



Third Sunday in Advent
December 15, 2024
11:00 a.m.

Mission Statement

Christ the King Evangelical Lutheran Church is a welcoming and inclusive community nourished by Christ in vibrant worship and committed to God's mission of love and service especially to the oppressed and to the poor.



RECONCILING *in* **CHRIST**

Welcome Statement

Wherever you are in your faith journey, you are welcome here. Called by the Holy Spirit, we are committed to welcoming and celebrating all people, inclusive of culture, age, race or ethnicity, gender identity and expression, sexual orientation, ability, economic status, or family structure. We are committed to the work of racial equity and justice within and through our community that we all may be transformed to be fully the body of Christ in our world. We invite you to worship with us, receive Christ's gift of Holy Communion with us, share your own story with us, and serve with us as we strive to live into God's universal embrace in Jesus Christ.

Whether you are a new member or visiting for the first time, we welcome you to our spiritual home.

- If this is your first Sunday with us, please stop by our information kiosk to learn more about our church community.
- During our worship service, children are invited to enjoy the playground area. For families with infants, our nursery attendants are available to provide care. The nursery is accessible through the courtyard.
- Our Holy Communion elements are free of gluten and alcohol. You may choose to receive both the bread and cup, or either one: Christ is fully present in all.
- Restrooms are conveniently located in the ministry building. From the nave, simply follow the cloister through the courtyard and enter the double doors; you will find the restrooms on your left.
- Please note that firearms are strictly prohibited within all Christ the King Church buildings and courtyard at all times.

We are delighted to have you join us and hope you have a meaningful experience with us.

Cover: *Preaching of St. John the Baptist*, fresco in Santa Maria Novella, Florence, Italy by Domenico Ghirlandaio, 1486-1490.

HOLY COMMUNION

Evangelical Lutheran Worship, *Setting Five*, beginning
on page 156.



Gathering

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

Pealing of the Bells

Prelude

Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland, BWV 599

J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

*The organ prelude serves as an opportunity to center oneself before worship.
We ask the congregation to refrain from conversation once the prelude begins.*

stand

Confession and Forgiveness

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the
presiding minister begins.*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God,
alive in the world,
reviving creation,
arriving soon.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God
and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God of mercy,

we confess that we have sinned.

We trust earthly powers and human authority alone.

We grow fearful. We cling to false comforts.

God of might,
we confess that we have sinned.
We have turned away from our neighbors.
We have trusted false promises.

God in our midst,
we confess that we have sinned.
We plead: come to us.
Bring your mercy to birth in us.

A righteous branch springs forth:
it is Christ the Lord, our Savior,
in whom we have forgiveness, life, and mercy.
By the power of the Holy Spirit,
receive the grace and forgiveness of God
through ✝ Christ Jesus,
whose day draws near.
Amen.

Lighting of the Advent Wreath (*light three candles*)

This week we light the pink candle, which symbolizes joy.

Prayer

Praise to you, O God, who holds our joy and sorrow.
You bring water to parched ground and life out of death.
Bless us as this light grows, and send sorrow and sighing to flee away.
Give us strength and patience, trusting that you are true to your promises.
Transform the lives of all who suffer with your wonders near at hand. **Amen.**

Hymn 240 (*verses 1-3*)

Light one candle to watch for Messiah



- 1 Light one can-dle to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
2 Light two can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
3 Light three can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
4 Light four can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.



He shall bring sal - va - tion to Is - ra-el, God ful - fills the prom - ise.
He shall feed the flock like a shep-herd, gent - ly lead them home-ward.
Lift your heads and lift high the gate-way for the King of glo - ry.
He is com - ing, tell the glad tid - ings. Let your lights be shin - ing!

Text: Wayne L. Wold, b. 1954
Music: TIF IN VELDELE, Yiddish folk tune
Text © 1984 Fortress Press, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

Gathering Hymn 239

Hark, the Glad Sound!

1 Hark, the glad sound! The Sav - ior comes, the Sav - ior
 2 He comes the pris - 'ners to re - lease, in Sa - tan's
 3 He comes the bro - ken heart to bind, the bleed - ing
 4 Our glad ho - san - nas, Prince of peace, your wel - come

prom - ised long; let ev - 'ry heart pre -
 bond - age held. The gates of brass be -
 soul to cure, and with the trea - sures
 shall pro - claim, and heav'n's e - ter - nal

pare a throne and ev - 'ry voice a song.
 fore him burst, the i - ron fet - ters yield.
 of his grace to en - rich the hum - ble poor.
 arch - es ring with your be - lov - ed name.

