



Christ the King Lutheran Church

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Nativity of Our Lord
Christmas Eve
December 24, 2022
5:00pm



† 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”.*
- *Visitor sheets are located in the red folders in front of you.*

Introduction

In winter’s deepest night, we welcome the light of the Christ child. Isaiah declares that the light of the long-promised king will illumine the world and bring endless peace and justice. Paul reminds us that the grace of God through Jesus Christ brings salvation to all people. The angels declare that Jesus’ birth is good and joyful news for everyone, including lowly shepherds. Filled with the light that shines in our lives, we go forth to share the light of Christ with the whole world.

Welcome

Prelude *Breath of Heaven, (Mary’s song)*

Steve Fenske, Lori Johnson

***Carol** *Oh Come All Ye Faithful*

ELW 283

**O come, all ye faithful,
joyful and triumphant!
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
come and behold him,
born the king of angels:**

**O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
Christ the Lord!**

***Confession and Forgiveness**

Amid the troubles and fears of this world, let us confess our sin and welcome God’s forgiveness, grace, and love.

Silence is kept for reflection

Mary accepted your call to be the mother of Jesus.

Forgive our lack of faith and trust.

Your Son was born in the poverty of a stable.

Forgive our neglect of the poor.

The shepherds left their flocks and went to Bethlehem.

Forgive our selfishness and complacency.

With great joy the angels proclaimed, "Do not fear. For I bring you good news of great joy. Today is born a Savior, who is Christ the Lord." In † Jesus, who is Savior, Christ, and Lord, our sins are forgiven. May you know the peace which the angels sang from the heavens. Indeed, God's forgiveness is good news of great joy!

Amen

***Call To Worship:** Based on Psalm 98

Hey! Sing to God something brand new!

For God has done wonderful things! Hey!

God has not forgotten to love us all!

Even the ends of the earth have heard!

Make a joyful noise!

Hey! Hey! HEY!

With symphony and band!

All instruments turned up to 11!

With the roaring sea and everything in it!

With all the land and everything in it!

The floods clap their hands!

The hills sing for joy!

Thank God! God is coming to set everything right:

Justice for everyone, everything fair!

Hey! Sing to God something brand new!

For God has done wonderful things! HEY!

You may be seated.

Lighting of the Wreath

**O little town of Bethlehem,
 how still we see thee lie!
 Above thy deep and dreamless sleep
 the silent stars go by;
 yet in thy dark streets shineth
 the everlasting light.
 The hopes and fears of all the years
 are met in thee tonight.**

***Prayer of the Day (AM)**

Almighty God, **you made this holy night shine with the brightness of the true Light. Grant that here on earth we may walk in the light of Jesus' presence and in the last day wake to the brightness of his glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

Reading: (AM)

Isaiah 9:2-7

This poem promises deliverance from Assyrian oppression, a hope based on the birth of a royal child with a name full of promise. While Judah's king will practice justice and righteousness, the real basis for faith lies in God's passion for the people: The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this!

²The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness—on them light has shined. ³You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. ⁴For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian.

⁵For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire.

⁶For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authori-

ty rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. ⁷His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace

for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore.

The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

I will wait for the Lord,
and I will hope in God who saves us.

***Welcoming the Gospel**

***Carol:** *Hark the Herald Angels Sing* **ELW 270 VS 1&3**

**Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn king;
peace on earth, and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled."
Joyful, all you nations, rise;
join the triumph of the skies;
with angelic hosts proclaim,
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"**

**Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn king!"**

**Hail the heav'n born prince of peace!
Hail the sun of righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings,
Ris'n with healing in his wings.
Mild he lays his glory by,
Born that we no more may die,
Born to raise each child of earth,
Born to give us second birth.**

**Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn king!"**

Gospel

The gospel according to Luke chapter 2.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Luke 2:1-16

¹In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. ²This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³All went to their own towns to be registered. ⁴Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. ⁵He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. ⁶While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. ⁷And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn. ⁸In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: ¹¹to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹²This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.” ¹³And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, ¹⁴“Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!” ¹⁵When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.” ¹⁶So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger.

The good news of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ

Carol:

Away in a Manger

ELW 277 vs 1

Away in a manger, no crib for his bed,
the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head;
the stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

Children's message

Sermon

Special Music

Still A Bach Christmas

Jay Althouse

***NICENE CREED (AM)**

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 Intercession (AM)

With wonder and thanksgiving for Christ's coming into the world, we pray for the church, the life of the earth, and the whole human family.

A brief silence

Your infinite love is born to us this night. With choirs of angels the church proclaims the good news. Send us out as messengers of the hope that has come to all people

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

Pondering the mystery of eternal love made flesh in Christ Jesus, we commend all for whom we pray to the mercy of God.
Amen.

Carol *Angels We Have Heard on High* **ELW 289 vs 1&2**

**Angels we have heard on high,
sweetly singing o'er the plains,
and the mountains in reply,
echoing their joyous strains.**

**Gloria in excelsis Deo;
gloria in excelsis Deo.**

**Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be
which inspire your heav'nly song? *Refrain***

***Offering Prayer (AM)**

God of abundance, **receive and bless these gifts we have offered. Join our hearts with the song of the angels, and gather us at your table of celebration. Strengthen us to share with all the world the abundance of your grace upon grace, poured out in Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh. Amen.**

***Holy Communion**

All are welcome to participate in communion at Christ the King. There are no exceptions. We also recognize today there are many faith traditions and pieties represented among our guests. In respect of your convictions, you are still welcome to come forward for a blessing or you may remain in your seat. Thank you for celebrating with us today. Ushers will direct you down the side aisles and you return to your seat up the center aisle. There is red wine or white grape juice. Ask for gluten-free bread as needed.

