



First Sunday of Christmas

December 29, 2024

10:00 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: *Twelve year-old Christ in the Temple* from The Queen Mary Psalter is a fourteenth-century English psalter named after Mary I of England, who gained possession of it in 1553.

HOLY COMMUNION

Evangelical Lutheran Worship, *Setting Nine*, beginning on page 193.

Gathering

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

Pealing of the Bells

Prelude

From Heaven above to Earth I come
Georg Böhm (1661-1733)

*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,
whose steadfast love is everlasting.

Amen.

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

God-with-us,
we confess that we have turned away
those seeking shelter,
claiming there is no room when we have plenty.
We have made power and wealth our idols,
while you show us true glory: a baby in a manger.
We have overlooked the shepherds,
expecting good news in prettier packaging.
Too often, we have valued violence
instead of your peace.
Turn us from our ways to your ways.
Grant us the grace to begin again.
Free us from all that keeps us bound,
and forgive our sin,
through Jesus Christ, who gives himself for us.
Amen.

Hear the good news and rejoice!
You are God's chosen ones,
holy and beloved,
✝️ forgiven in Christ,
and freed to respond in joy.
Amen.

1 Once in roy - al Da - vid's cit - y stood a low - ly cat - tle shed,
 2 He came down to earth from heav-en who is God and Lord of all,
 3 And our eyes at last shall see him, through his own re - deem - ing love;
 4 Not in that poor low - ly sta - ble, with the ox - en stand - ing by,

where a moth - er laid her ba - by in a man - ger for his bed:
 and his shel - ter was a sta - ble, and his cra - dle was a stall;
 for that child so dear and gen - tle is our Lord in heav'n a - bove;
 we shall see him; but in heav - en, set at God's right hand on high;

Mar - y was that moth - er mild, Je - sus Christ, her lit - tle child.
 with the poor and meek and low - ly, lived on earth our Sav - ior ho - ly.
 and he leads his chil - dren on to the place where he is gone.
 there his chil - dren gath - er round, bright like stars, with glo - ry crowned.

Text: Cecil Frances Alexander, 1818–1895
 Music: IRBY, Henry J. Gauntlett, 1805–1876

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.

Refrain



Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



1 Lord God, heav'n-ly King, al - mighty God and Fa - ther, we




wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.


Refrain



Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



2 Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of



God, you take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;



you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.

Refrain



Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



3 For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the

Lord, you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the
 Ho - ly Spir - it, in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther.
 A - men, a - men.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray:

Shine into our hearts the light of your wisdom, O God, and open our minds to the knowledge of your word, that in all things we may think and act according to your good will and may live continually in the light of your Son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Word

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

sit

First Reading

1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26

The boy Samuel grew in favor with the LORD and the people

¹⁸ Samuel was ministering before the LORD, a boy wearing a linen ephod.

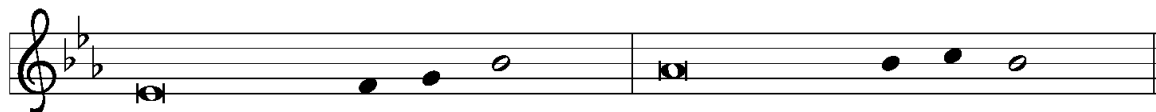
¹⁹ His mother used to make for him a little robe and take it to him each year, when she went up with her husband to offer the yearly sacrifice. ²⁰ Then Eli would bless Elkanah and his wife, and say, “May the LORD repay you with children by this woman for the gift that she made to the LORD”; and then they would return to their home.

²⁶ Now the boy Samuel continued to grow both in stature and in favor with the LORD and with the people.