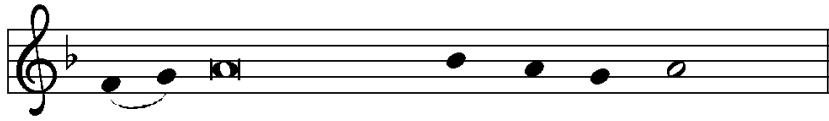
Text: Philip Doddridge, 1702-1751
 Music: CHESTERFIELD, Thomas Haweis, 1734-1820

Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

Kyrie



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal-va-tion, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



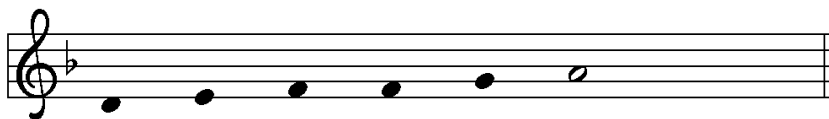
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



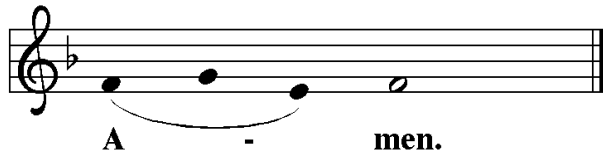
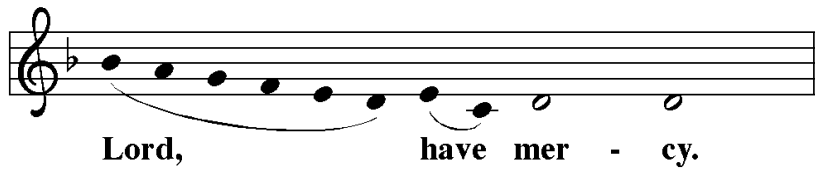
Lord, have mer - cy.



For this ho-ly house, and for all who of-fer here their wor-ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.



Prayer of the Day

Let us pray:

Stir up the wills of your faithful people, Lord God, and open our ears to the preaching of John, that, rejoicing in your salvation, we may bring forth the fruits of repentance; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection alert us to the threatening dangers of our sins, and redeem us for your life of justice, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Word

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

sit

First Reading

Zephaniah 3:14-20

Rejoice, the LORD is in your midst

Whirl Story Bible, p. 162

¹⁴ Sing aloud, O daughter Zion;
shout, O Israel!

Rejoice and exult with all your heart,

O daughter Jerusalem!

¹⁵ The LORD has taken away the judgments against you,
he has turned away your enemies.

The king of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst;
you shall fear disaster no more.

¹⁶ On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem:

Do not fear, O Zion;

do not let your hands grow weak.

¹⁷ The LORD, your God, is in your midst,
a warrior who gives victory;

he will rejoice over you with gladness,

he will renew you in his love;

he will exult over you with loud singing

¹⁸ as on a day of festival.

I will remove disaster from you,

so that you will not bear reproach for it.

¹⁹ I will deal with all your oppressors

at that time.

And I will save the lame

and gather the outcast,

and I will change their shame into praise

and renown in all the earth.

²⁰ At that time I will bring you home,

at the time when I gather you;

for I will make you renowned and praised

among all the peoples of the earth,

when I restore your fortunes

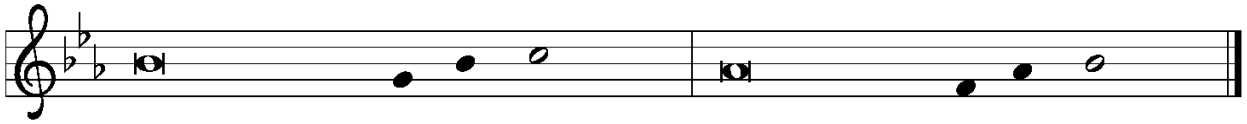
before your eyes, says the LORD.

Word of God, word of life. or The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Thanks be to God.

Sung in alternation by verse



² Surely God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not¹ be afraid, for the
LORD GOD is my strength and my might, and has become¹ my salvation.

³ **With joy you¹ will draw water from the wells¹ of salvation.**

⁴ And you will say in that day: Give thanks to the LORD, call¹ on God's
name; make known the deeds of the LORD among the nations; proclaim
that this name¹ is exalted.

⁵ **Sing praises to the LORD, for he has done¹ gloriously;
let this be known in¹ all the earth.**

⁶ Shout aloud and sing for joy, O¹ royal Zion,
for great in your midst is the Holy¹ One of Israel.

Second Reading

Philippians 4:4-7

*Rejoice, the Lord is near
Whirl Story Bible, p. 478*

⁴ Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. ⁵ Let your gentleness be
known to everyone. The Lord is near. ⁶ Do not worry about anything, but in
everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be
made known to God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which surpasses all
understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Word of God, word of life.

or The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Thanks be to God.

stand

Gospel Acclamation

Al-le-lu - ia, al - le-lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Repeat alleluia

I am sending my messenger before you, who will prepare your way before
you. *Matt. 11:10*

Gospel

Luke 3:7-18

One more powerful is coming, baptizing with fire

Spark Story Bible, p. 234

The holy gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

⁷ John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? ⁸ Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our ancestor’; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. ⁹ Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.”

