



Sixth Sunday after Epiphany
February 16, 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.



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: *Tree planted by streams of water*, Agnes Leung, Hong Kong, China, 2005.

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

Adagio con affetto from Sonata No. 8 in A
Alexandre Guilmant (1837-1911)

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,
our creator,
our protector,
our wellspring of life.

Amen.

Trusting that God receives our words and the meditations of our hearts, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Merciful God,
you speak blessing and compassion into the world.
Forgive us for the ways we act
with judgment, cruelty, or indifference.
We ignore the needs of our neighbors;
we resist your call to oppose injustice;
we give in to scarcity and fear;
we assume the worst about one another.
Cleanse us from our faults
and release us from their grasp.
Show us your lovingkindness.
Restore our hearts and repair your world,
that we may live in Christ's ways.
Amen.

God proclaims these words of assurance:
"Do not fear, for I have redeemed you.
I have called you by name. You are mine."
In ✝ Christ, you are forgiven.
In the Spirit, you are made free.
Refreshed by the waters of mercy,
live anew as beloved children of God.
Amen.

Gathering Hymn 705

God of Grace and God of Glory

1 God of grace and God of glo - ry, on your peo - ple
 2 Lo! The hosts of e - vil round us scorn the Christ, as -
 3 Cure your chil - dren's war - ring mad - ness; bend our pride to
 4 Save us from weak res - ig - na - tion to the e - vils

pour your pow'r; crown your an - cient chur - ch's sto - ry;
 sail his ways! From the fears that long have bound us
 your con - trol; shame our wan - ton, self - ish glad - ness,
 we de - plore; let the gift of your sal - va - tion

bring its bud to glo - rious flow'r. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age
 free our hearts to faith and praise. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age
 rich in things and poor in soul. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
 be our glo - ry ev - er - more. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,

for the fac - ing of this hour, for the fac - ing of this hour.
 for the liv - ing of these days, for the liv - ing of these days.
 lest we miss your king - dom's goal, lest we miss your king - dom's goal.
 serv - ing you whom we a - dore, serv - ing you whom we a - dore.

Text: Harry E. Fosdick, 1878-1969
 Music: CWM RHONDDA, John Hughes, 1873-1932

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.

Gloria

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:

Living God, in Christ you make all things new. Transform the poverty of our nature by the riches of your grace, and in the renewal of our lives make known your glory, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Word

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

sit

First Reading

Jeremiah 17:5-10

Blessed are those who trust the LORD, they are like trees by water

17:5-10: Whirl Story Bible, p. 146

⁵ Thus says the LORD:

Cursed are those who trust in mere mortals
and make mere flesh their strength,
whose hearts turn away from the LORD.

⁶ They shall be like a shrub in the desert,
and shall not see when relief comes.

They shall live in the parched places of the wilderness,
in an uninhabited salt land.

⁷ Blessed are those who trust in the LORD,
whose trust is the LORD.

⁸ They shall be like a tree planted by water,
sending out its roots by the stream.

It shall not fear when heat comes,
and its leaves shall stay green;
in the year of drought it is not anxious,
and it does not cease to bear fruit.

⁹ The heart is devious above all else;
it is perverse—
who can understand it?

¹⁰ I the LORD test the mind
and search the heart,
to give to all according to their ways,
according to the fruit of their doings.

Word of God, word of life.

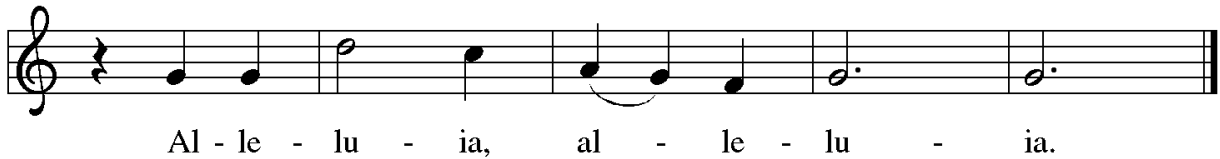
or The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Thanks be to God.

stand

Gospel Acclamation



Rejoice, and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven. *Luke 6:23*

Gospel

Luke 6:17-26

Jesus speaks blessings on the poor and hungry; woes on the rich and full

Frolic Preschool Bible, p. 70; Frolic First Bible, p. 32

The holy gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁷ [Jesus] came down with [the twelve] and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon.¹⁸ They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases; and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. ¹⁹ And all in the crowd were trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them.

