



# Christ the King Lutheran Church

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RIC  [www.ctlkcs.org](http://www.ctlkcs.org)

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Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 30, 2025

9:30am



† Celebrating God's grace through acts of love and service †

### To our guests:

- The type in **bold** is for the congregation to say.
  - The \* Indicates "Stand if you are able".
- Gluten-free wafers and grape juice are available.
- Visitor sheets are located in the red folders in front of you.

## INTRODUCTION

The psalm sets the tone this day: "Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven, and whose sin is put away!" Happy are those who have "become the righteousness of God" in the merits of Christ Jesus. Happy are those for whom the forgiveness of God has "rolled away . . . the disgrace" of former times. Happy is the father at the return of his prodigal son. Happy are we that our sins are forgiven for Jesus' sake. Rejoice!

## WELCOME

### PRELUDE

*Amazing Grace*

Miyo Park

### MEDITATION

*Psalm 32*

- <sup>1</sup> Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven, and whose sin is o guile!
- <sup>3</sup> While I held my tongue, my bones withered away, because of my groaning all day long.
- <sup>4</sup> For your hand was heavy upon me day and night; my moisture was dried up as in the heat of summer.
- <sup>5</sup> Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and did not conceal my guilt. I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD." Then you forgave me the guilt of my sin.
- <sup>6</sup> Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in time of trouble; when the great waters overflow, they shall not reach them.
- <sup>7</sup> You are my hiding-place; you preserve me from trouble; you surround me with shouts of deliverance.

- <sup>8</sup> “I will instruct you and teach you in the way that you should go; I will guide you with my eye.
- <sup>9</sup> Do not be like horse or mule, which have no understanding; who must be fitted with bit and bridle, or else they will not stay near you.”
- <sup>10</sup> Great are the tribulations of the wicked; but mercy embraces those who trust in the LORD.
- <sup>11</sup> Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice in the LORD; shout for joy, all who are true of heart.

### **\*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

*(Silence is kept for reflection.)*

Most merciful God,

**we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.**

**Amen.**

Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

**\*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.**

**\*HYMN OF PRAISE**

*Oh, Love, How Deep*

**ELW 322 vs. 1-4**

**\*PRAYER OF THE DAY**

O Lord God, **you led your people through the wilderness and brought them to the promised land. Guide us now, so that, following your Son, we may walk safely through the wilderness of this world, toward the life you alone can give, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now & forever.**

**Amen.**

**FIRST READING**

***Joshua 5:9-12***

*(By celebrating the Passover and eating the produce of the promised land instead of the miraculous manna that had sustained them in the desert, the Israelites symbolically bring their forty years of wilderness wandering to an end at Gilgal.)*

<sup>9</sup> The LORD said to Joshua, “Today I have rolled away from you the disgrace of Egypt.” And so that place is called Gilgal to this day.

<sup>10</sup> While the Israelites were camped in Gilgal they kept the passover in the evening on the fourteenth day of the month in the plains of Jericho. <sup>11</sup> On the day after the passover, on that very day, they ate the produce of the land, unleavened cakes and parched grain. <sup>12</sup> The manna ceased on the day they ate the produce of the land, and the Israelites no longer had manna; they ate the crops of the land of Canaan that year.

Word of God, Word of Life.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **SECOND READING**

## **2 Corinthians 5:16-21**

*(One way to describe the gospel is the promise that in Christ everything is transformed into newness. All mistakes, all deliberate sins, all old history is reconciled with Christ's resurrection. This is Paul's strong message to the congregation in the city of Corinth.)*

<sup>16</sup> From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. <sup>17</sup> So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! <sup>18</sup> All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; <sup>19</sup> that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. <sup>20</sup> So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. <sup>21</sup> For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

Word of God, Word of Life.

**Thanks be to God.**

**\*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**



We are turn - ing, Lord, to hear you; you are mer - ci - ful and kind -



slow to an - ger, rich in bless - ing, and with love to us in - clined.

**\*GOSPEL**

*The gospel according to **Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32***

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*Jesus tells a parable about a son who ponders his father's love only after he has spurned it. The grace he receives is beyond his hopes. That same grace is a crisis for an older brother who believes it is his obedience that has earned his place in the father's home.*

<sup>1</sup> Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to [Jesus.] <sup>2</sup> And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them."

<sup>3</sup> So he told them this parable: <sup>11b</sup> "There was a man who had two sons. <sup>12</sup> The younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.' So he divided his property between them. <sup>13</sup> A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. <sup>14</sup> When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. <sup>15</sup> So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. <sup>16</sup> He would gladly have filled himself with the pods

that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. <sup>17</sup> But when he came to himself he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! <sup>18</sup> I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, “Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; <sup>19</sup> I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands.”’ <sup>20</sup> So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. <sup>21</sup> Then the son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’ <sup>22</sup> But the father said to his slaves, ‘Quickly, bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. <sup>23</sup> And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; <sup>24</sup> for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!’ And they began to celebrate.

