

Christ the King Lutheran Church

Third Sunday of Advent, December 14, 2025

(* = please stand as you are able)

Advent 3 - A note of joyful expectation marks today's worship. Isaiah announces that the desert shall rejoice and blossom, and Jesus points to the unexpected and transforming signs of God's reign. We wait with patience for the coming of the Lord, even as we rejoice at his presence among us this day: in word and holy supper, in church and in our homes, in silent reflection and in works of justice and love. We pray that God would open our eyes and ears to the wonders of Christ's advent among us.

PRELUDE

WELCOME

WREATH LIGHTING/CALL TO WORSHIP *liturgy on screen*

O Come, O Come Emmanuel ELW 257 v.5

The third candle of the Advent wreath is lit.

O Come, O Come Emmanuel ELW 257 v.6

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, whose home is heaven and earth, whose salvation is sure. **Amen.**
Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Long-expected God, **we confess that we look to ourselves for the peace and security only you can provide. We reach for swords and spears, reluctant to release our grip on the ways of war. We become impatient while waiting and weary of keeping awake. Free us from self-reliance, and teach us to live in harmony with our neighbors. Increase our trust in God's timing, and awaken us to your advent among us, that we may abound in the hope you have promised. Amen.**

God judges us not as we deserve, but according to God's own righteousness. ☩ You are freed and forgiven, saved by grace, and ready to welcome the Savior. **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN

Awake! Awake! and Greet the New Morn

ELW 242 v.1 & 4

GREETING AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

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.

Let us pray. **Stir up the wills of all who look to you, Lord God, and strengthen our faith in your coming, that, transformed by grace, we may walk in your way; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

PSALM: Psalm 146:5-10 (read responsively)

⁵ Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their help, whose hope is in the LORD their God;

⁶ **who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is in them; who keeps promises forever;**

⁷ who gives justice to those who are oppressed, and food to those who hunger.

The LORD sets the captive free.

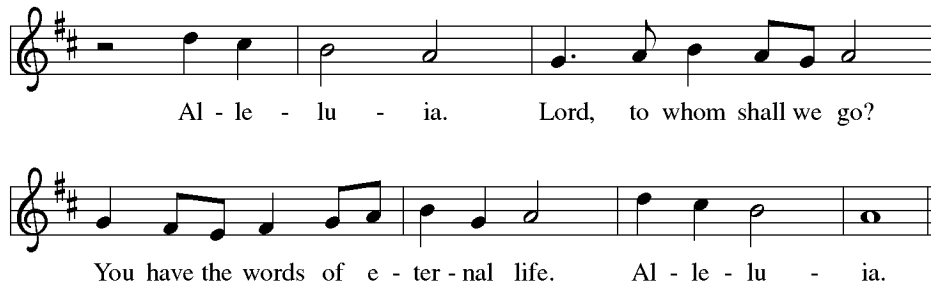
⁸ **The LORD opens the eyes of the blind; the LORD lifts up those who are bowed down;
the LORD loves the righteous.**

⁹ The LORD cares for the stranger;

the LORD sustains the orphan and widow, but frustrates the way of the wicked.

¹⁰ **The LORD shall reign forever, your God, O Zion, throughout all generations. Hallelujah!**

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**



***GOSPEL READING: Matthew 11:2-11**

(NT page 10)

CHILDREN'S PROGRAM

Congregational Music on screen

HYMN OF THE DAY

O Come All Ye Faithfull

ELW 283

NICENE CREED

With the whole church, let us confess our faith using the words of the 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 GOD'S PEOPLE Hear us, O God, **your mercy is great.**

SHARING OF CHRIST'S PEACE

OFFERING

Calypso Allelu

by Jill Gallina

Give by mobile: Text "GIVE" to 320-313-1815, by mail, in the offering plate or our website – www.ctkb.org/generosity/ Thank you!

OFFERING PRAYER

***GREAT THANKSGIVING**

(front of ELW page 152)

SANCTUS

***EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER AND PROCLAMATION**

LORD'S PRAYER

COMMUNION *We commune at two stations in front of the pulpit and lectern. Come down the side aisles, receive the bread; proceed to the wine or grape juice. Gluten-free wafers are available. Return to your seats by the center aisle. All are welcome.*

COMMUNION
COMMUNION HYMN

Lamb of God
Each Winter As the Year Grows Older

(front of ELW page 154)
ELW 252

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

SENDING HYMN

Light Dawns on a Weary World

ELW 726 v. 2

DISMISSAL Go in peace. Keep awake. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

Worship Leaders

| | |
|----------------------------|-------------------|
| Ministers | All of you! |
| Preaching | Pastor Per Halaas |
| Assisting Minister | Peggy Indahl |
| Lector | Tom Butala |
| Prayers | Andrew Marotz |
| Director of Music Ministry | Kristi MacKay |
| Assistant Music Director | Darin Tysdal |
| Special Music | Trinity Choir |

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SUNDAY – December 14 – 3rd Sunday of Advent

Children's Christmas Program

9:30a Worship with Holy Communion

10:30a Maranatha Christian Congregation –
Lounge

10:45a Chapel Ringers Concert – Social Hall

Children's Christmas Program

Cast: Angel - Naomi Bernier, Mary - Riley Davis, Joseph - Daniel Bernier, Inn keeper- Sibley Johnson, Shepherds: Loanna Halaas, Leila Gutierrez, Sibley Johnson