²⁰ Then he looked up at his disciples and said:

“Blessed are you who are poor,
for yours is the kingdom of God.

²¹ “Blessed are you who are hungry now,
for you will be filled.

“Blessed are you who weep now,
for you will laugh.

²² “Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man. ²³ Rejoice in that

day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven; for that is what their ancestors did to the prophets.

²⁴ “But woe to you who are rich,
for you have received your consolation.

²⁵ “Woe to you who are full now,
for you will be hungry.

“Woe to you who are laughing now,
for you will mourn and weep.

²⁶ “Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is what their ancestors did to the false prophets.”

The gospel of the Lord.

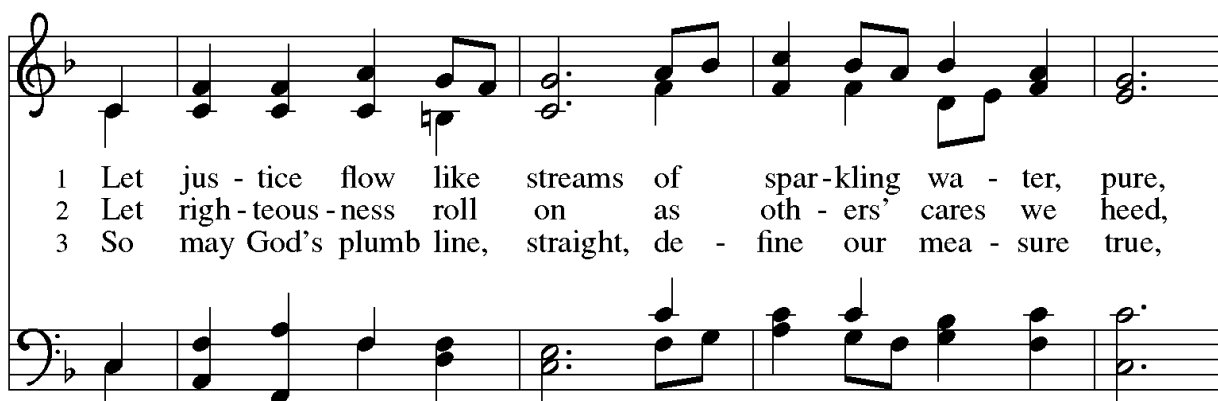
Praise to you, O Christ.

sit

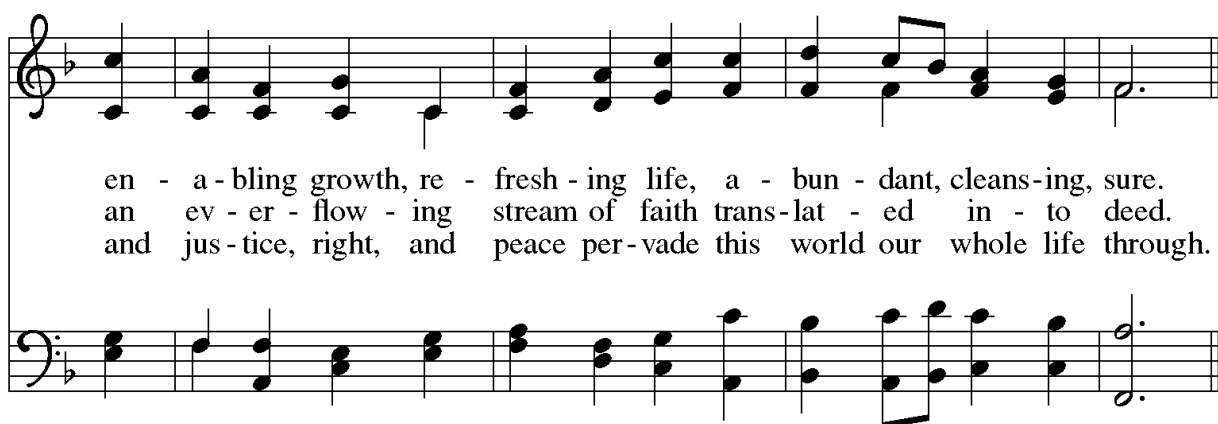
Sermon

Silence

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



1 Let jus - tice flow like streams of spar - kling wa - ter, pure,
 2 Let righ - teous - ness roll on as oth - ers' cares we heed,
 3 So may God's plumb line, straight, de - fine our mea - sure true,



en - a - bling growth, re - fresh - ing life, a - bun - dant, cleans - ing, sure.
 an ev - er - flow - ing stream of faith trans - lat - ed in - to deed.
 and jus - tice, right, and peace per - vade this world our whole life through.