<sup>25</sup> “Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. <sup>26</sup> He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. <sup>27</sup> He replied, ‘Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.’ <sup>28</sup> Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. <sup>29</sup> But he answered his father, ‘Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. <sup>30</sup> But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!’ <sup>31</sup> Then the father said to him, ‘Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. <sup>32</sup> But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.’ ”

The Good News of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**CHILDREN'S SONG**

*Lord I Want To Be a Christian*

**Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart, in my heart;  
Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart, in my heart,  
in my heart, Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart.**

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

Mem Morman

**SERMON**

Pastor Ashley Allinger

**\*HYMN OF THE DAY** *Our Father, We Have Wandered* **ELW 606**

**\*APOSTLES' CREED**

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

**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**

Led by the Spirit, let us turn to God in prayer for the church, the world, and all those in need

*(A brief silence.)*

God of faithful promise, make your church a new creation in Christ. As you reconcile us to yourself, guide us also in your way of reconciliation, that through confession and forgiveness, repentance and reparations, your church may bear witness to your love.

God in your mercy,  
**receive our prayer**

...Receive the prayers of your people and draw all things together in your love, in the name of Jesus, who leads us from death to life.

**Amen.**

## **PEACE**

The Peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you**

## **OFFERING HYMN**

*Create in Me a Clean Heart*

**ELW 186**

## **\*OFFERING PRAYER**

Gracious provider, **you set your immense treasures among us, opening your heart to the world. As we prepare to feast on your bountiful love, deepen our commitment to sharing those treasures with others, through our Savior, Jesus Christ.**

**Amen**

## \*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.  
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The image shows four staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. Each staff contains a melody line with lyrics underneath. The lyrics are: 'The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.', 'Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.', 'Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.', and 'It is right to give our thanks and praise.'

## \*PREFACE

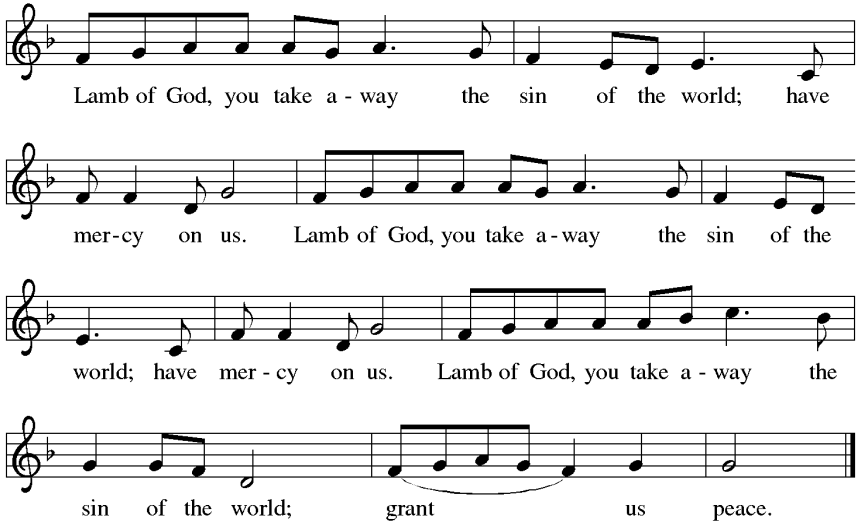
It is indeed right, our duty and our joy ... And so we praise your name and join in their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,  
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -  
san-na. 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.

The image shows four staves of musical notation in G major and 4/4 time. Each staff contains a melody line with lyrics underneath. The lyrics are: 'Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,', 'heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -', 'san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who', and 'comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.'

**INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

All who are hungry, come! The feast of grace is spread.



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.

**COMMUNION HYMNS**

*Come to the Table*  
*Amazing Grace*

**ELW 481**  
**ELW 779**

**\*TABLE BLESSING**

**\*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Generous Host, you have shared your feast with us and made us new. Send us now to set tables of love and grace in our communities, that your liberating love might nourish the world into freedom, in the name of the crucified one, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**\*BLESSING**

God our tender parent,  
God the crucified one,  
God the reconciling Spirit,  
bless you now and forever.

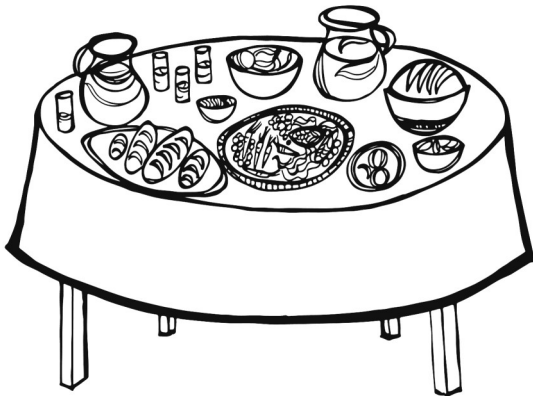
**Amen.**

**\*SENDING HYMN** *My Life Flows on in Endless Song* **ELW 763 vs. 1, 4**

**\*DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Care for others as God cares for you.

**Thanks be to God!**



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## *OUR PRAYER LIST*



## SUNDAY COFFEE TIME

**March 30** Suzanne Geislinger

**April 6** Open

The sign-up sheet is on the kitchen door.