¹⁰ And the crowds asked him, “What then should we do?” ¹¹ In reply he said to them, “Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise.” ¹² Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, “Teacher, what should we do?” ¹³ He said to them, “Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you.” ¹⁴ Soldiers also asked him, “And we, what should we do?” He said to them, “Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages.”

¹⁵ As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, ¹⁶ John answered all of them by saying, “I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹⁷ His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

¹⁸ So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

The gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

sit

Sermon

Silence

At the conclusion of the introduction, the assembly stands to sing the Hymn of the Day.

1 Lost in the night do the peo - ple yet lan - guish,
 2 Must we be vain - ly a - wait - ing the mor - row?
 3 Sor - row - ing wan - d'ers, in dark - ness yet dwell - ing,
 4 Light o'er the land of the need - y is beam - ing;

long - ing for morn - ing the dark - ness to van - quish,
 Shall those who have light no light let us bor - row,
 dawned has the day of a ra - diance ex - cel - ling,
 riv - ers of life through its des - erts are stream - ing,

plain - tive - ly sigh - ing with hearts full of an - guish.
 giv - ing no heed to our bur - den of sor - row?
 death's deep - est shad - ows for - ev - er dis - pel - ling.
 bring - ing all peo - ples a Sav - ior re - deem - ing.

Will not day come soon? Will not day come soon?
 Will you help us soon? Will you help us soon?
 Christ is com - ing soon! Christ is com - ing soon!
 Come and save us soon! Come and save us soon!

Baptism Anniversaries and Nicene Creed

Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism as we rejoice with all who celebrate the anniversary of their baptism this week: Ron Siemers, Stephen Hecht, Jennifer Dyer, Gabriel Cuadra, Benjamin Miertschin, Daniel Zorn, Bill Marks, Hannah Roalson, Richard Stuff, Eldon Thomas, Trey Bourne, Robert Hoover:

We believe in one God,

**the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,

**the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

For us and for our salvation

**he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;**

**he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,

**who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,**

**who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

Installation of the 2025 Congregation Council

The following people have been elected by this congregation to positions of leadership. We give thanks for their willingness to serve. In baptism we are welcomed into the body of Christ and sent to share in the mission of God; we rejoice now that these siblings will lead us in our common life and our mutual mission as a congregation.

<u>12/31/2025</u>	<u>12/31/2026</u>	<u>12/31/2027</u>
<i>Oliver Doolin</i>	<i>Alicia Goodrow</i>	<i>Ron Siemers</i>
<i>Caroline Friberg</i>	<i>Martina Longoria</i>	<i>Adrienne Winston</i>
<i>Whitney Adams</i>	<i>Federico Salas-Isnardi</i>	<i>Daniel Zorn</i>

Members ex officio: Pastors Jennifer Hope-Tringali and Sergio Rodriguez, and Deacon Ben Remmert, Deacon Aimee Elles

Thanksgiving for Terri Koehler, and Justin Schneewind as they conclude their term on council.

We thank you, Faithful God, for dedicated and brave leaders who have served on our congregational council, and especially today for Terri and Justin. We praise you for the gift of your Holy Spirit, who worked in them to gather and give order to this community and who still sustains it. Bless Terri and Justin as they continue to bless us and serve you, through Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

The presiding minister addresses those being installed.

A reading from First Corinthians: There are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. (1 Corinthians 12:4-7)

The presiding minister continues.

You have been elected to positions of leadership and trust in this congregation.

You are to see that the words and deeds of this household of faith bear witness to God, who gathers us into one together with the whole church.

You are to seek to involve all members of this congregation in worship, learning, witness, service, and support, so that the mission of Christ is carried out in this congregation, in the wider church, in this community, and in the whole world.

You are to be faithful in your specific area of serving, that the Spirit who empowers you may be glorified.

You are to be examples of faith active in love, fostering peace, harmony, and mutual understanding in this congregation.

The presiding minister addresses those being installed.

On behalf of your siblings in Christ, I ask you:

Will you accept and faithfully carry out the duties of the offices to which you have been elected?

Response: I will, and I ask God to help me.

The assembly stands. Those being installed face the assembly. The presiding minister addresses the assembly.

People of God, I ask you:

Will you support these, your elected leaders,
and will you share in the mutual ministry
that Christ has given to all who are baptized?

We will, and we ask God to help us.

Those being installed face the presiding minister, who addresses them.

I now declare you installed as council members of this congregation.
Almighty God bless you, and direct your days and your deeds in peace,
that you may be faithful servants of Christ. **Amen.**

Prayers of Intercession

Sit or kneel. Those in the Prayground are invited to light a tea light on the Prayground altar or color their prayers at this time and will be collected during the offering.

Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

We join the whole church in commemorating: Las Posadas (LLC), December 16; Katharina von Bora Luther, renewer of the church, died 1552, December 20.

stand

Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

The people greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace and may say:

Peace be with you.

sit

Meal

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

Offering

If you give through your bank or online, please place a reusable “Our Offering” card in the basket. These cards are located in front of you in the pew backs.