Text: Jane Parker Huber, b. 1926
 Music: ST. THOMAS, Aaron Williams, 1731–1776
 Text © 1984 Jane Parker Huber, admin. Westminster John Knox Press.

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: Angie Mattern, Sara Harlan, Ashley Carrillo, KC Lunden, Gary Heath, Ella Marie Stribling Ritter, Peggy Simon, Eric Vuong, Asher Williams:

**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 on the provided coloring sheets. These colored prayers will be collected during the offering.

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

We join the whole church in commemorating: Martin Luther, renewer of the church, died 1546, February 18.

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

Jesus Christ the Apple Tree
Elizabeth Poston (1905-1987)

The tree of life my soul hath seen,
Laden with fruit and always green;
The trees of nature fruitless be,
Compared with Christ the apple tree.

His beauty doth all things excel,
By faith I know but ne'er can tell
The glory which I now can see,
In Jesus Christ the apple tree.

For happiness I long have sought,
And pleasure dearly I have bought;
I missed of all but now I see
'Tis found in Christ the apple tree.

I'm weary with my former toil -
Here I will sit and rest awhile,
Under the shadow I will be,
Of Jesus Christ the apple tree.

This fruit doth make my soul to thrive,
It keeps my dying faith alive;
Which makes my soul in haste to be
With Jesus Christ the apple tree.

stand

Setting the Table (*vs 1 & 5*)

Draw Near and Take

Draw near and take the bod - y of the Lord, and
Ap - proach ye then with faith - ful hearts sin - cere, and

The first system of musical notation is in 4/4 time with a key signature of one flat (Bb). It consists of a treble and a bass staff. The lyrics are: "Draw near and take the bod - y of the Lord, and Ap - proach ye then with faith - ful hearts sin - cere, and".

drink the ho - ly blood for you out - poured.
take the pledg - es of sal - va - tion here.

The second system of musical notation continues in 4/4 time with a key signature of one flat (Bb). It consists of a treble and a bass staff. The lyrics are: "drink the ho - ly blood for you out - poured. take the pledg - es of sal - va - tion here.".

Offering Prayer

Let us pray:

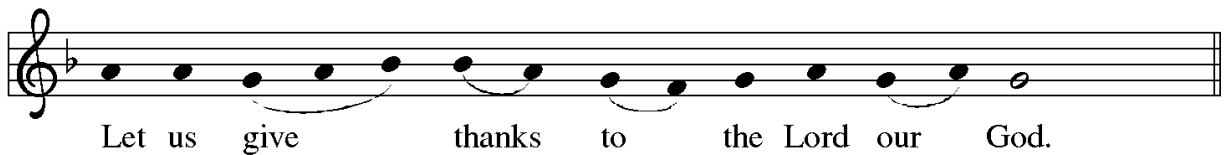
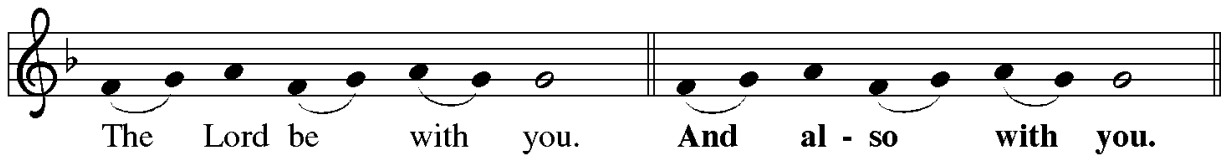
God of grace, your love reaches to the heavens,
and your abundance to the depths of the seas.

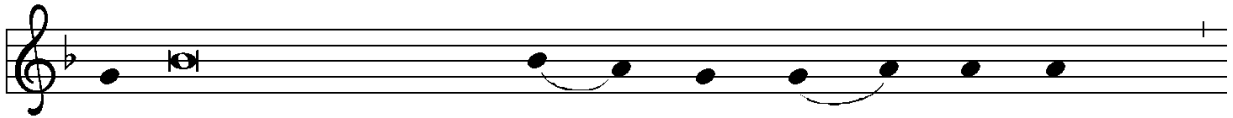
**Bless what we offer to your service:
our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts.**

**Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity,
now and always.**

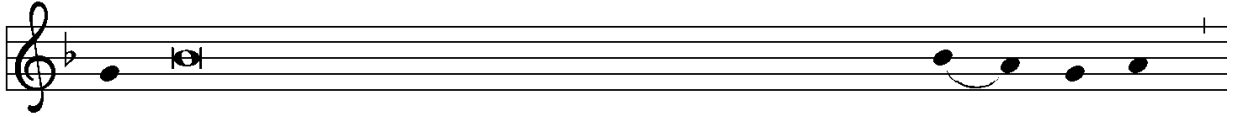
Amen.

