



**Fourth Sunday in Advent**  
**December 22, 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.*



## **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:** *Visitation of Mary with Elizabeth* print on rice paper by Sadao Watanabe, 1978.

## HOLY COMMUNION

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



### Gathering

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

Pealing of the Bells

Prelude

*Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland, BWV 659*

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 four candles*)

Prayer

Praise to you, O God, who lives with us, sharing our flesh and bones. As Mary waited and Joseph dreamed, so we dream and wait for you. Bless us and let your face shine upon us, more radiant than these candles, and more dear than all else we seek. Restore us when we fail to refuse the evil and choose the good, and banish all our fears. We pray in the name of Emmanuel, your promised child and our Savior.  
**Amen.**

## Hymn 240

*Light one candle to watch for Messiah*

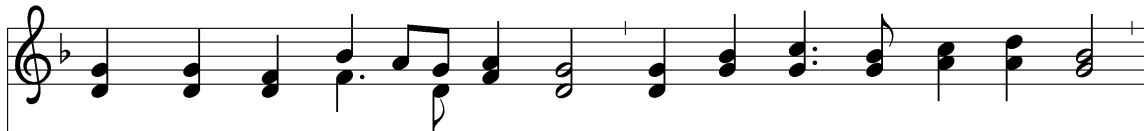
- 1 Light one can-dle to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
- 2 Light two can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
- 3 Light three can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
- 4 Light four can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: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



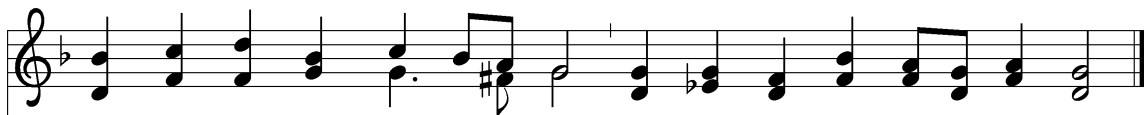
He shall bring sal - va - tion to Is - ra - el, God ful - fills the prom - ise.  
 He shall feed the flock like a shep-herd, gent - ly lead them home-ward.  
 Lift your heads and lift high the gate-way for the King of glo - ry.  
 He is com - ing, tell the glad tid - ings. Let your lights be shin - ing!

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

## Gathering Hymn 263

*Savior of the Nations, Come*

- 1 Sav - ior of the na - tions, come; vir - gin's son, make here your home.
- 2 Not by hu - man flesh and blood, but the mys - tic Breath of God,
- 3 Won-drous birth—oh, won-drous child—from his throne, a vir - gin mild!
- 4 From God's heart the Sav - ior speeds, back to God his path-way leads;



Mar - vel now, O heav'n and earth: God has cho - sen such a birth.  
 was the Word of God made flesh, fruit of wom - an, blos - som fresh.  
 Ver - y God, and Mar - y's son, ea - ger now his race to run!  
 out to van-quist death's com - mand, back to reign at God's right hand.



5 Now your manger, shining bright,  
 hallows night with newborn light.  
 Night cannot this light subdue;  
 let our faith shine ever new.

6 Praise we sing to Christ the Lord,  
 virgin's son, incarnate Word!  
 To the holy Trinity  
 praise we sing eternally!

Text: attr. Ambrose of Milan, 340-397; Martin Luther, 1483-1546; tr. hymnal version  
 Music: NUN KOMM, DER HEIDEN HEILAND, J. Walter, *Geistliche Gesangbüchlein*, 1524  
 Text © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.

## 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.



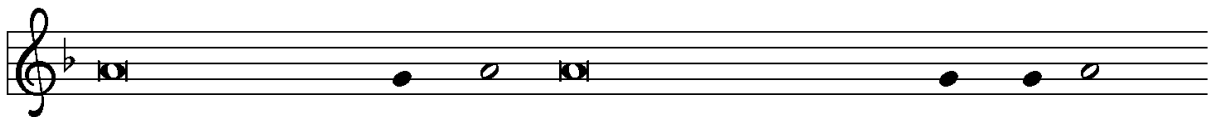
**Lord, have mer - cy.**



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,



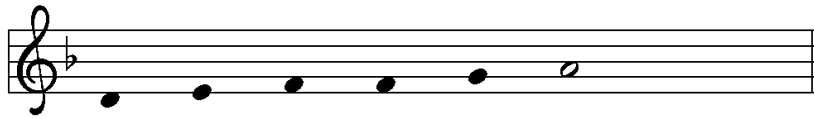
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



**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.



Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.