Motet

But the Lord is mindful of His own
Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)

But the Lord is mindful of His own,
He remembers His children.
The Lord remembers His children.
Bow down before Him, ye mighty,
for the Lord is near us!

stand

Setting the Table (*verses 1-2*)

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence



1 Let all mor - tal flesh keep si - lence, and with fear and trem - bling stand;
2 King of kings, yet born of Mar - y, as of old on earth he stood,
3 Rank on rank the host of heav - en spreads its van-guard on the way;
4 At his feet the six - winged ser - aph, cher - u - bim with sleep - less eye,



pon - der noth - ing earth - ly - mind - ed, for with bless - ing in his hand
Lord of lords in hu - man ves - ture, in the bod - y and the blood,
as the Light of light, de - scend - ing from the realms of end - less day,
veil their fac - es to the pres - ence, as with cease - less voice they cry:



Christ our God to earth de - scend - ing comes full hom - age to de - mand.
he will give to all the faith - ful his own self for heav'n - ly food.
comes, the pow'rs of hell to van - quish, as the dark - ness clears a - way.
"Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia, Lord Most High!"

Text: Liturgy of St. James; tr. Gerard Moultrie, 1829–1885, alt.
Music: PICARDY, French folk tune, 17th cent.

Offertory Prayer

Let us pray:

Creator God,

you made the whole world,

even the farthest stars,

and you draw near to feed us.

We praise you for these gifts of bread and wine.

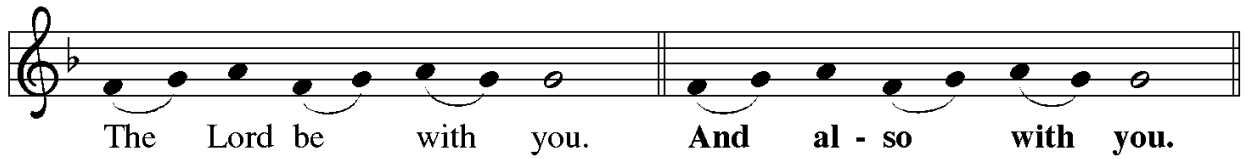
Strengthen us with this food

that we may live in expectation


for the advent of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

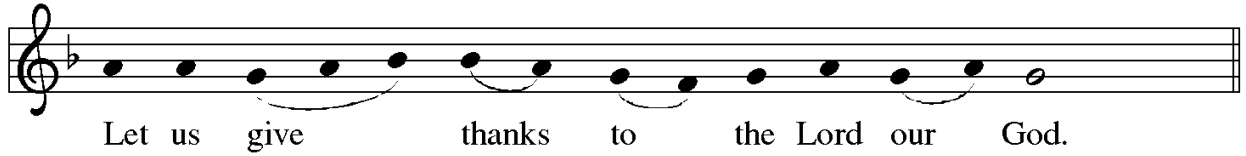
Great Thanksgiving



The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.



Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.



Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our du - ty and our joy,

that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you,

al - mighty and merciful God, through our Sav - ior Je - sus Christ.

You comforted your people with the promise of the Re - deem - er,

through whom you will also make all things new

in the day when he comes to judge the world in righ - teous-ness.

And so, with all the choirs of an - gels,

with the church on earth and the hosts of heav - en,

we praise your name and join their un - end - ing hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
 heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry.
 Ho - san - na in the high - est.
 Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
 Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The presiding minister continues in thanksgiving and intercession.

We praise you, living and loving God,
 that you have sent your Son to this world.
 Christ is your Wisdom, sweetly ordering all creation,
 our Lawgiver, burning with justice,
 the Branch from Jesse's tree, sprouting flowers from ancient roots,
 the Key of David, opening our prison doors.

We praise you, serving and saving God,
 That you send your Son also to this table.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
 our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
 broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
 Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
 Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

We beg you, mighty and merciful God:
send us the Spirit of your Son.
dwell in this food and in al who share it,
that the earth may rejoice in your presence.
In Christ, the Dawning Day, enlighten this shadowed world,
reign as Sovereign to unite all peoples,
and live among us, Emmanuel,
our deepest desire now and forever.
And let God's people cry: O Come and save us!
O come and save us!

Even so, come, Lord Jesus, to your church, with your Father and your Spirit,
and receive our prayers and praises, now and forever. **Amen**

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 trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

Communion

Invitation to the Lord's Table

God feeds us with tender mercy.
Come to the table.

All are welcome to receive Holy Communion. You are invited to take an individual communion cup from the table at the corner of the pews and approach the altar rail from its corner. You may receive the sacrament or a blessing, kneeling or standing. Please return to the seats through the short center aisles where there are trays for used glasses. Children of all ages are invited to commune or receive a blessing. Our Holy Communion elements do not contain gluten or alcohol.