Great Thanksgiving





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



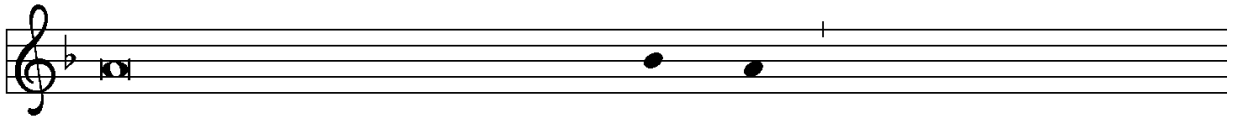
that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you,



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



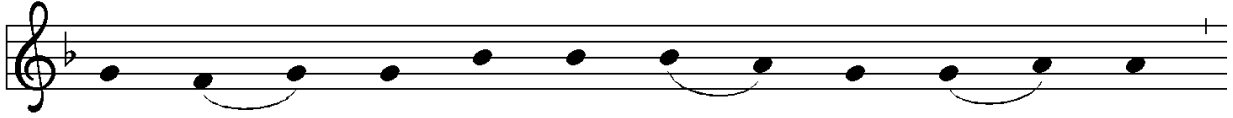
who on this day overcame death and the grave,



and by his glorious resur - rec - tion



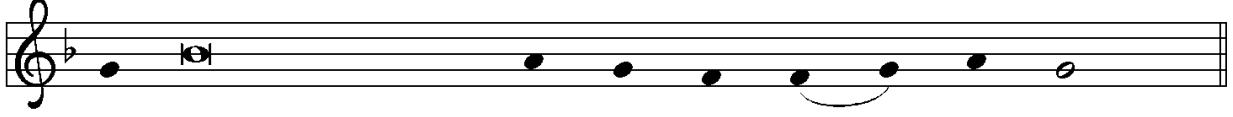
opened to us the way of ev - er - last - ing life.



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.

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord,
 heaven and earth are full of your glory.
 In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son,
 who reached out to heal the sick and suffering,
 who preached good news to the poor,
 and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

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.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension,
we await his coming in glory.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord,
and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food,
the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord;
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be all honor and glory, 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

The joy of the Lord is our strength.

Come, eat this meal of gladness.

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.

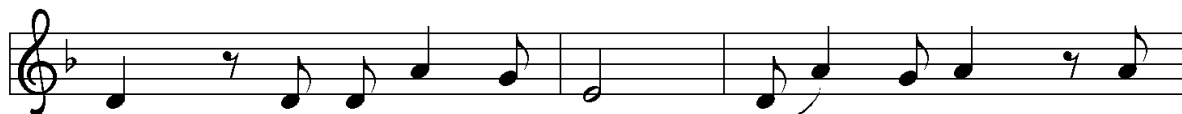
If you do not wish to commune, please come to the altar rail with other worshipers for a blessing.

sit

Lamb of God



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



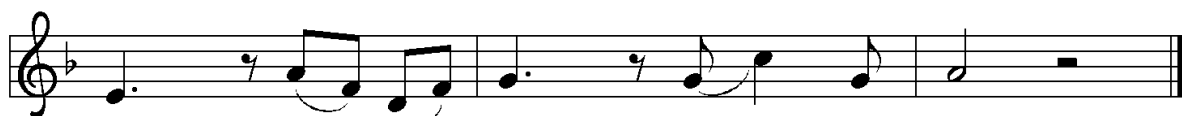
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you



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 754

Jesus, the Very Thought of You

1 Je - sus, the ver - y thought of you fills us with sweet de - light;
 2 No voice can sing, no heart can frame, nor can the mind re - call
 3 O Hope of ev - 'ry con - trite soul, O Joy of all the meek,
 4 O Je - sus, be our joy to - day; help us to prize your love;



but sweet-er far your face to view and rest with - in your light.
 a sweet-er sound than your blest name, O Sav - ior of us all!
 how kind you are to those who fall! How good to those who seek!
 grant us at last to hear you say: "Come, share my home a - bove."



