

Epiphany January 5, 2025 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 prayground 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: Adoration of the Magi, He Qi. Contemporary Chinese.

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

The assembly gathers in the narthex.

Greeting

May peace be to this house of worship and to all who enter here.

By wisdom a house is built and through understanding it is established; through knowledge its rooms are filled with rare and beautiful treasures. (*Proverbs 24:3-4*)

As we prepare to ask God's blessing on this house of the church, let us listen to the words of scripture.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being, and the life was the light of all people.

The Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. (John 1:1-4, 14, 16)

Inscription

The inscription is made with chalk above the entrance to the nave.

20 + CMB + 25

The magi of old, known as

C Caspar,

M Melchior, and

B Balthasar

followed the star of God's Son who came to dwell among us

20 two thousand

and twenty-five years ago.

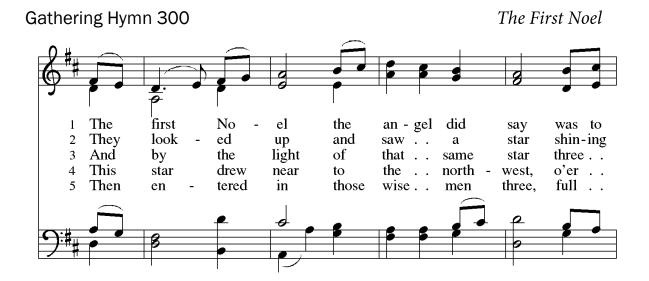
+ Christ, bless this house,

+ and remain with us throughout the new year.

Blessing

O God, you revealed your Son to all people by the shining light of a star. We pray that you bless this house of worship and all who assemble here with your gracious presence. May your love be our inspiration, your wisdom our guide, your truth our light and your peace our benediction; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The assembly is led into the nave.



4



Text: English traditional

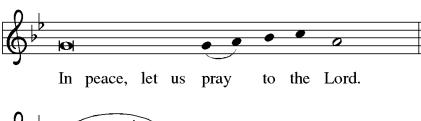
Music: THE FIRST NOWELL, English traditional; arr. John Stainer, 1840–1901

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







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



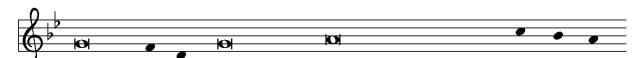


For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of

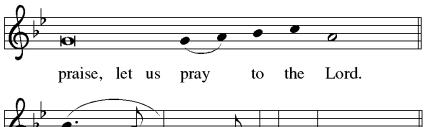


God, and for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the Lord.

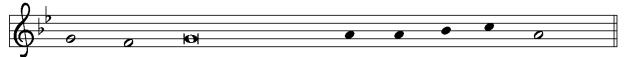




For this ho-ly house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and





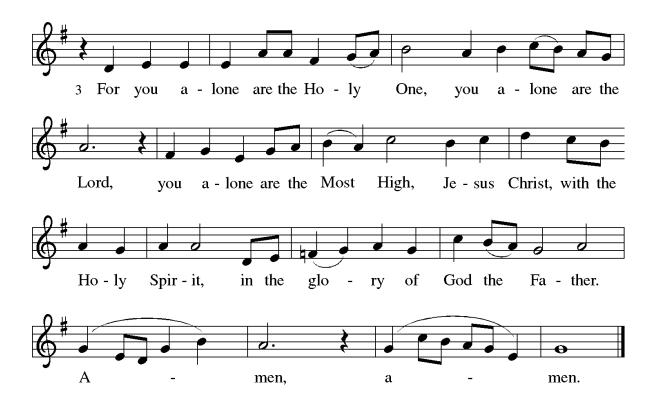


Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.



Gloria





Prayer of the Day

Let us pray:

O God, on this day you revealed your Son to the nations by the leading of a star. Lead us now by faith to know your presence in our lives, and bring us at last to the full vision of your glory, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, 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

Isaiah 60:1-6 *Nations come to the light*

¹ Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.

² For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the LORD will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you.