Word of God, word of life. or The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 148

Sung in alternation by verse



- ¹ Hallelujah! Praise the LORD¹ from the heavens;
 praise God¹ in the heights.
- ² **Praise the LORD,¹ all you angels;
 sing praise, all you¹ hosts of heaven.**
- ³ Praise the LORD,¹ sun and moon;
 sing praise, all you¹ shining stars.
- ⁴ **Praise the LORD, heav-¹ en of heavens,
 and you waters a-¹ bove the heavens.**
- ⁵ Let them praise the name¹ of the LORD,
 who commanded, and they¹ were created,
- ⁶ **who made them stand fast forev-¹ er and ever,
 giving them a law that shall not¹ pass away.**
- ⁷ Praise the LORD¹ from the earth,
 you sea monsters¹ and all deeps;
- ⁸ **fire and hail,¹ snow and fog,
 tempestuous wind, do-¹ ing God's will;**
- ⁹ mountains¹ and all hills,
 fruit trees¹ and all cedars;
- ¹⁰ **wild beasts¹ and all cattle,
 creeping things and¹ flying birds;**
- ¹¹ sovereigns of the earth¹ and all peoples,
 princes and all rulers¹ of the world;
- ¹² **young¹ men and maidens,
 old and¹ young together.**
- ¹³ Let them praise the name¹ of the LORD,

whose name only is exalted, whose splendor is over¹ earth and heaven.

¹⁴The LORD has raised up strength for the people and praise for all¹ faithful servants, the children of Israel, a people who are near the LORD.¹ Hallelujah!

Second Reading

Colossians 3:12-17

Clothe yourselves in love; let the peace of Christ rule your hearts

¹² As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. ¹³ Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. ¹⁴ Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. ¹⁵ And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. ¹⁶ Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. ¹⁷ And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Word of God, word of life.

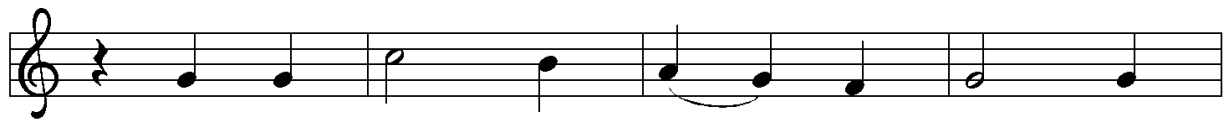
or The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Thanks be to God.

stand

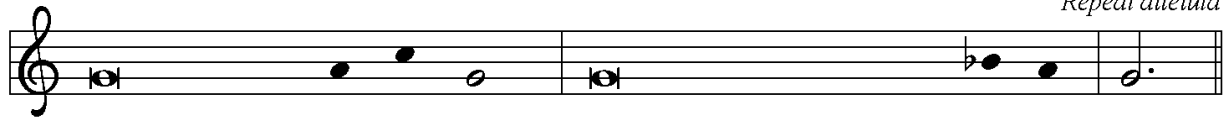
Gospel Acclamation



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



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



Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, and let the word of Christ dwell in you richly. *Col. 3:15, 16*

Gospel

Luke 2:41-52

The boy Jesus increased in wisdom, and in divine and human favor

Whirl Story Bible, p. 194; Spark Story Bible, p. 230;

Frolic Preschool Bible, p. 54; Frolic First Bible, p. 24

The holy gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

⁴¹ Now every year [Jesus'] parents went to Jerusalem for the festival of the Passover. ⁴² And when he was twelve years old, they went up as usual for the festival. ⁴³ When the festival was ended and they started to return, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it.

⁴⁴ Assuming that he was in the group of travelers, they went a day's journey. Then they started to look for him among their relatives and friends. ⁴⁵ When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem to search for him. ⁴⁶ After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. ⁴⁷ And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. ⁴⁸ When his parents saw him

they were astonished; and his mother said to him, “Child, why have you treated us like this? Look, your father and I have been searching for you in great anxiety.”⁴⁹ He said to them, “Why were you searching for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father’s house?”⁵⁰ But they did not understand what he said to them.⁵¹ Then he went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them. His mother treasured all these things in her heart.

⁵² And Jesus increased in wisdom and in years, and in divine and human favor.

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 Love has come— a light in the dark - ness! Love shines forth in the
 2 Love is born! Come, share in the won - der. Love is God now a -
 3 Love has come and nev - er will leave us! Love is life ev - er -



Beth - le - hem skies. See, all heav - en has come to pro - claim it;
 sleep in the hay. See the glow in the eyes of his moth - er;
 last - ing and free. Love is Je - sus with - in and a - mong us.



hear how their song of joy a - ris - es: Love! Love! Born un - to
 what is the name her heart is say - ing? Love! Love! Love is the
 Love is the peace our hearts are seek - ing. Love! Love! Love is the



you, a Sav - ior! Love! Love! Glo - ry to God on high.
 name she whis - pers; Love! Love! Je - sus, Im - man - u - el.
 gift of Christ - mas. Love! Love! Praise to you, God on high!