Text: attr. Bernard of Clairvaux, 1091–1153; tr. Edward Caswall, 1814–1878
 Music: ST. AGNES, John B. Dykes, 1823–1876

Hymn

May This Church Be like a Tree



1 *Que es-ta i - gle - sia se - a un ár - bol en el*
 1 May this church be like a tree, be - hind your
 2 May this church be like a tree there in the
 3 May this church be like a tree, O God, that



fon - do de tu ca - sa, que ha - ya fies - ta, ya - le -
 house, there in your gar - den, meet - ing - place for joy, and
 street or in the pla - za, for the birds a nest - ing -
 thrives where you have plant - ed; may it stand to show the



grí - a y_o - ra - ción ba - jo sus ra - mas.
 feast, and sim - ple prayer be - neath its branch - es.
 branch, for pass - ers - by a wel - come shel - ter.
 way, your way of lov - ing and self - giv - ing,



Con ra - í - ces bien pro - fun - das y sus bra - zos
 With its roots in earth so fer - tile, and its arms raised
 May it stand as if it's watch - ing, near my house, just
 of - f'ring shade, and fruit for shar - ing, giv - ing up its



ha - cia el cie - lo, que es - ta i - gle - sia sea fe -
 high to heav - en, may this church bear fruits of
 round the cor - ner, wait - ing for this wea - ry
 wood for burn - ing. May this liv - ing church that



cun - da dan - do fru - tos de con - sue - lo.
 jus - tice, acts of lov - ing and com - pas - sion.
 pil - grim with its arms wide to em - brace me.
 names you be a tree of life e - ter - nal.

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 (*vs 3 & 2*)

Draw Near and Take

Sal - va - tion's gi - - ver, Christ, the on - ly Son, by
Saved by that bod - - y and that ho - ly blood, with

his dear cross and blood the vic - t'ry won.
souls re - freshed, we ren - der thanks to God.

Post-Communion Prayer

Let us pray:

Nourishing God,
at this table you have refreshed us
with holy gifts of food and drink.

**Strengthen us for service,
and send us out to embody your good news
of liberation and healing for the sake of the world.
In the name of Christ we pray,
Amen.**

Sending

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

Sending Hymn 988

The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve



- 1 The Spir - it sends us forth to serve; we go in Je - sus' name
- 2 We go to com - fort those who mourn and set the bur - dened free;
- 3 We go to be the hands of Christ, to scat - ter joy like seed
- 4 Then let us go to serve in peace, the gos - pel to pro - claim.



to bring glad tid - ings to the poor, God's fa - vor to pro - claim.
where hope is dim, to share a dream and help the blind to see.
and, all our days, to cher - ish life, to do the lov - ing deed.
God's Spir - it has em - pow - ered us; we go in Je - sus' name.

Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939

Music: SANTA MONICA, Robert A. Hobby, b. 1962

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Blessing

The Spirit of the triune God

✝ bless you with joy,
anoint you with compassion,
and send you in love.

Amen.

Dismissal

Go in peace. Live in hope.

Thanks be to God.

Peeling of the Bells

Mission Offering

Christian Community Service Center (CCSC)

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 \$736.76.

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 Wendy Wiker.
Donations benefit the ELCA World Hunger.*

*The altar flowers are given to the glory of God by Linda H Alexander
in memory of Chuck Alexander's eighty-second birthday.*

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:

- February 23 at 8:30 a.m.
- March 2 at 8:30 a.m.
- March 9 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.

David Karohl	Head Usher
KC Lunden, Liz Lunden.....	Ushers
Rustin Buck, Linda Murray	Bellringers
.....	Acolytes
Ben Kerswell	Cantor
Martin Jones	Music Associate
Rachel McWhirter, Mark Lichtenberger	Digital Vergers
Naomi Nelson.....	Lay Eucharistic Minister
Vicki Gorman.....	Lay Eucharistic Minister
Lisa Miller	Lay Eucharistic Minister
Dcn. Ben Remmert	Crucifer
Lisa Krueger.....	Server
Beverly Davis.....	Server
Sabina Entzian.....	Assisting Minister
The Rev. Sergio Rodriguez.....	Presiding Minister/Preacher
Dcn. Aimee Elles.....	Liturgist

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 Remmert.....Deacon 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

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