- ³ Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn.
- ⁴ Lift up your eyes and look around; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from far away, and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms.
- ⁵ Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice, because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you, the wealth of the nations shall come to you.
- ⁶ A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come.
 They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall proclaim the praise of 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



- ¹ Give the king your jus- | tice, O God, and your righteousness to | the king's son;
- ² that he may rule your | people righteously and the | poor with justice;
- ³ that the mountains may bring prosperity | to the people, and the | hills, in righteousness.
- ⁴ Let him defend the needy a- | mong the people, rescue the poor, and crush | the oppressor.
- ⁵ May he live as long as the sun and | moon endure, from one generation | to another.
- ⁶ Let him come down like rain upon | the mown field, like showers that wa- | ter the earth.
- ⁷ In his time may the | righteous flourish; and let there be an abundance of peace till the moon shall | be no more.
- ¹⁰ May the kings of Tarshish and of the | isles pay tribute, and the kings of Sheba and Seba | offer gifts.
- ¹¹ May all kings bow | down before him, and all the nations | do him service.
- ¹² For the king delivers the poor who cry out | in distress, the oppressed, and those who | have no helper.
- ¹³ He has compassion on the low- | ly and poor, and preserves the lives | of the needy.
- ¹⁴ From oppression and violence he re- | deems their lives, and precious is their blood | in his sight.

¹ This is the reason that I Paul am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles—² for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given me for you, ³ and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, ⁴ a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. ⁵ In former generations this mystery was not made known to humankind, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: ⁶ that is, the Gentiles have become fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

⁷ Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God's grace that was given me by the working of his power. ⁸ Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the Gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ, ⁹ and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; ¹⁰ so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. ¹¹ This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, ¹² in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

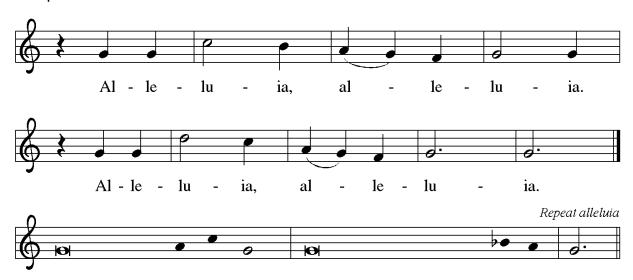
Word of God, word of life. or The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Thanks be to God.

stand

Gospel Acclamation



We have observed his star at its rising, and have come to worship him.

*Matthew 2:2**

The Gospel for Epiphany

A reading from Matthew.

Matthew 2:1-12

Revelation of Christ to the nations of the earth Spark Story Bible, p. 218; Frolic Preschool Bible, p. 52

¹In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, ²asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." ³When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

⁶'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.'"

⁷Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. ⁸Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring

me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." ⁹When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. ¹⁰When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. ¹¹On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. ¹²And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

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.



Text: Nikolai F. S. Grundtvig, 1783–1872; tr. Jens Christian Aaberg, 1877–1970, alt. Music: MORNING STAR, James P. Harding. 1850–1911, adapt.

Baptism Anniversaries and Apostles Creed

Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism as we rejoice with all who celebrate the anniversary of their baptism this week: Raymond Beyer, Diana Brandt, Janice Thompson, Kleta Gerhart, Heinz-Juergen Brink, Charles Wilds, John Boles, Jane Baehre, Nedra Berger, Valentine Boving, Cheryl Howard, Terence Vinson, Joanie Brehm, Katherine Krause, Luke Havemann, Shena Camacho, Hilary Ybarra, Steve Ybarra, Elizabeth Smith, Vivian Ho, Andrew Winston, Morgan Yaege, Christopher Smith, Kennedy Havens, Asher Remmert, Elizabeth Eklof, Stephanie Eklof, Brandi M. Ford, Ronnie Mekala:

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. 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: Adrian of Canterbury, teacher, died around 710 (TFF), January 9.

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.

Rise, shine, you people! Christ the Lord has entered our human story; God in him is centered. He comes to us, by death and sin surrounded, with grace unbounded.

Motet

See how he sends the powers of evil reeling; he brings us freedom, light and life and healing. All men and women, who by guilt are driven, now are forgiven.

Come, celebrate; your banners high unfurling, your songs and prayers against the darkness hurling. To all the world go out and tell the story of Jesus' glory.

Tell how the Father sent the Son to save us.

Tell of the Son, who life and freedom gave us.

Tell how the Spirit calls from every nation

God's new creation.

