communicates Christ's love in many ways, giving hope and building a new life for refugee families. Thank you for joining us. To donate online, you can go to: <https://worldrenew.ca/refugeesunday>

**Redeemer University:** In light of the circumstances surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic, the Redeemer leadership team has made difficult decisions to protect the health and wellbeing of students, staff, faculty and the wider community. All assignments, tests and examinations have been moved online, and students have been asked to leave residence except in exceptional circumstances. To the greatest extent, employees are also working from home. Sadly, this means all on-campus events, including music concerts and theatre performances, are cancelled. For more information on Redeemer's response to COVID-19, visit [redeemer.ca/coronavirus](http://redeemer.ca/coronavirus). Please pray that God will give Redeemer the wisdom to deliver transformative Christian education in these uncertain times.

**Christian Counselors list** The safe church committee has a list of counseling service available for members of our church. We will display in the bulletin occasionally and will also provide the list by the safe church materials under the mailslots. Council will provide financial assistance when needed.

- Bonnie Borchardt, MDiv, R.P., RMFT 519-612-1066
- Kent Shelley, R.P., M.R.E, (C)OACPP, (C)CTRT, CCISM 519-389-0871  
*Bonnie Borchardt and Kent Shelley have offices out of Trinity CRC in Goderich.*
- Karen Gual – Grace Biblical Counselling in Stratford  
<https://gracebiblicalcounselling.net/>
- Christian Counsellors by location - Theravive:  
<https://www.theravive.com/cities/on/christian-counselling-stratford.aspx>
- Christian Counselling Centre in Lambeth  
<https://www.christiancounsellingcentre.ca/>





**Minister:** Pastor Gary van Leeuwen email: [garyvl68@gmail.com](mailto:garyvl68@gmail.com) .

cell: 519-441-7805 Church: 519-523-4743

**Recording Clerk** Mr. Fred Vander Sterre

e-mail: [blythcrcclerk@tcc.on.ca](mailto:blythcrcclerk@tcc.on.ca)

**Stated Clerk** Mr. Bert Sjaarda

**Blyth CRC Web Site:** [www.blythcrc.ca](http://www.blythcrc.ca)

**Bulletin Announcements:** e-mail [info@blythcrc.ca](mailto:info@blythcrc.ca) before noon on Thursday.

*\*Please note that our services are live streamed\**