***Great Thanksgiving**

The Lord be with you.

And also 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

***Eucharistic Prayer**

***Words of Institution**

***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.

Invitation to Communion

Glory to God in the highest! Come to the table of peace

Communion Hymns *What Child Is this* ELW 296

What child is this, who, laid to rest,
on Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet
while shepherds watch are keeping?
This, this is Christ the king, whom shepherds guard and
angels sing; haste, haste to bring him laud,
the babe, the son of Mary!

Why lies he in such mean estate Where ox and ass
are feeding?
Good Christian, fear; for sinners here the silent Word
is pleading.
Nails, spear shall pierce him through,
The cross be borne for me, for you
Hail, hail the Word made flesh,
The babe, the son of Mary

Joy to the World ELW 267

Joy to the world, the Lord is come!
Let earth receive her king;
let ev'ry heart prepare him room
and heav'n and nature sing,
and heav'n and nature sing,
and heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.

**Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!
Let all their songs employ,
while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat, repeat the sounding joy**

The First Noel

ELW 300

**The first Noel the angel did say
was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;
in fields where they lay, keeping their sheep,
on a cold winter's night that was so deep.**

Refrain

**Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel!
Born is the King of Israel.**

**They looked up and saw a star
shining in the east beyond them far;
and to the earth it gave great light,
and so it continued both day and night. *Refrain***

Prayer after Communion

**God our redeemer, you have fed us at this table with gifts of
grace, truth, and life. As you have gathered us in joy,
send us forth as messengers of your peace. Make us shine
with the good news of your glory, born to us in Jesus Christ,
our Savior and Lord. Amen**

+THE LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES+

*You can hum along with the instruments until all
Our candles are lit. Then we will sing 'Silent Night'*

***PLEASE, tilt the unlit candle.
Keep the lit candle upright.***

**Silent night, holy night!
All is calm, all is bright
round yon virgin mother and child.
Holy Infant, so tender and mild,
sleep in heavenly peace,
sleep in heavenly peace.**

**Silent night, holy night!
Shepherds quake at the sight;
glories stream from heaven afar,
heav'nly hosts sing, alleluia!
Christ, the Savior, is born!
Christ, the Savior, is born!**

**Silent night, holy night!
Son of God, love's pure light
radiant beams from your holy face,
with the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at your birth,
Jesus, Lord, at your birth.**

The candles are extinguished.

***Blessing**

God bless you and keep you, † Jesus grant you grace and truth, and the Spirit send peace upon your hearts, now and forever. **Amen.**

***Reading: Luke 2: 17-20**

¹⁷When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; ¹⁸and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹But Mary treasured all these

words and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them .

***Sending** *Go Tell on the Mountain* **ELW 290 vs 1&2**

**Go tell it on the mountain, over the hills and ev'ry where,
Go tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born!
While shepherds kept their watching o'er silent flocks by
night.
Behold throughout the heavens there shone a holy light.**

**Go tell it on the mountain, over the hills and ev'ry where,
Go tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born!
The shepherds feared and trembled when, lo, above the
earth.
Rang out the angel chorus that hailed our Savior's birth.**

***Dismissal** (*AM*)

Christ the Savior is born!

Go in peace. Rejoice in Christ our Savior.

We go, celebrating God's grace in acts of love and service.

Thanks be to God!



OUR PRAYER LIST:



Joe D. for a kidney to become available (that is a match) & continued successful dialysis.

Don A. for strength and health recovery from surgeries .

Mary B. (friend of Kathy B) strength and healing as she continues with her chemo treatments

Joan O. (Lori's Mom) for strength and comfort while dealing with her health issues.

Carol F. (Sister-in-law of Nancy E) for strength and healing as she needs a heart surgery.

Darrel (friend of Mike P) for strength and healing with health issues.

Liz S (friend of Stacy B) for strength and healing as she recovers from a heart attack

CeCe N. (Friend of Stecker's) for strength and comfort as they celebrate her life

The family of Marie R. (friend of Pat Chaffin) for comfort and peace as they mourn her death.

The Family of Dave K (uncle of Nancy E.) for comfort and peace as they mourn his death.

ONGOING PRAYERS:

For First Responders, especially the Healthcare workers & those serving in the Armed Forces & for their families & loved ones

For the health & ministries of this community of faith and For our prayer partner, Grace Lutheran Church.

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SUNDAY COFFEE TIME:

Dec. 25– Dew and Terven

Jan. 01– OPEN

UPCOMING EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

December 25th service will be at 9:30am with Holy Communion.

Jan 1, 2023 will be a Lay lead service of lessons and carols at 9:30am.

Congregational Health and Wellness Survey Council has designed a congregational survey to gather your input on our ministry work for 2022. We will post a survey sample in our fellowship hall for your preview. The survey encompasses all our ministry areas. You'll be asked to evaluate the work of each ministry on a scale. Also, you'll be invited to share comments, questions, or suggestions. On Sunday, Laura and Debra will be in house to hear your thoughts and explain the details as useful. We hope to send out the survey in mid December. We value you as our members and your input. We'll use the survey to inform our ministry goals for 2023 and beyond.

Office Closed: The office will be closed from December 22 - January 3. For emergencies, call Pastor Paula at 717-542-1270 or Nancy Ellis at 970-596-0847

Book Club Now reading “Lost Lake” by Sarah Addison Allen. Please sign out a copy of the book from the bag in the narthex. We will be discussing it on **Jan 9, 2023 at 6:30pm** Marilyn’s home.

CTK Council Members

Nancy Ellis
Diane Zand
Laura Goins
Debra Dew
Kathleen Fulton
Pastor Paula
Ron Bruns

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<https://zoom.us/j/121591497>

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



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God’s work. Our hands.