Setting the Table

Draw us in



Offering Prayer

Let us pray:

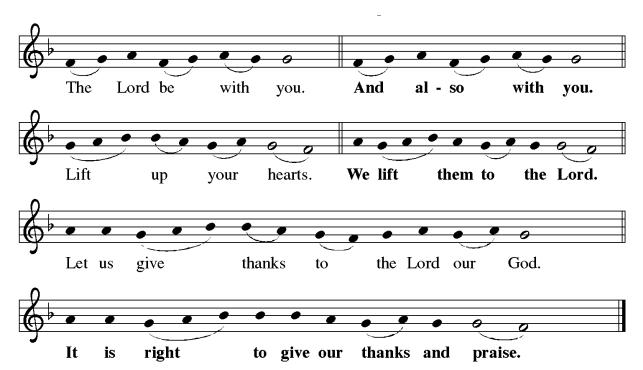
God of heaven and earth, from the beginning, you have called forth life, in which you take delight.

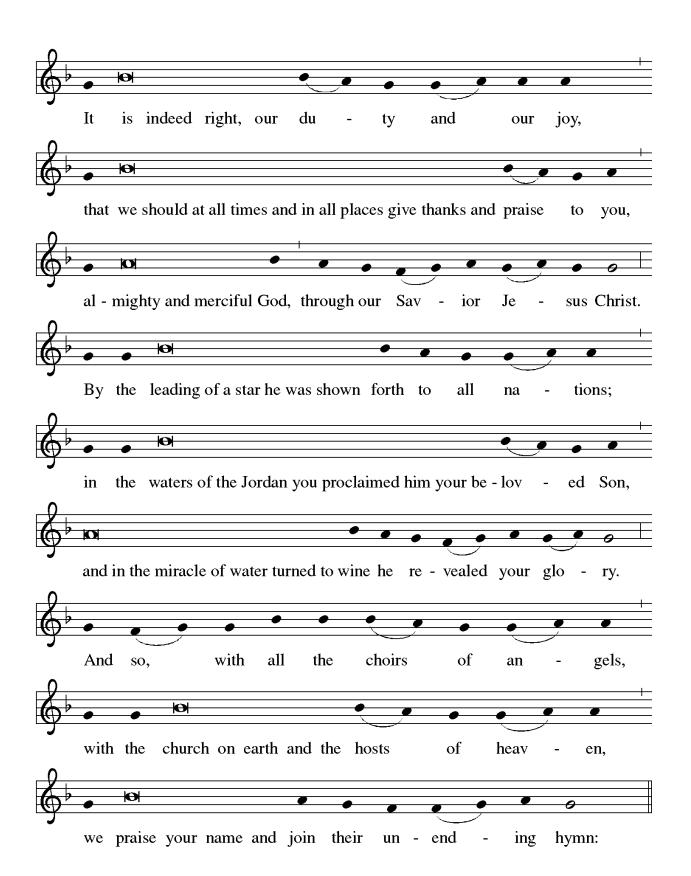
The trees, the fields, and the seas sing for joy.

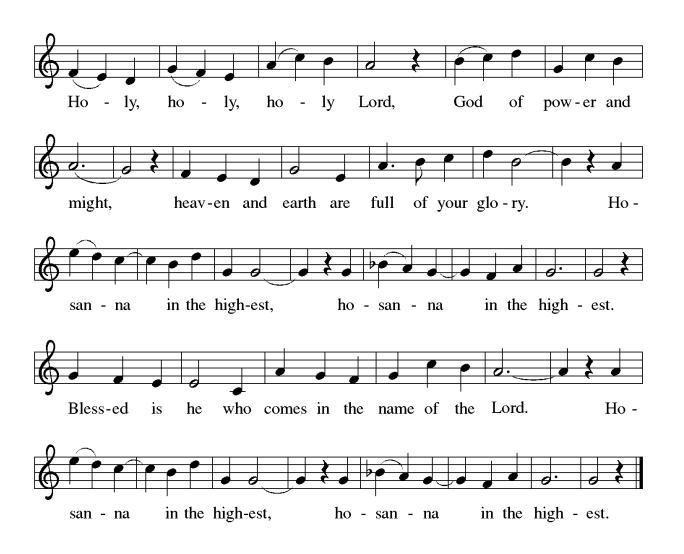
Bless now these gifts, received from your bounty, that we may join the chorus of creation to tell of your salvation from day to day.

Amen.