A - men.

### Prayer of the Day

Let us pray:

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. With your abundant grace and might, free us from the sin that binds us, that we may receive you in joy and serve you always, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

### Word

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

*sit*

First Reading

Micah 5:2-5a

*From Bethlehem comes a ruler*

*Spark Story Bible, p. 194*

<sup>2</sup> But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah,  
who are one of the little clans of Judah,  
from you shall come forth for me  
one who is to rule in Israel,  
whose origin is from of old,  
from ancient days.

<sup>3</sup> Therefore he shall give them up until the time  
when she who is in labor has brought forth;  
then the rest of his kindred shall return  
to the people of Israel.

<sup>4</sup> And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the LORD,  
in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God.  
And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great  
to the ends of the earth;

<sup>5a</sup> and he shall be the one of peace.

Word of God, word of life.	or	The Word of the Lord.
<b>Thanks be to God.</b>		<b>Thanks be to God.</b>



My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,  
My spirit rejoices in God my Savior  
For you, Lord, have looked with favor on your lowly servant.  
From this day all generations will call me blessed:  
You, the Almighty, have done great things for me  
And holy is your name.  
You have mercy on those who fear you  
From generation to generation.  
You have shown strength with your arm  
And scattered the proud in their conceit,  
Casting down the mighty from their thrones  
And lifting up the lowly.  
You have filled the hungry with good things  
and sent the rich away empty.  
You have come to the aid of your servant Israel,  
To remember the promise of mercy  
The promise made to our forebears,  
To Abraham and Sarah  
and their children forever.

*I have come to do your will*

<sup>5</sup> Consequently, when Christ came into the world, he said,

“Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired,  
but a body you have prepared for me;

<sup>6</sup> in burnt offerings and sin offerings  
you have taken no pleasure.

<sup>7</sup> Then I said, ‘See, God, I have come to do your will, O God’  
(in the scroll of the book it is written of me).”

<sup>8</sup> When he said above, “You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt offerings and sin offerings” (these are offered according to the law), <sup>9</sup> then he added, “See, I have come to do your will.” He abolishes the first in order to establish the second. <sup>10</sup> And it is by God’s will that we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

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

**Thanks be to God.**

**Thanks be to God.**

*stand*

Gospel Acclamation



*Repeat alleluia*



Here I am, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.

*Luke 1:38*

*Blessed are you among women*

*Whirl Story Bible, p. 178; Spark Story Bible, p. 202;*

*Frolic Preschool Bible, p. 48*

The holy gospel according to Luke.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>39</sup> In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, <sup>40</sup> where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. <sup>41</sup> When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit <sup>42</sup> and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. <sup>43</sup> And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? <sup>44</sup> For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. <sup>45</sup> And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord."

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 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive  
 2 O come, O Wis - dom from on high, em - brac - ing all things  
 3 O come, O come, O Lord of might, as to your tribes on  
 4 O come, O Branch of Jes - se, free your own from Sa - tan's



Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here  
 far and nigh: in strength and beau - ty come and stay;  
 Si - nai's height in an - cient times you gave the law  
 tyr - an - ny; from depths of hell your peo - ple save,



un - til the Son of God ap - pear.  
 teach us your will and guide our way. Re-joyce! Re-joyce!  
 in cloud, and maj - es - ty, and awe.  
 and give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave.



Em - man - u - el shall come to you, O Is - ra - el.

- 5 O come, O Key of David, come,  
 and open wide our heav'nly home;  
 make safe the way that leads on high,  
 and close the path to misery. *Refrain*
- 6 O come, O Dayspring, come and cheer;  
 O Sun of justice, now draw near.  
 Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,  
 and death's dark shadow put to flight. *Refrain*
- 7 O come, O King of nations, come,  
 O Cornerstone that binds in one:  
 refresh the hearts that long for you;  
 restore the broken, make us new. *Refrain*
- 8 O come, O come, Emmanuel,  
 and ransom captive Israel,  
 that mourns in lonely exile here  
 until the Son of God appear. *Refrain*

## 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: Bill Mintz, Henry Thweatt, Sarah Thweatt, Gaelyn Leshner, Lorrella Cobb, Stephanie Hoogerwerf, Charlotte Mathis, Georgia Mathis, Olivia Mathis, Asha Mathis, Kathryn Feuille, Niell Gorman, Marlee Thompson, Louis Monroe, Peter Nikonowicz, Julane Powell, Caroline Corner, David Jurgens, Will Mallon, Charles Turner, Pierce Mathis, Shanna Thorvilson, Lucky Sahualla:

**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.

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: Stephen, Deacon and Martyr, December 26; John, Apostle and Evangelist, December 27; The Holy Innocents, Martyrs, December 28.*

*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**

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*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

*Angelus ad Virginem - 13th Century Melody*  
arr. Andrew Carter

*Angelus ad virginem,  
Subintrans in conclave,  
Virginis formidinem  
Demulcens, inquit "Ave!  
Ave, regina virginum:  
Coeli terraeque dominum  
Concipies et paries intacta  
Salutem hominum;  
Tu porta coeli facta,  
Medela criminum."*

The angel came to the Virgin,  
entering secretly into her room;  
calming the Virgin's fear,  
he said, "Hail!  
Hail, queen of virgins:  
you will conceive the Lord of heaven  
and earth and bear him, still a virgin,  
to be the salvation of mankind;  
you will be made the gate of heaven,  
the cure of sins."

*"Quomodo conciperem,  
Quae virum non cognovi?  
Qualiter infringerem,  
Quae firma mente vovi?"  
"Spiritus sancti gratia  
Perficiet haec omnia.  
Ne timeas, sed gaudeas  
Secura, quod castimonia  
Manebit in te pura  
Dei potentia."*

"How can I conceive,  
When I have never known a man?  
How can I transgress resolutions that  
I have vowed with a firm mind?"  
The grace of the Holy Spirit shall do  
all this.  
Do not be afraid, but rejoice  
without a care, since your chastity  
will remain in you unspoilt  
through the power of God."

*Ad haec, virgo nobilis  
Respondens inquit ei,  
"Ancilla sum humilis  
Omnipotentis Dei.  
Tibi coelesti nuntio,  
Tanti secreti conscio,  
Consentiens et cupiens videre  
Factum quod audio,  
Parata sum parere  
Dei consilio."*

*Eia Mater Domini,  
Quae pacem reddidisti  
Angelis et homini  
Cum Christum genuisti!  
Tuum exora filium  
Ut se nobis propitium  
Exhibeat, et deleat peccata,  
Praestans auxilium  
Vita frui beata  
Post hoc exilium.*

To this, the noble Virgin,  
replying, said to him,  
"I am the humble maidservant  
of almighty God.  
To you, heavenly messenger,  
and bearer of such a great secret,  
I give my consent, and wishing to see  
done what I hear,  
I am ready to obey  
the will of God."

Hail, Mother of our Lord,  
who brought peace back  
to angels and humankind  
when you bore Christ!  
Pray your son  
that he may show favor to us  
and blot out our sins,  
giving us help  
to enjoy a blessed life  
after this exile.



*stand*

Setting the Table (*vs. 1,3*)

*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.**

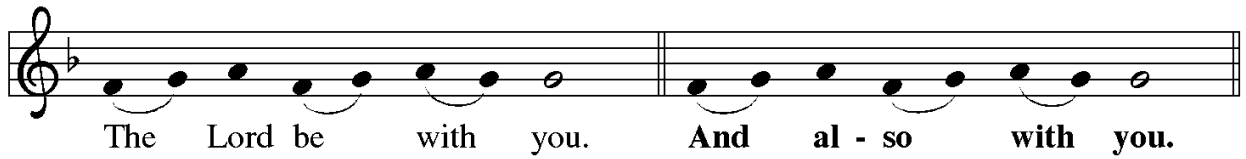
**Strengthen us with this food**

**that we may live in expectation**


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

**Amen.**

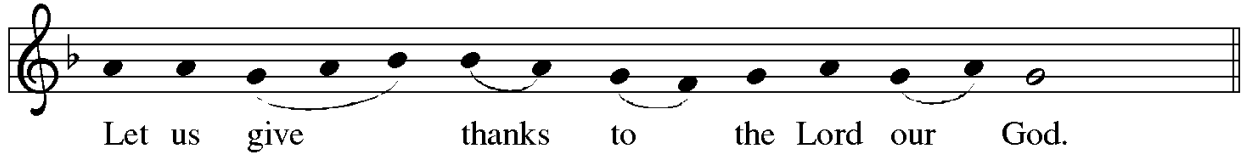
# Great Thanksgiving



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.