If you do not wish to commune, please come to the altar rail with other worshipers for a blessing.

sit

Lamb of God

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you
take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy
on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace. A - men.

1 He came down that we may have love; he came down that we may have love;
 2 He came down that we may have light; he came down that we may have light;
 3 He came down that we may have peace; he came down that we may have peace;
 4 He came down that we may have joy; he came down that we may have joy;

he came down that we may have love;
 he came down that we may have light; hal-le - lu - jah for-ev - er - more.
 he came down that we may have peace;
 he came down that we may have joy;

Text: Cameroon traditional
 Music: HE CAME DOWN, Cameroon traditional; arr. John L. Bell, b. 1949
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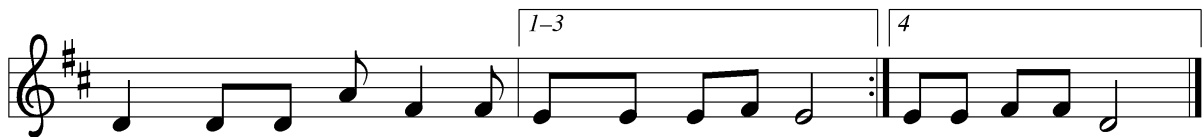
To - da la tie - rra es - pe - ra, al Sal - va - dor
 1 All earth is hope - ful, the Sav - ior comes at last!
 2 Peo - ple of Is - rael, you heard the proph - et tell:
 3 Moun - tains and val - leys will have to be pre - pared;
 4 We first saw Je - sus a ba - by in a crib.



y el sur - co_a - bier - to, la ob - ra del Se - ñor; es el
 Fur - rows lie o - pen for God's cre - a - tive task: this, the
 "A vir - gin moth - er will bear Em - man - u - el"; she con -
 new high - ways o - pened, new pro - to - cols de - clared. Al - most
 This same Lord Je - sus to - day has come to live in our



mun - do que lu - cha por la li - ber - tad, re -
 la - bor of peo - ple who strug - gle to see how
 ceived him, "God with us," our broth - er, whose birth re -
 here! God is near - ing, in beau - ty and grace! All
 world; he is pres - ent, in neigh - bors we see our



cla - ma jus - ti - cia y bus - ca la ver - dad. dar - nos li - ber - tad.
 God's truth and jus - tice set ev - 'ry - bod - y free.
 stores hope and cour - age to chil - dren of this earth.
 clear ev - 'ry gate - way, in haste, come out in haste!
 Je - sus is with us, and ev - er sets us free.

2 *Dice el profeta al pueblo de Israel:* 3 *Montes y valles habrá que preparar;*
"De madre virgen ya viene Emmanuel," *nuevos caminos tenemos que trazar.*
será "Dios con nosotros," hermano será, *Él está ya muy cerca, venidlo a encontrar,*
con él la esperanza al mundo volverá. *y todas las puertas abrid de par en par.*

4 *En una cueva Jesús apareció,*
pero en el mundo está presente hoy.
Vive en nuestros hermanos, con ellos está;
y vuelve de nuevo a darnos libertad.

Text: Alberto Taulé, b. 1932; tr. Madeleine Forell Marshall, b. 1946

Music: TODA LA TIERRA, Alberto Taulé

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stand

Communion Blessing

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's grace. **Amen.**

Sending of the Lay Eucharistic Ministers

In the name of this congregation, I send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's body and blood.

**We who are many are one body, because we all share one bread, one cup.
Amen.**

The bread and wine are taken from the Lord's table to members who are hospitalized, home-bound, or otherwise unable to be present in the liturgy.

Post Communion Canticle

Now, Lord

Now, Lord, you let your ser - vant go in peace: your word has
been ful - filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion
which you have pre - pared in the sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple:
a light to re - veal you to the na - tions and the glo - ry of your
peo - ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry to the Fa - ther, and to the Son,
and to the Ho - ly Spir - it, as it was in the be - gin - ning,
is now, and will be for - ev - er. A - men.

Music: Plainsong, adapt. *Lutheran Book of Worship*
Music © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

Post-Communion Prayer

Let us pray:

Faithful God,

in this meal you have remembered your mercy,

bringing heaven to earth in the body and blood of Christ.

**As we wait for the day when all your promises will be fulfilled,
sustain us and strengthen us by this holy mystery.**

**Guide us toward your promised future,
coming to birth in Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

Sending

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

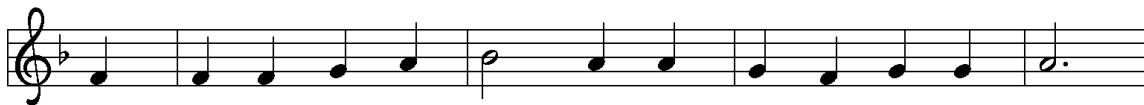
Brief Announcements

Sending Hymn 311

Hail to the Lord's Anointed



1 Hail to the Lord's a - noint - ed, great Da - vid's great - er Son!
 2 You come with res - cue speed - y to those who suf - fer wrong,
 3 You shall come down like show - ers up - on the fruit - ful earth;
 4 Kings shall fall down be - fore you, and gold and in - cense bring;



Hail, in the time ap - point - ed, your reign on earth be - gun!
 to help the poor and need - y, and bid the weak be strong;
 love, joy, and hope, like flow - ers, spring in your path to birth.
 all na - tions shall a - dore you, your praise all peo - ple sing.



