

Christ the King Lutheran Church

Fourth Sunday of Advent, December 21, 2025

(* = please stand as you are able)

Advent 4 - Today *Isaiah prophesies that a young woman will bear a son and name him Emmanuel. The gospel is Matthew's account of the annunciation and birth of the one named Emmanuel, God-with-us. During these final days of Advent we pray, "O come, O come, Emmanuel," a beloved hymn based on the O Antiphons, ancient prayers appointed for the seven days preceding Christmas. On this final Sunday of Advent we prepare to celebrate the birth of the one born to save us from the power of sin and death.*

PRELUDE *Morning Prayer, op. 39* - Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky & *Silver Bells* - Jay Livingston & Ray Evans
WELCOME

WREATH LIGHTING/CALL TO WORSHIP *liturgy on screen*

O Come, O Come Emmanuel ELW 257 v.7

The fourth candle of the Advent wreath is lit.

O Come, O Come Emmanuel ELW 257 v.8

CONFESSON & FORGIVENESSS

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

Hark! The Glad Sound

ELW 239, v. 1 and 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 your power, Lord Christ, and come. With your abundant grace and might, free us from the sin that hinders our faith, that eagerly we may receive your promises, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

PSALM: Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19 (read responsively)

¹ Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock;
shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.

² **In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh, stir up your strength and come to help us.**

³ Restore us, O God; let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.

⁴ **O LORD God of hosts, how long will your anger fume when your people pray?**

⁵ You have fed them with the bread of tears; you have given them bowls of tears to drink.

⁶ **You have made us the derision of our neighbors, and our enemies laugh us to scorn.**

⁷ Restore us, O God of hosts; let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.

¹⁷ Let your hand be upon the one at your right hand, the one you have made so strong for yourself.

¹⁸ And so will we never turn away from you; give us life, that we may call upon your name.

¹⁹ Restore us, O Lord God of hosts; let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?



You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

*GOSPEL READING: Matthew 1:18-24

(NT page 1)

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus

ELW 254

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

Away In a Manger

William J. Kirkpatrick

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

*EUCHARISTIC 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

Lamb of God

(front of ELW page 154)

COMMUNION MUSIC

In Church, op. 39

Pytor Ilyich Tchaikovsky

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

SENDING HYMN

Light Dawns on a Weary World

ELW 726 v. 3

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

POSTLUDE

Silver Bells - Jay Livingston & Ray Evans

Worship Leaders

Ministers	All of you!
Preaching	Pastor Per Halaas
Assisting Minister	Carolyn Tillotson
Lector	David Tillotson
Prayers	Naomi Bernier
Director of Music Ministry	Kristi MacKay
Assistant Music Director	Darin Tysdal
Special Music	Trinity Choir, Jeremy Hiniker, Guitar

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SUNDAY – December 21 – 4th Sunday of Advent

9:30a	Worship with Holy Communion
10:30a	Maranatha Christian Congregation – Lounge
10:45a	Fellowship Time

In your prayers this week, please remember:

- **Continuing Prayers:** Jacquie Craig (Jodi Greiner'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), Chris Wondra (friend of Sean Johnson).
- **New prayers:** Jim and Arlene Knutson
- **Pat Andersen** 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**
- **ISAIAH Minnesota Faith Coalition**

<p>This Week at Christ the King Loaves & Fishes provide a free drive-up meal Monday-Friday from 5-6 Closed 12/24 & 12/25</p> <p>MONDAY – December 22 8:30a Church Chore Crew</p> <p>TUESDAY – December 23 6:30p Yoga 6:30p Chapel Ringers 7:30p Emotions Anonymous-#110</p> <p>WEDNESDAY – December 24 Christmas Eve 4:30p Worship – music at 4pm</p> <p>THURSDAY – December 25  Office/Building Closed</p> <p>FRIDAY – December 26 Office Closed</p>
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<p>Let's Raise the Bar!</p> <p>Turning in your 2026 <i>Statement of Intent</i> (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.</p> <p>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!</p> <p>Jane Bishop</p>
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<p>December 24 Christmas Eve Worship @4:30pm – 4pm Musical Prelude All are welcome as we share in community the celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ!</p>

<p>Next Weekend at Christ the King SUNDAY – December 28 – 1st Sunday of Christmas 9:30a Worship with Holy Communion 10:30a Maranatha Christian Congregation – Lounge 10:45a Fellowship Time</p> <p>Bible Reading for next week: No bible study on 12/24 or 12/31. We will resume on Wednesday, January 7th.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Volunteers for December If you would like to greet, read, assist, serve/prepare communion, or serve coffee on any of the following Dates: Reader 12/28 Assisting 12/28 Prayers 12/28 Communion servers (2) 12/24, 12/28 Communion prep on 12/28 1 more Usher on Christmas Eve for the 4:30pm service Please call the office 952-881-8600 or email Jane V at jvevea@ctkb.org.</p> <p>SHINE event on January 4th Will be hosted by Carol Rydell at Applewood Pointe, Valley West -10650 Beard Ave S. Bloomington, 55431 There will be a sign up sheet in the commons Please invite family and friends. For more information reach out to Kristina - kelder@ctkb.org</p> <p>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.</p>
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