Our Lord Jesus Christ,  
 In the night in which he was betrayed, took bread;  
 and when he had given thanks,  
 he broke it and gave it  
 to his disciples, saying,

Take, eat; this is my body,  
which is given for you,  
to do this for the remembrance of me.

Again after supper, he took the cup,  
and when he had given thanks,  
he gave it to his disciples, saying,  
Drink, all of you, this cup is  
the new covenant in my blood,  
which is 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 all 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.

Hymn 265

*The Angel Gabriel from Heaven*



1 The an - gel Ga - bri - el from heav - en came,  
 2 "For know a bless - ed moth - er thou shalt be,  
 3 Then gen - tle Mar - y meek - ly bowed her head;  
 4 Of her, Em - man - u - el, the Christ, was born



with wings as drift - ed snow, with eyes as flame:  
 all gen - er - a - tions laud and hon - or thee;  
 "To me be as it pleas - eth God," she said.  
 in Beth - le - hem all on a Christ - mas morn,



"All hail to thee, O low - ly maid - en Mar - y,  
 thy son shall be Em - man - u - el, by seers fore - told,  
 "My soul shall laud and mag - ni - fy God's ho - ly name."  
 and Chris - tian folk through - out the world will ev - er say:



most high - ly fa - vored la - dy."  
 most high - ly fa - vored la - dy." Glo - ri - a!  
 Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy,  
 "Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy."

Text: Basque carol; para. Sabine Baring-Gould, 1834–1924  
 Music: GABRIEL'S MESSAGE, Basque carol



1 Lo, how a rose e'er bloom - ing from ten - der stem hath  
 2 I - sai - ah had fore - told it, the rose I have in  
 3 This flow'r, whose fra - grance ten - der with sweet-ness fills the  
 4 O Sav - ior, child of Mar - y, who felt our hu - man

sprung! Of Jes - se's lin - eage com - ing as  
 mind; with Mar - y we be - hold it, the  
 air, dis - pels with glo - rious splen - dor the  
 woe; O Sav - ior, king of glo - ry, who

seers of old have sung, it came, a flow'r so bright, a -  
 vir - gin moth - er kind. To show God's love a - right, she  
 dark-ness ev - 'ry - where. True man, yet ver - y God, from  
 dost our weak - ness know: bring us at length, we pray, to

mid the cold of win - ter, when half - spent was the night.  
 bore to us a Sav - ior, when half - spent was the night.  
 sin and death he saves us and light - ens ev - 'ry load.  
 the bright courts of heav - en and in - to end - less day.

Text: German carol, 15th cent.; tr. Theodore Baker, 1851–1934, sts. 1-2; Harriet R. Krauth,  
 1845–1925, st. 3; John C. Mattes, 1876–1948, st. 4

Music: ES IST EIN ROS, *Alte catholische geistliche Kirchengesänge*, Köln, 1599; arr. Michael Praetorius, 1571–1621

*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

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

## Brief Announcements

### Sending Hymn 631

### *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*

1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling, Joy of heav'n, to  
2 Breathe, oh, breathe thy lov - ing Spir - it in - to ev - 'ry  
3 Come, Al - might - y, to de - liv - er; let us all thy  
4 Fin - ish then thy new cre - a - tion, pure and spot - less

earth come down! Fix in us thy hum - ble dwell - ing, all thy  
trou - bled breast; let us all in thee in - her - it; let us  
life re - ceive; sud - den - ly re - turn, and nev - er, nev - er -  
let us be; let us see thy great sal - va - tion per - fect -

faith - ful mer - cies crown. Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion,  
 find thy prom - ised rest. Take a - way the love of sin - ning;  
 more thy tem - ples leave. Thee we would be al - ways bless - ing,  
 ly re - stored in thee! Changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry,

pure, un - bound - ed love thou art; vis - it us with  
 Al - pha and O - me - ga be; end of faith, as  
 serve thee as thy hosts a - bove, pray, and praise thee  
 till in heav'n we take our place, till we cast our

thy sal - va - tion, en - ter ev - 'ry trem - bling heart.  
 its be - gin - ning, set our hearts at lib - er - ty.  
 with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in thy per - fect love.  
 crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise!