You come to break op - pres - sion, to set the cap - tive
 to give them songs for sigh - ing, their dark - ness turn to
 Be - fore you on the moun - tains shall peace, the her - ald,
 To you shall prayer un - ceas - ing and dai - ly vows as -



free, to take a - way trans - gres - sion and
 light, whose souls, con - demned and dy - ing, are
 go; and righ - teous - ness in foun - tains from
 cend; your king - dom still in - creas - ing, a



rule in eq - ui - ty.
 pre - cious in your sight.
 hill to val - ley flow.
 king - dom with out end.

Blessing

God the eternal Word,
who dwells with us in Jesus,
and who holds us in the grace of the Holy Spirit,
✝ bless you now and forever.

Amen.

Dismissal

Go in peace. Christ is near.

Thanks be to God.

Pealing of the Bells

Mission Offering

ELCA World Hunger

Earliest accounts of Christian worship testify to an offering following the Eucharist designated to the poor and the alien by those able to give out of gratitude to God and generosity in imitating Christ.

Month-to-date contributions are \$1,344.55.

Christ the King Lutheran Church thanks you for your generous financial support. Offerings may be mailed to the church office, 2353 Rice Blvd., Houston, TX 77005, or given online through our website, www.ckelc.org.



The altar flowers are given to the glory of God by Kirk Hansen family.

*Snacks are provided by Las Posadas & Waffle Café.
Donations benefit the Luther League Travel Funds.*

This Week at Christ the King Church

Sunday, December 15

Third Sunday in Advent:

Sunday, December 15

8:30 a.m. Worship, nave
9:00 a.m. Crèche Festival Houston,
parish hall
9:00 a.m. UMOJA Worship,
Memorial Campus
9:45 a.m. Las Posadas and Waffle Café,
courtyard
10:20 a.m. Choir rehearsal, nave
11:00 a.m. Worship, nave
12:00 p.m. Virgin of Guadalupe
Worship Service, offsite

Monday, December 16

8:15 a.m. Morning Prayer, at home
12:00 p.m. Lectio Divina, online
7:00 p.m. Scandinavian Dancers,
parish hall

Tuesday, December 17

8:15 a.m. Morning Prayer at home
10:00 a.m. Staff Meeting, Rice Village
Campus

Wednesday, December 18

8:15 a.m. Morning Prayer, at home
6:00 p.m. Advent Potluck & Crafting,
Rice Village Campus, parish hall
6:00 p.m. Brass Choir, narthex
7:00 p.m. Advent Vespers, nave
7:00 p.m. Brass Quintet, parish hall
7:00 p.m. Prayers Shawl Knitters,
online

7:15 p.m. Choir Rehearsal, music suite

Thursday, December 19

8:15 a.m. Morning Prayer, at home
3:00 p.m. Bible study, The Rev. Dr.
Amandus Derr, online
5:45 p.m. Boy Choir, music suite &
nave
6:30 p.m. D&D Meeting, offsite

Friday, December 20

8:15 a.m. Morning Prayer, at home

Saturday, December 21

10:00 a.m. Las Posadas at the Parsonage
1:00 p.m. Online Yoga
5:00 p.m. Kids and Kin Cookie Baking,
Rice Village Campus
6:00 p.m. Longest Night Worship
Service, nave

Fourth Sunday in Advent:

Sunday, December 22

8:30 a.m. Worship, nave
9:00 a.m. UMOJA Worship, Memorial
Campus
9:45 a.m. Luminary Creation Workshop,
parish hall
9:45 a.m. Worship Enabler Training,
nave
10:20 a.m. Choir rehearsal, nave
11:00 a.m. Worship, nave
12:15 p.m. Altar Guild decorate the nave

Sunday Mornings at 9:45 a.m.

Join us each Sunday at 9:45 a.m. for fellowship and connection with your church families. There are numerous opportunities to spend time together between our services, including tours for learning about our Rice Village church campus, coffee and fellowship time, bible studies, and more.

Upcoming Topics:

December 15:

- Creche Festival (Parish Hall)
- Las Posadas and Waffle Cafe (Courtyard)

December 22:

- Luminary Creation Workshop (Parish Hall)
- Worship Enabler Training (Nave)

December 29:

- Hot Chocolate and Bring Your Own Christmas Snacks (Courtyard)

January 5:

- Repair, Refresh, and Renew Blessing (Courtyard)

Closing Day of Crèche Festival Houston: December 15 at 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Unique & Unexpected: A Crèche Festival Sunday is the last day to enjoy celebrating the birth of Christ through the enjoyment of unexpected nativity art in the parish hall. However, the online auction supporting the contemporary artists and Bright Stars of Bethlehem will continue through December 18. To view the auction, go to: crechefestivalhouston.betterworld.org.