Text: Ken Bible, b. 1950

Music: UN FLAMBEAU, F. Seguin, *Recueil de noëls composés en langue provençale*, 1856

Text © 1996 Integrity's Hosanna! Music (ASCAP), c/o Integrity Media, Inc., 1000 Cody Road, Mobile, AL 36695.

Nicene Creed

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.

God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

*We join the whole church in commemorating: Name of Jesus, January 1;
Johann Konrad Wilhelm Loehe, renewer of the church, died 1872, January 2.*

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.

stand

Setting the Table

Ubi caritas et amor

The image shows a musical score for the setting of the Latin antiphon 'Ubi caritas et amor'. It consists of two systems of music, each with a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The first system contains the lyrics: 'U - bi ca - ri - tas et a - mor, / Where true char - i - ty and love a - bide,'. The second system contains the lyrics: 'u - bi ca - ri - tas, De - us i - bi est. / God is dwell - ing there; God is dwell - ing there.' The piano accompaniment features a steady eighth-note bass line and chords in the right hand. There are triplets in the vocal line for 'i - bi' in the second system.

Text: Latin antiphon, 9th cent.; Taizé Community; tr. *With One Voice*
Music: TAIZÉ UBI CARITAS, Jacques Berthier, 1923–1994
Text and music © 1979 Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc., agent, 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638.
www.giamusic.com, 800.442.3358. All rights reserved. Used by permission.
English text © 1995 Augsburg Fortress.

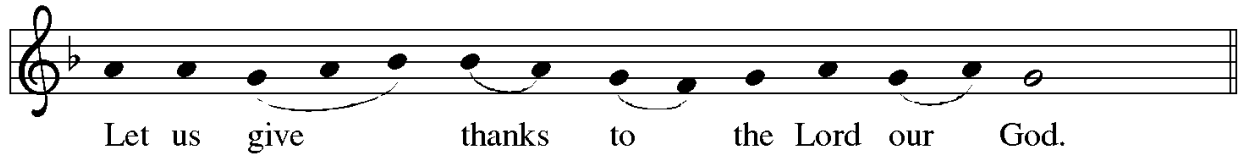
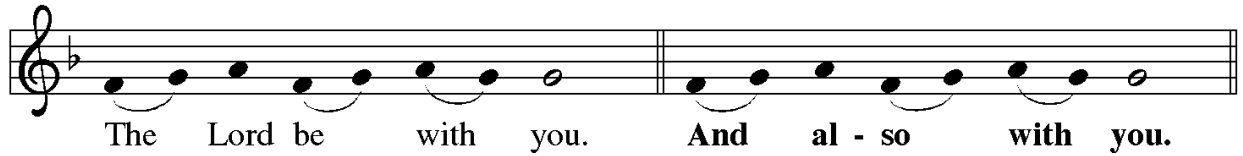
Offering Prayer

Let us pray:

God of heaven and earth,
from the beginning, you have called forth life,
in which you take delight.

**The trees, the fields, and the seas sing for joy.
Bless now these gifts, received from your bounty,
that we may join the chorus of creation
to tell of your salvation from day to day.
Amen.**

Great Thanksgiving



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.

In the wonder and mystery of the Word made flesh you have opened

the eyes of faith to a new and radiant vis - ion of your glo - ry,

that be - holding the God made vis - i - ble,

we may be drawn to love the God whom we can - not see.

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 - er and
 might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
 san - na in the high-est, 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, ho - san - na in the high - est.

The presiding minister continues in thanksgiving and intercession.

We sing a new song to you, O God of our salvation,
 for you have done marvelous things.
 Since the beginning of time, you have spoken your Word,
 and your light shines in our darkness.

Glory to you, O God:

Glory to you, O God.