## **\*UPCOMING EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS\***

**Sun., March 30 10:30am:** Worship Ministry Team

**Mon., March 31, 9-11am:** Food donation drop-off at WSC

**Wed., April 2, 12:30pm:** Westside Cares Pantry

**Wed., April 2, 5:30pm:** Soup Supper

**Wed., April 2, 6:30pm:** Lenten Service

**Wed., April 2, 7:00pm:** Bible Study

**Sun., April 6, 9:30am:** Worship, Pastor Ashley Allinger

**Mon., April 7, 9-11am:** Food donation drop-off at WSC

**Mon., April 7, 6:60pm:** CTK Book Club at Nadine Duffin's house

**Wed., April 9, 12:30pm:** Westside Cares Pantry

**Wed., April 9, 5:30pm:** Soup Supper

**Wed., April 9, 6:30pm:** Lenten Service

**Wed., April 9, 7:00pm:** Bible Study

**Property:** The Adopt-A-Plot 2025 Landscape Project Information and Sign-up Board is in the Narthex. Your help is needed in helping to keep our property looking nice. Weeding, trimming, mulching, and a number of other landscape activities can be done on any of the plots identified on the map. We need every slot filled so please consider signing up. This can be a fun activity for families and church groups as well as individuals. I would love to see the Church Council adopt-a-plot as a team building activity. Even if you spend 10 minutes every week pulling weeds, that would be a great help. This program is an addition to our larger clean-up days which are held twice a year. Please sign up for a plot or two. Thank you!

### **Worship Ministry Team Meeting – TODAY!**

What **is** the Worship Team? Why **would I** like to join? Please find out the answers to these questions and more today, immediately following Worship at our Worship Ministry annual meeting, led by our Pastor Ashley Allinger. New people are warmly welcome!

**CTK Book Club:** This month we are reading “Gold” by Ian Neligh, We will meet Monday, April 7<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 p.m. at the home of Nadine Duffin. \*A tip: Reading the book is never a requirement for attendance to this fun book club! Looking forward to seeing you then!

**OWLS – Older Wiser Lutherans:** We will be meeting at Christ the King on Tuesday, April 15<sup>th</sup> at 11 am. A light lunch will be served and the service project will be completed. New folks are always welcome. We look forward to seeing you!

**COS Reads:** The COS Reads program is starting on April 3<sup>rd</sup>! Please see Wednesday’s newsletter for ALL the details. Council received the following thank you from via email:

*Thank you so much for everything. We cannot thank you enough for everything you have given us, the rolling shelves and the oak shelves, for us to use. Believe me when I say that it has not gone unnoticed, and we are so incredibly grateful. Now the space is truly like a library. No matter what, we have far more to offer than the book mobile. Today for a couple of hours we had a 99 year old man in there stamping books. It takes a village - from 9 years old to 99. It has really brought the community together and that would not have happened without you. Thank you from the bottom of my heart. You and the church are wonderful examples of living God's grace and kindness.*

*-Robin, COS Reads*

**Council Update:** Council wants to announce that Michael Park has resigned from Council. It was with heavy hearts that we accepted his resignation. Lori Johnson has graciously agreed to be appointed to Council to complete the one year remaining on an outstanding vacancy for council, her term will expire in December 2025. Lori will serve as the secretary. Additionally, Council is working on drafting a council-appointed Property Trustee position, similar to the Financial Secretary appointment. This position would be a non-council position responsible for a number of property related activities, freeing up and distributing some of council’s responsibilities. We will keep you informed as we move forward with this.

## **FINAL Undies Sunday!**

Thank you to everyone who contributed new underwear for the Westside Cares Closet. A final tally will be announced next week.

**New Office Manager:** Aimee Calderon started working here at CTK on March 18<sup>th</sup>. She is excited to meet you. If you happen to stop by on a Tuesday or Wednesday morning, introduce yourself!

**Bible Study:** Mem's Bible Study group has room around the table for a few more. And, good news - literally! - they are now breaking open the New Testament. Come, gain deeper understanding of the Word as we study Christ's life and times, all while having fun! (Wednesdays, 7 p.m.).

### **CTK Leadership**

**Pastor Ashley Allinger**  
**Diane Zand**  
**Nancy Ellis**  
**Lori Johnson**  
**Mem Morman**  
**Michelle Fenske**  
**Woody Duffin**  
**Loren Anderson**  
**Alan Goins**

### **council@ctkcs.org**

**Pastor, Worship**  
**President**  
**Treasurer, Finance**  
**Secretary**  
**Faith Formation, RIC**  
**Congregational Care**  
**Outreach**  
**Financial Secretary**  
**Property Trustee**

**Office Manager, Aimee Calderon: office@ctkcs.org 719-362-3483**  
**Minister of Mental & Spiritual Health Karen Matuska 520-561-5893**

<https://zoom.us/j/91682841775>

Christ the King is located on the original and ancestral homelands of the Cheyenne and Ute tribal nations. We give thanks for their presence here since time immemorial. We recognize and honor all our Indigenous siblings who have and continue to call this land their home.



**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**  
God's work. Our hands.