Intergenerational Las Posadas Program: Sunday, December 15 at 9:45 a.m.

You are invited to our Annual Las Posadas program, together with our Sunday School teachers, children and youth, and guest musicians. We will begin our time in the courtyard by singing the traditional Las Posadas, process around the church, and end back in the courtyard for a fiesta of waffles and tamales (from the Luther League), and a pinata! The Luther League will be collecting donations for their upcoming trip to Guatemala this summer.

**Virgin of Guadalupe Worship Service @ St. James/Santiago Apostól:
Sunday, December 15 at 12:00 p.m.**

Christ the King Church and one of our mission partners, St. James/Santiago Apostol Lutheran Church, will be celebrating the Feast of La Virgen de Guadalupe together on December 15. St. James/Santiago Apostol Lutheran Church will be hosting this worship service at 12 p.m. (1602 W 43rd St, Houston, TX 77018). There will be a festive bi-lingual service with communion, traditional Mexican dancers, and a fiesta afterwards. All are invited to attend! Bring your friends, familia, neighbors, everyone to commemorate the story of how God spoke through his Son to indigenous people by means of the appearance of his mother, Mary.

Christmas Flower Donations - Deadline Dec. 16

You may contribute toward decorating the Rice Village Campus nave for our Christmas services by donating **\$20 per poinsettia** and greenery. Please email Cheryl at cherylgaspard@ctkelc.org. Please note whether your gift is in honor or memory of a loved one. You may write a check or pay online at ctkelc.org/give and designate "Christmas flowers." The **deadline is Monday, December 16.**

**Advent Potluck, Programming & Vespers: Rice Village Campus on
Wednesday, December 18 at 6:00-7:30 p.m.**

Join us on Wednesdays in Advent for a potluck supper, crafting, and worship beginning at 6:00 p.m. Vespers begin at 7:00 p.m. Programming will include:

- **A Christmas Story Bible Study**
- **Advent D&D:** Join us for a time of adventure as Deacon Ben Remmert will be leading a special Dungeons and Dragons Mini campaign during the season of Advent.
- **Kid's Music Class:** Children are invited to join Amy Kerswell for a joyful time of music-making! Through singing and choir activities, we will explore the sounds of the season of Advent together.

If you are planning to bring an item to share, please contact Deacon Aimee Elles at aimeelles@ctkelc.org.

Bible Studies at Christ the King Church

Weekly Bible studies, in person and on zoom, on both campuses

- **Thursdays at 3:00 p.m.** with The Rev. Dr. Amandus Derr, Advent Psalms online (until Dec.19).

Las Posadas at the Parsonage: Saturday, December 21 10:00-11:30 a.m.

Come and enjoy tamales and sing some Las Posadas songs at the Parsonage. Please RSVP to Cheryl (cherylgaspard@ctkelc.org).

KIDS AND KIN: Saturday, December 21 at 5:00 p.m.

Kids and parents are invited to attend our special Kids and Kin event on December 21 at 5:00 p.m. as we will gather for camp style worship and afterwards will have dinner together with fellowship events and opportunities for children until 8:00 p.m. We will be baking and decorating cookies for our homebound members. For more questions, please contact Deacon Ben Remmert.

Longest Night Worship Service: Saturday, December 21 at 6:00 p.m.

Though the season of Advent brings joy, for many others it may be filled with fatigue, grief, loss, and loneliness. This special service provides space for prayer, reflection and remembrance to honor those who are weary.

Worship Enabler Training Opportunities: Rice Village Campus

As we prepare for Christmas, we invite you to join us in making our worship services meaningful. Every role, from ushering and ringing bells to carrying the light of Christ, is vital to creating a welcoming worship experience.

- **December 22nd: Christmas Eve Practice** at 9:45 am between services. This practice will help ensure everyone is ready for our special Christmas Eve worship services.

Whether you're experienced or new, come be part of our team and help make this season beautiful for all. **Sign up today** or reach out if you have any questions.

Altar Guild Decorates the Nave: Sunday, December 22 at 12:15 p.m.

Please join the Altar Guild as they decorate the nave immediately following the 11am service to prepare for Christmas services. No experience needed and everyone is welcome. Lunch will be served.

