



Christ the King Lutheran Church

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Colorado Springs, CO 80919

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RIC  www.ckkcs.org

Third Sunday of Advent
December 15, 2024



† 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

Christ’s presence in our midst in the wonder of the holy supper is cause for singing. The nearness of the God in prayer, in every circumstance, is cause for rejoicing. The coming of one “more powerful” than John, even with a winnowing fork in hand, is good news—and cause for exultation—for us who are being saved. Great joy is the tone for the third Sunday of Advent.

Welcome

Prelude When Will We See the Little One *Choir*

Meditation **Isaiah 12:2-6**

In your midst is the Holy One of Israel. (Is. 12:6)

- ² Surely God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not be afraid,
for the Lord God is my strength and my might, and has
become my salvation.
- ³ With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation.
- ⁴ And you will say in that day: Give thanks to the Lord, call on
God’s name; make known the deeds of the Lord among
the nations; proclaim that this name is exalted.
- ⁵ Sing praises to the Lord, for he has done gloriously;
let this be known in all the earth.
- ⁶ Shout aloud and sing for joy, O royal Zion,
for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.

***Confession and Forgiveness**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
alive in the world, reviving creation,
arriving soon.

Amen

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of
one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God of mercy,
we confess that we have sinned.
We trust earthly powers and human authority alone.
We grow fearful. We cling to false comforts.

God of might,
we confess that we have sinned.
We have turned away from our neighbors.
We have trusted false promises.

God in our midst,
we confess that we have sinned.
We plead: come to us.
Bring your mercy to birth in us.

A righteous branch springs forth:
it is Christ the Lord, our Savior,
in whom we have forgiveness, life, and mercy.
By the power of the Holy Spirit,
receive the grace and forgiveness of God
through † Christ Jesus, whose day draws near.

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

God of Hope, Peace and Joy

Silver family

Praise to you, O God, who holds our joy and sorrow.
You bring water to parched ground and life out of death.
Bless us as this light grows, and send sorrow and sighing to
flee away. Give us strength and patience, trusting that you
are true to your promises. Transform the lives of all who suf-
fer with your wonders near at hand.

Amen.

God of hope, peace, and joy, you sent your Son, Jesus, to
shine bright like the sun, lighting the way for all who walk in
darkness. May the light of Christ's hope, peace, and joy shine
bright in us as we approach his coming, that we may be ready
to welcome him on Christmas day and
every day.

Amen.

***Hymn of Praise** *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*

(Lighting of the second candle)

ELW 257 vs 5 & 6

***Prayer of the Day**

Stir up the wills of your faithful people, Lord God, and open our ears to the preaching of John, that, rejoicing in your salvation, we may bring forth the fruits of repentance; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

First Reading:

Zephaniah 3:14-20

The prophet Zephaniah's message is mostly one of judgment for sin. This reading, however, which comes from the conclusion of the book, prophesies joy for Judah and Jerusalem. Judgment has led to repentance, and God's salvation is at hand.

¹⁴ Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem! ¹⁵

The Lord has taken away the judgments against you, he has turned away your enemies. The king of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst; you shall fear disaster no more. ¹⁶ On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak. ¹⁷ The Lord your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love; he will exult over you with loud singing ¹⁸ as on a day of festival. I will remove disaster from you, so that you will not bear reproach for it. ¹⁹ I will deal with all your oppressors at that time. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth. ²⁰ At that time I will bring you home, at the time when I gather you; for I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes, says the Lord.

Word of God, Word of Life

Thanks be to God

Second Reading:

Philippians 4:4-7

Betty Comfort

Despite being in prison, Paul is remarkably upbeat as he writes this letter. Here, he urges his friends in Philippi to trust God with all their worries and concerns with the hope that they will experience God's joy and peace.

⁴ Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. ⁵ Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. ⁶ Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Word of God, Word of Life
Thanks be to God

***Gospel Acclamation**

Wait for the Lord

Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.

Wait for the Lord: be strong, take heart!

***Gospel** The gospel according to Luke 3:7-18

Glory to You, O Lord

John the Baptist heralds the mighty one who is coming. John teaches that preparation for God's reign is not a matter of identity but of bearing fruits of merciful justice, radical generosity, and vocational integrity.

⁷ John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come?" ⁸ Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. ⁹ Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire."

¹⁰ And the crowds asked him, "What then should we do?"

¹¹ In reply he said to them, "Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise." ¹² Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, "Teacher, what should we do?" ¹³ He said to them, "Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you." ¹⁴ Soldiers also asked him, "And we, what should we do?" He said to them, "Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages." ¹⁵ As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, ¹⁶ John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹⁷ His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire." ¹⁸ So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

The Good News of the Lord
Peace to you, O Christ

He came down that we may have joy;
He came down that we may have joy;
He came down that we may have joy;
Hal le lu jah for-ev-er-more.

Repeat

Children's Message

Dian Zand

Sermon

Pastor Ashley Allinger

*Hymn of the Day

Rejoice, Rejoice Believers

ELW 244

*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

As we prepare for Emmanuel, God-with-us, let us pray for all people and places that long for God's presence.

A brief silence

God who reforms, fill your church with courage to do your will. Empower your people in taking risks that bear fruit. Raise up leaders who will proclaim the good news.

Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

Savior of the nations, come, and receive these prayers and the pleasure of our hearts, in the name of Jesus

Amen

Peace

The Peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you

Offering Hymn

Hark, The Glad Sound

ELW 239

vs 1 & 3

**Hark, the glad sound! The Savior comes,
the Savior promised long; let every heart prepare
a throne and ev'ry voice a song.**

**He comes the broken heart to bind,
the bleeding soul to cure, and with the treasures of
his grace to enrich to humble poor.**

***Offering Prayer**

Creator God, you made the whole world, even the farthest stars, and you draw near to feed us. We praise you for these gifts of bread and wine. Strengthen us with this food that we may live in expectation for the advent of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. 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 a musical score for a hymn. It consists of four staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff has two measures: 'The Lord be with you.' and 'And al - so with you.' The second staff has two measures: 'Lift up your hearts.' and 'We lift them to the Lord.' The third staff has one long measure: 'Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.' The fourth staff has one long measure: '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 their unending
hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
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 a musical score for a preface. It consists of four staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff has two measures: 'Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,'. The second staff has two measures: 'heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.'. The third staff has two measures: 'Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes'. The fourth staff has two measures: 'in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.'

*Words of Institution

*Lord's Prayer

Gathered by the holy spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

**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**

Invitation to Communion

God feeds us with tender mercy. Come to the table.

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.

Communion Hymn *Awake, and Greet the New Morn*

ELW242

***Table Blessing**

***Prayer after Communion**

Generous God,
we thank you for the gift of life, for the bread of
salvation. We thank you for coming among us, for
leading us into peace. We thank you for showering us
with mercy, for sending us into the world. Come, Lord
Jesus, and go with us as we feed the hungry in your name.
Amen

Announcements

***Blessing**

God of endings and beginnings,
God in the darkness and the light,
God, our hope for the journey,
† bless and keep you now and forever.

Amen

***Sending Hymn** *People, Look East* **ELW 248 vs 1 & 4**

***Dismissal**

Go in peace. Prepare the way for Emmanuel.

Thanks be to God!



OUR PRAYER LIST



Don H. (brother of Joan M.) for strength and healing as he recovers from heart surgery.

Carol W. (visitor to CTK and spouse of Paul W.) for strength and healing as she deals with health issues.

Carolyn N. for strength and healing as she deals with her health issues.

Bri and family (friends of Barb and Howie's granddaughter) for strength and healing as they go through long term care issues

Family of Jessica Dwyer (member) for strength and healing for her father as he deals with medical issues.

Ken C. (brother of Kathy and son of Pat C.) for strength and healing as he fights cancer.

Seth D. (son of Kari D.) for strength and peace as he goes through a difficult time.

Kathy M. (friend of Woody & Nadine) for strength and healing as she deals with health issues.

Donna M. for strength and healing as she deals with her health issues.

Grace Lutheran Church our prayer partners.

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SUNDAY COFFEE TIME

December 15 Fulton December 22 Open

You will find the sign-up sheet on the kitchen door.

UPCOMING EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

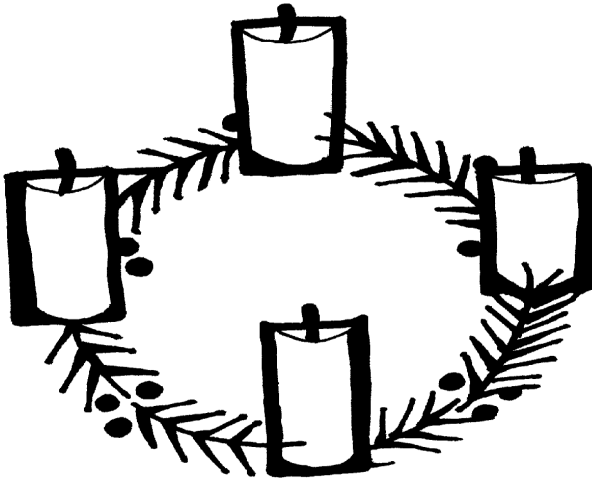
Monday Dec 16, 9 –11am—Food donation drop-off at WSC
Wednesday, Dec 18, 12:30 pm -Westside Cares Pantry
Wednesday, Dec 18, 6:30pm—confirmation at Ascension
Sunday, Dec. 22, 9:30am - Worship - Pastor Ashley Allinger
Monday, Dec 23, 9-11am- Food donation drop-off off at WSC
Tuesday, Dec 24, 5:00 pm—Christmas Eve Candle Light

Join the celebration! Please stay this morning after service, we will have a farewell gathering for Joan Maring and her husband, Gary. Joan was one of CTK's founding members and although we are very sad to see them go, we are excited for their next life chapter in Michigan with their daughter and her family.

Breakfast with Santa was Saturday, **December 14th** from 9am – 11am.

RTLC AND COLORADO GIVES DAY Colorado Gives Day was Tuesday, December 10th!, a HUGE day for Rainbow Trail

Lutheran Camp. The money raised on Colorado Gives Day helps camp provide cozy, welcoming facilities and top-notch staff, as well as camperships so that no one will ever be turned away. In addition to your gift, there is \$1.4 million that will be split between participating non-profits based on their percentage of the total raised on Colorado Gives Day. Rainbow Trail's annual fund has been greatly affected by the land purchase capital appeal. Therefore, all the proceeds from Colorado Gives Day will go to Rainbow Trail's annual fund. They have set a base goal of \$150,000 for this year, a challenge goal of \$175,000, and super challenge goal of \$200,000. Go to www.ColoradoGives.org/rainbowtrail to make your gift.



<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.