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788  
 Music: HYFRYDOL, Rowland H. Prichard, 1811–1887

## 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.**

Peeling 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](http://www.ckelc.org).*



*The altar flowers are given to the glory of God by Peggy Mathis in honor of grandchildren's baptismal anniversary. Pierce, Charlotte, Asha, Georgia and Olivia.*

**This Week at Christ the King Church**

**Sunday, December 22**

**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

12:30 p.m. Altar Guild decorate the nave

**Monday, December 23**

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

12:00 p.m. Lectio Divina, online

**Christmas Eve: Tuesday,**

**December 24**

Church Office Closed

8:15 a.m. Morning Prayer at home

2:00 p.m.: Family Service, Rice Village  
Campus

4:00 p.m.: German Language Service,  
Rice Village Campus

4:00 p.m.: Festive Candlelight Service,  
Memorial Campus

8:00 p.m.: Festive Candlelight Service  
with Incense, Rice Village Campus

**Christmas Day: Wednesday,**

**December 25: Church Office Closed**

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

11:00 a.m.: Worship and Holy  
Communion, Rice Village Campus

**Thursday, December 26**

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

**Friday, December 27**

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

**Saturday, December 28**

1:00 p.m. Online Yoga

6:00 p.m. Contemplative Worship, nave

**First Sunday of Christmas:**

**Sunday, December 29**

9:00 a.m. UMOJA Worship, Memorial  
Campus

9:30 a.m. Hot Chocolate and Bring Your  
Own Christmas Snacks, courtyard

10:00 a.m. Worship, nave

11:15 a.m. Luther League Reunion,  
offsite

### **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 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)
- Tour of Rice Village Campus with Kim Williams (Courtyard)

### **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.

### **Altar Guild Decorates the Nave: Sunday, December 22 at 12:30 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](mailto:aimeeelles@ctkelc.org) or Kim Williams at [kimwilliams@ctkelc.org](mailto:kimwilliams@ctkelc.org).

### **Bach Society Houston New Year's Day Organ Recital, presenting by Bálint Karosi, Wednesday January 1, at 6:00 p.m.**

Join us in the Rice Village nave on New Year's day to ring in the New Year with a memorable organ performance! Commended as “a most impressive musical interpreter” (*Boston Musical Intelligencer*), Hungary native **Bálint Karosi** has earned a widely heralded reputation for his creative programming and expressive command of a wide range of repertoire. His music-making at the pipe organ is deftly guided by historical performance practice and remarkably enriched by his experience as a composer, conductor, church musician, and clarinetist. He is the winner of the 2008 International Bach Competition in Leipzig, has recorded on video the complete organ works of J.S. Bach, and has six volumes of organ and instrumental music published. Dr. Karosi is the newly appointed Director of Music at First Presbyterian Church in Philadelphia.

### **Epiphany Service/Lutherhill Rally Day: Sunday, January 5**

Join us on January 5 at the Rice Village Campus, to bless the nave, our “church house” with the blessing of the magi and bless our nave’s lintel for the 2025 year. We will celebrate the occasion with king cake at coffee hour. A

printed prayer rite and chalk can be taken home to inscribe and bless one's own house or door.

Special guests from Lutherhill Ministries, our outdoor ministry partners, will be preaching, leading music gathering, and will be in the courtyard to talk about retreats and programs they offer.

### **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](mailto:aimeelles@ctkelc.org) or Beverly Davis at [bad21a@aol.com](mailto:bad21a@aol.com). Registration deadline January 10, 2025.

### **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](mailto: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](http://www.ctkelc.org).



### **Snacks Volunteers Needed**

We need volunteers to provide snacks after worship for:

- 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

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

David Karohl.....Head Usher  
Liz Lunden, KC Lunden, Justin Schneewind.....Ushers  
Karli McGowen, Kyle Verret.....Bellringers  
Alice Verret, Joseph Verret.....Acolytes  
Ben Kerswell.....Cantor  
Martin Jones.....Music Associate  
Rachel McWhirter, Mark Lichtenberger.....Digital Vergers  
Cliff Helmcamp.....Lay Eucharistic Minister  
Beverly Davis.....Lay Eucharistic Minister  
Bill Pelham.....Server  
Rustin Buck.....Server  
Trish Chapman.....Assisting Minister  
The Rev. Dr. Jennifer Hope-Tringali.....Presiding Minister  
The Rev. Sergio Rodriguez.....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](mailto: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 Remmert .....Deacon of Children, Youth, and Family Ministry*  
*Dcn. Aimee Elles..... Director of Congregational Engagement*  
*Rachel McWhirter .....Director 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](mailto:ctk@ctkelc.org) Website: [ctkelc.org](http://ctkelc.org) Telephone: 713-523-2864

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 19, 2024

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