Sheep: Lena Butala, Georgie Butala, Scout Johnson, Nora Rothbauer, Nora Davis, Wesley Walker

Three Kings: Bror Halaas, Sam Christianson, Gabe Elder

Writer and Director – Frieda Bormann, Music Director - Kristi MacKay

Costumes - Lynne Gasterland, Support and much help from: Lynn Lenort, Jean Butala, Melissa Hill, Nancy Dorsey and Nicole Gunyou

Thank you to all the parents/ guardians that share their children and youth with us to create this wonderful program for CTK. Merry Christmas! Kristina Elder – CYF Ministry Director

In your prayers this week, please remember:

- **For Bjorn Gustafson and his family at the death of his father, Berndt**
- **Continuing Prayers: Jim and Arlene Knutson, Jacquie Craig** (Jodi Greiner's sister), **Bonnie Radman** (Rick Turnquist's sister), **Ryan Jones** (Jane B's nephew), **Robert Thornton** (Carol's husband), **Pam Novak** (friend of Chris Gabel), **Lavonne Kennedy** (Clare Erickson's sister), **Jim Wegge** (Bev Wegge's brother), **Carol Hinze** (Caitlyn Johnson's grandma), **Isaac Hill** (grandson of Gail & John, nephew of Melissa), **Jackie Schmeidlin** (friend of Sean Bernier), **Shirley Gentz, Pastor David** and **Diane Lerseth, Steve Olson, David Newhall** (Liz Olson's brother), **Elizabeth Olson, Lynn Hansen** (Tami Roloff's sister), **Julie Allen** (friend of Lynne Gasterland), **Michael R. Vogel** (Mike Vogel's son), **Susan Hanson, David Niemand** (Holly Hauer's brother), **Donna Woodward** (sister of Dan Pierce), **Geralyn Barone** (friend of John & Kim Gunyou), **Sue Larson** (friend of Liz Olson), **Faye Jasmin** (sister of Joan Perlich), **Chris Wondra** (friend of Sean Johnson), and **Max Rothbauer**
- **Marion Anderson** and all who are homebound
- **Our sister in China, Lutheran Church of Christ in Nigeria, El comunidad de fe bilingue/ The bilingual faith community of Tapestry Lutheran Church in Richfield**

This Week at Christ the King

Loaves & Fishes provide a free drive-up meal
Monday-Friday from 5-6

MONDAY – December 15

8:30a Church Chore Crew
9:00a Quilting – Social Hall
Boxing Christmas Cookies

TUESDAY – December 16

10:00a Staff Meeting – Office
Noon Judean Circle - Lounge
6:30p Yoga
6:30p Chapel Ringers
7:00p Council - Lounge

WEDNESDAY – December 17

9:00a Bible Study – Lounge
6:00p Holden Evening Prayer Worship
7:00p Trinity Choir

THURSDAY – December 18

9:00a Country Jammers – Social Hall
4:00p Book Study - Lounge

Let's Raise the Bar!

Turning in your 2026 *Statement of Intent* (pledge card) now helps us plan for the year ahead so **if you haven't had an opportunity to drop off your card, I invite you to give me a buzz in the office or shoot me an email.**

Additionally, I can answer any questions you might have about your 2025 giving and as a reminder, the IRS requires that any charitable contributions for the year be received in the office by **December 31st or postmarked 12/31/25** in order to be recorded for this giving year. And one more important thing ... thank you, thank you, **THANK YOU** for the many ways you support and participate in shaping our life together. Grace & Peace!
Jane Bishop

December 24 Christmas Eve Worship @4:30pm

All are welcome as we share in community the celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ!

Next Weekend at Christ the King

SUNDAY – December 21 – 4th Sunday of Advent

9:30a Worship with Holy Communion

10:30a Maranatha Christian Congregation – Lounge
10:45a Fellowship Time

Bible Reading for next week:

Isaiah 7:10-16 Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19
Romans 1:1-7 Matthew 1:18-25

December's Gift of Love is ELCA World Hunger

God richly provides for daily bread — the earth can produce enough food for everyone. Yet, many of our sisters and brothers still go hungry. By providing immediate relief to those who are hungry, we meet basic needs and recognize the universal human right to food. But ending hunger is about more than food. Go to <https://www.elca.org/Our-Work/Relief-and-Development/ELCA-World-Hunger> for more info.

Volunteers for December

If you would like to greet, read, assist, serve/prep communion, or serve coffee on any of the following Dates: Greeters **12/21**, 12/28 Readers **12/21**, 12/28 Assisting **12/21**, 12/28 Prayers **12/21**, 12/28 Communion servers (2) **12/21**, 12/24, 12/28 Communion prep on **12/21** and 12/28
4 Ushers on Christmas Eve for the 4:30pm service
Please call the office 952-881-8600 or email Jane V at jvevea@ctkb.org.

Christmas Cookies for Homebound Members

Christ the King members will again deliver Christmas cookies to our homebound members. **Bring your ready-to-pack cookies to the CTKB kitchen on 12/15 by 9am.** Our quilters will pack them. The packed cookies will then be delivered later in the week. **If you would like to deliver cookies, please notify the office!**

Advent/Christmas Season

Please consider making a donation "in honor of" or "in memory of" loved ones to beautify our sanctuary for the Advent/Christmas season. The forms can be found on the narthex table or in the office. **Forms are due by December 21st.**

Jan. Newsletter Deadline - Tuesday, December 16

Please email newsletter articles to jvevea@ctkb.org or leave a hard copy in the church office.