Worship Opportunities at Church this Christmas

December 24: Christmas Eve Services

2:00 p.m.: Family Service (Rice Village Campus)

4:00 p.m.: German Language Service (Rice Village Campus & livestream)

4:00 p.m.: Festive Service (Memorial Campus)

8:00 p.m.: Festive Service with Incense (Rice Village Campus & livestream)

December 25: Christmas Day

11:00 a.m.: Worship and Holy Communion (Rice Village Campus & livestream)

December 28-29: First Weekend of Christmas

6:00 p.m. Saturday Contemplative Service

10:00 a.m. Sunday Worship and Holy Communion

This week is now At-A-Glance Weekly Take Home

Beginning in January, we will move all weekly announcements to a separate pull-out take home that will be available from the ushers or at the information booth instead of in the back of the bulletin. This two-week calendar has detailed information about upcoming events and locations. For more information, reach out to Deacon Aimee at aimeeelles@ctkelc.org or Kim Williams at kimwilliams@ctkelc.org.

Community of Hope Training - January 2025

Do you long to deepen your relationship with God and strengthen your ability to handle difficult circumstances in everyday life? Do you want to be a better listener—to God, your family, your co-workers, and neighbors? The Community of Hope training awakens participants to God's call on their lives through experiential discovery and a journey into wholeness. This 10-session spiritual formation program is anchored in the timeless principles of Benedictine spirituality and equips people to serve in all forms of ministry,

including lay chaplaincy. For more information and to receive an application, contact Deacon Aimee at aimeelles@ctkelc.org or Beverly Davis at bad21a@aol.com.

Flowers for the Nave in 2025

You are invited to sign up to provide the altar flowers for weekend services. To donate flowers in honor, memory of or thanksgiving for someone, you will find available dates listed by scanning the QR Code, <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0A4BABA92FA1FCC61-53410172-2025>, or you may email your preferred date to Cheryl at cherylgaspard@ctkelc.org. Flower arrangements are \$70 per Sunday. Checks can be made out to Christ the King Lutheran Church with “Altar Flowers” in the memo line or submit an online payment at www.ctkelc.org.



Snacks Volunteers Needed

We need volunteers to provide snacks after worship for:

- December 22 at 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m.
- January 5 at 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m.
- January 12 at 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m.



You can sign up by scanning the QR Code. Plan to provide snacks for 30 people. All monetary donations received at the snack table will benefit ELCA World Hunger. Thank you for signing up!

Serving

God gives us gifts and talents so that we might serve.

Jeff Thompson.....	Head Usher
Ute Cezeaux, Phil Cezeaux, Mike Mattern	Ushers
Jim Willcockson, Luke Havemann	Bellringers
Ella Havemann	Acolyte
Trish Chapman	Crucifer
Ben Kerswell	Cantor
Martin Jones	Music Associate
Rachel McWhirter, Mark Lichtenberger	Digital Vergers
Dcn. Ben Remmert	Eucharistic Minister
Maureen Sahualla.....	Lay Eucharistic Minister
Lisa Miller	Lay Eucharistic Minister
Gretchen and Gary Miertschin	Lay Eucharistic Ministers
Beverly Davis.....	Server
Aimee Liou Havemann	Server
Karli McGowen.....	Assisting Minister
The Rev. Sergio Rodriguez.....	Presiding Minister
The Rev. Dr. Jennifer Hope-Tringali.....	Preacher

Members of the Altar Guild:

Jill Bailer, Bette Bowers, Anita Bryant, Kellye Burke, Carole Derr, Reinetta Hansen, Maureen Lamson, Gaelyn Lesher, Liz Lloyd, Linda Marx, Peggy Mathis, Jacquelyn McAnelly, Marie Monroe, Mary Jane Orsburn, Jan Petner, Eleanor Verret, and Nyla Woods. Members bake bread and order flowers, deliver flowers to church members, rotate paraments, arrange the communion ware, and generally prepare the nave for worship. Contact Gaelyn Lesher, lesher2@sbcglobal.net, for more information.

The People of Christ the King Church Ministers
The Rev. Dr. Jennifer Hope-Tringali..... Senior Pastor
The Rev. Sergio Rodriguez Pastor of Parish Life
Dcn. Ben RemmertDeacon of Children, Youth, and Family Ministry
Dcn. Aimee Elles..... Director of Congregational Engagement
Rachel McWhirterDirector of Digital Ministry
Kim Williams.....Director of Community Engagement
Ben Kerswell.....Cantor
Dcn. Rick Erickson..... Cantor Emeritus
Martin Jones..... Music Associate
Robert Walp..... Director of the Brass Choir
Vicki Gorman, Calvin Harris, Fernando Grimaldo.....Staff Singers
Scott Summers.....Property Maintenance Technician
Cheryl Gaspard.....Executive Administrator
Maribel Haro Administrative Assistant
Herlinda Torres, Lena Zahlan.....Nursery Attendants
Santiago Callejas, Arturo Ortega.....Custodians

Rice Village Campus: 2353 Rice Boulevard, Houston, TX 77005-2696

Memorial Campus: 12211 Memorial Drive, Houston, TX 77024

Email: ctk@ctkelc.org Website: ctkelc.org Telephone: 713-523-2864

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 12, 2024

All scripture readings are from the New Revised Standard Version of the Bible.