Great Thanksgiving







The presiding minister continues in thanksgiving and intercession.

Al-might-y Lord, we praise your shining light, your glowing grace. From before the earth's foundation, you loved us and promised us life forever. Within the earth's deep sadness, we laud your great and glorious might. Despite our tears and sinning, we sing of the gladness of your mercy.

We praise your Son, our Morn-ing Star.

Christ is our dia-mond bright, our trea-sure dear.

He is our living Savior who has ransomed us in love.

He keeps us yours and fails us never-today, tomorrow, and every day.

On the night before his great salvation, he 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.

With joy we tell our story:

Al-le-lu-ia!

Al-le-lu-ia!

We call for your Spirit on us and this meal.

Refresh our souls with this heavenly food, the body and blood of your Son.

Nourish us as branches of your tree,

and enlighten us with your undying flame.

We sing out to the Father, we ring out to the Son, we exult in the Spirit. Transport us in our yearning, and be for us the end and the beginning, our purest pleasure, our victorious crown, our never-ending love. And so we pray and praise:

A-men, a-men, a-men.

A-men, a-men, a-men.

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

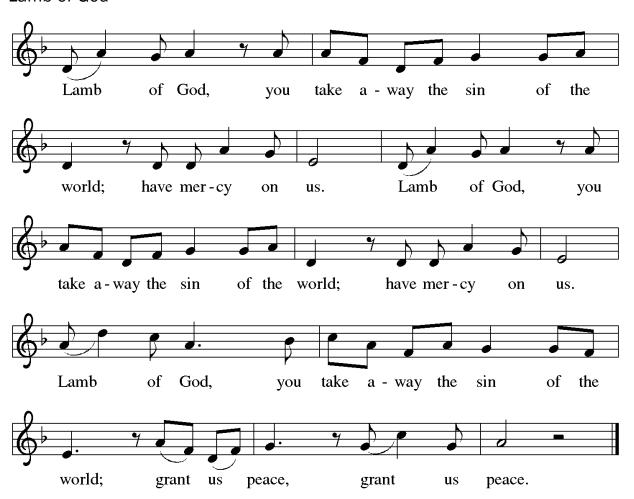
A child has been born for us, a Son given to us. Come, receive the gift of Jesus.

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





Text: William C. Dix, 1837–1898 Music: GREENSLEEVES, English ballad, 16th cent.



Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, stanzas; George D. Elderkin, 1845–1928, refrain Music: WE'LL WALK IN THE LIGHT, Traditional; arr. George D. Elderkin

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

Draw us in



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



Text: James Montgomery, 1771–1854, alt., sts. 1–3; *Salisbury Hymn Book*, 1857, st. 4 Music: REGENT SQUARE, Henry T. Smart, 1813–1879

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

Join us for King's cake in the narthex.

Mission Offering

SEARCH

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.

December contributions to ELCA World Hunger were \$2,701.90.

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.ctkelc.org.



Snacks are provided by Jim Willcockson. 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 12 at 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.

Jeff Thompson	Head Usher
Jim Willcockson, Luke Havemann	Bellringers
Aimee Liou Havemann, Ella Havemann	Acolytes
Ben Kerswell	Cantor
Martin Jones	Music Associate
Rachel McWhirter, Mark Lichetenberger	Digital Vergers
Linda Thomas	Lay Eucharistic Minister
Dcn. Ben Remmert	Eucharistic Minister
Dcn. Ben Remmert	Crucifer
Rustin Buck	Server
Bill Pelham	Server
Karli McGowen	Assisting Minister
The Rev. Sergio Rodriguez	Presiding Minister
Matt Kindsvatter	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
Dcn. Ben RemmertDeacon of Children, Youth, and Family Ministry
Dcn. Aimee Elles Director of Congregational Engagement
Rachel McWhirterDirector of Digital Ministry
Kim WilliamsDirector of Community Engagement
Ben Kerswell
Dcn. Rick Erickson
Martin Jones
Robert Walp Director of the Brass Choir
Vicki Gorman, Calvin Harris, Fernando GrimaldoStaff Singers
Scott Summers Property Maintenance Technician
Cheryl GaspardExecutive Administrator
Maribel Haro Administrative Assistant
Herlinda Torres, Lena ZahlanNursery Attendants
Santiago Callejas, Arturo Ortega

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