The seas are thundering with praise,
 the rivers are clapping their hands.
 The hills ring out with gladness,
 and the trees are shouting their joy.

Glory to you, O God:

Glory to you, O God.

Your Son rules in truth and justice,
victorious and merciful is he!
We praise your majesty lying in a manger,
Jesus Christ, born of Mary and lauded by angels.
Glory to you, O God:
Glory to you, O God.

On the night before he died, 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.

Send your Spirit on us and on this meal of wonder.
In this bread, give us the body of Christ.
With this cup, reveal the grace of your risen Son.
Make known to the whole earth your steadfast love.
Glory to you, O God:
Glory to you, O God.

In these dark days, bring the dawn of your righteousness to birth.
Hold the living and the dead in your hands.
In your good time, awaken the sleeping animals,
and revive the dormant plants with your life-giving Spirit.
Glory to you, O God:
Glory to you, O God.

With trumpets and horns and harps,
with the faithful on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we sing to your splendor, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
God Most High, Light of the earth, and Judge of the world,
today and forever. Amen.

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

A child has been born for us, a Son given to us.
Come, receive the gift of Jesus.

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, grant us peace.

Hymn 294

In the Bleak Midwinter

1 In the bleak mid - win - ter, frost - y wind made moan,
 2 Heav - en can - not hold him, nor earth sus - tain;
 3 What . . . can I give him, poor as I am?

earth stood hard as i - ron, wa - ter like a stone;
 heav'n and earth shall flee a - way when he comes to reign;
 If I were a shep - herd I would bring a lamb;

snow had fall - en, snow on snow, snow on snow,
 in the bleak mid - win - ter a sta - ble place suf - ficed
 if I were a wise . . . man I would do my part;

in the bleak mid - win - ter, long a - go.
 the Lord . . . God al - might - y, Je - sus Christ.
 yet what I can I give him— give my heart.

Text: Christina Georgina Rossetti, 1830-1894
 Music: CRANHAM, Gustav Holst, 1874-1934

stand

Communion Blessing

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

Post-Communion Prayer

Let us pray:

Merciful God,

we thank you for Jesus, who is our heavenly food.

Strengthened by this goodness,

send us forth to announce your peace,

comfort the afflicted,

and share the good news of great joy.

Amen.

Sending

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

Brief Announcements

Refrain

Go tell it on the moun - tain, o-ver the hills and ev - 'ry - where;

go tell it on the moun - tain that Je - sus Christ is born!

1 While shep-herds kept their watch-ing o'er si - lent flocks by night,
 2 The shep-herds feared and trem-bled when, lo, a - bove the earth
 3 Down in a lone - ly man - ger the hum - ble Christ was born;

Refrain

be - hold, through-out the heav-ens there shone a ho - ly light.
 rang out the an - gel cho - rus that hailed our Sav - ior's birth.
 and God sent us sal - va - tion that bless - ed Christ - mas morn.

Text: African American spiritual, refrain; John W. Work Jr., 1872–1925, stanzas, alt.
 Music: GO TELL IT, African American spiritual

Blessing

The God of love,
 Father, ✚ Son, and Holy Spirit,
 lavish you with grace,
 illumine your path,
 and increase your joy,
 today and always.
Amen.

Dismissal

Go in peace. The Word of God dwells in you richly.

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 \$2,224.83.

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 David & Jennifer Roschke in celebration of their fiftieth wedding anniversary.

*Snacks are provided by Jo Sheetz.
Donations benefit the ELCA World Hunger*

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:

- January 5 at 11 a.m.
- January 12 at 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m.
- January 19 at 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m.
- January 26 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.

Jill Bailer	Head Usher
Janice Stuff, Susan Uri.....	Ushers
Rustin Buck.....	Bellringers
Anne Clutterbuck	Crucifer
Martin Jones	Music Associate
Rachel McWhirter, Mark Lichtenberger	Digital Vergers
Lisa Krueger.....	Server
Susan Uri.....	Assisting Minister
The Rev. Dr. Jennifer Hope-Tringali.....	Presiding Minister
Dcn. David Hope-Tringali.....	Homily

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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 26, 2024

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

