



THE CROWNICLE

CHRIST THE KING LUTHERAN CHURCH

March 2021

Volume 21 Issue 3

**Worship Live on Zoom
Sundays 10:30am**

Zoom Link included on page 2 of
Newsletter or at

www.figardlutherans.com

ELECTRONIC GIVING

Go to the CTK website

www.figardlutherans.com and under
donate click on the link to Vanco. It's
quick, it's easy and it's convenient.

Sunday Services Videos &
Texts are also on our website
www.figardlutherans.com

ARE YOU FOLLOWING US ON FACEBOOK?

Go to Christ the King Lutheran Church
and click on the "follow" and/or "like"
button.

Dealing With Disappointment

In one of the saddest and most challenging stories in the New Testament, a rich young ruler asks Jesus what it takes to get to heaven. Jesus responds by counting off five of the Ten Commandments. The young man proudly proclaims that he has followed all of these his whole life. Jesus pushes a little further, telling the young man that, in addition to keeping the commandments, he must sell all that he has, give it to the poor and follow Jesus.

The young man becomes very sad. You see, he is very rich. Jesus pushes further still, saying that it is harder – not impossible, but harder – for the rich to get into heaven than pulling a camel through the eye of a needle. We will leave this saying for another day. But the point seems to be that there are limits to who gets to go to heaven and there may be a lot of people disappointed by that. I know I don't much like the idea of limitations on salvation – but Jesus seems to come back to that many times in his ministry.

This rich young man sounds sincere in his quest for salvation. He follows the rules, he has lots of money, some would say he is extraordinarily blest. He seems like just the type of person who would be assured of salvation. But, Jesus says he is lacking one very important thing. What is that one thing? That has been debated for centuries and not resolved. I'm not going to try to come up with the answer. Let's just say that Jesus looks into this young man's soul and sees something missing. Jesus sees someone who loves his stuff, a lot.

I wonder what Jesus sees when he looks into my soul...that one thing I love too much and can't let go of, even for my own salvation. Giving

up what means the most is the hardest choice we have to make. I can't explain the nuances involved here, but I think that God calls us to make choices, and those choices have consequences.

Lent is traditionally a time when believers choose to "give up something". The rich young man walked away disappointed, but it was his choice. He would have had to give up a lot, and maybe he felt it wasn't worth it. I wonder if any of us can truly understand what is at stake in "giving up" what we have for the sake of the gospel. We want everything the way the way it was. We want to be "back to normal". We are done with this sacrifice. We want to be together again. But here's the thing, we may not return to what we consider normal. There may be something new in store for us. In the meantime, we continue to give up what we want for the sake of others.

We continue to set aside our own desires and freedoms so that others can have more or be healthier. Sometimes, we need to lose so we can win. I'm disappointed that we can't get back to church. And I know that we are doing the right thing for those who might suffer if we did. Hang in there, beloved, be patient. We will be back.

Let's pray: Holy God, we want to be together physically. Remind us that your Holy Spirit is with us, connecting us in a deeply mystical way. We may not completely understand it, but we believe that you are with us. Keep us strong in the midst of our disappointment. Amen.

Peace be with you always,
Pastor Dorothy

Adapted from an essay by Pr. Stephen Ohnsman, Calvary United Church of Christ, Reading, PA



Zoom! How are you all doing? How can we help you be more comfortable walking in the door of Zoom? It's not overly difficult to learn. You don't have to "sign up", just check that your computer, smart phone or iPad can support it. It is especially helpful that you have audio and video on your device. If you don't have any of that fancy technology, you can still phone in and be part of any meeting or gathering. It's good to see your faces and hear your voices.

Zooming in on Christ the King Activities

Weekly Worship Link, ID and password:

Time: 10:00am "doors open" (click on this link)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86517107296?pwd=aVZpWFV0b0QzbFF6ZFVPTDFsL0FZQT09>

Phone in using this number

1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

Meeting ID: 865 1710 7296

Password: 299944

Monthly Council Meeting Link, ID and password:

Second Tuesday every month. Gather at 6:30pm (click on this link)

Time: 07:00 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82607652262?pwd=Zis5NzhXWDhucXFhYUhbZEHbZ2Y3UT09>

phone in using this number

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

Meeting ID: 826 0765 2262

Passcode: 417394

Topic: Book Study and Anti-Racism Discussion

It's a scary topic and this gathering of faithful followers of Jesus is a safe place to bring your questions, raise doubts, be honest and be loved. Please prayerfully consider joining in this important discussion of the book "White Rage" by Carol Anderson. The title does not mean what you think it does.

Every Thursday, Doors "open at 6:30pm.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84098720009?pwd=N2hXQ0c2T1paZ0hlaGhTeFlOclJKdz09>

Meeting ID: 840 9872 0009

Passcode: 677456

Dial in by phone using same ID and Passcode

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

NOTE: Book of Faith on hiatus February 17 to April 21, 2021

Book of Faith, The Gospel According to Mark

We will "re-Zoom" (sorry! Not sorry!) after Easter, Wednesday April 14th.

If you would like to join us, let us know and we'll be sure you have the materials in time.

The Zoom link will remain the same:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86530640555?pwd=VEg5Yll0NEVEaEhac1Fjc2V2M1g2dz09>

Meeting ID: 865 3064 0555

Passcode: 163034

Dial in by phone using same ID and Passcode +1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

AND IN OTHER NEWS!

LENT 2021

"The Gospel According to Jesus' Enemies"

Imagine lining up the enemies of Jesus and asking them why they said what they did about him; why they did what they did to him. Imagine no longer. Dann Ettner has done exactly that.

Along with an order of worship, which includes a responsive dialogue, a "Gospel Drama" and original lyrics to a familiar hymn tune, Ettner has created six monologues portraying the enemies of Jesus. Each character asks us to consider why he did what he did and "what would you do"?

The characters we will meet in March are:

March 3 ^d	A Member of the Crowd Who Shouted Crucify Him
March 10 th	Pilate
March 17 th	The Centurion
March 24 th	The Grave Guard

These liturgies and testimonials are meant to take us into the action so that we can judge for ourselves how God moved these enemies of Jesus to unwittingly speak words of truth about the Son of God. The series was written in 1957 by Dann J Ettner, a lieutenant in the US Air Force and a Lutheran pastor in California. The book was reprinted in 1995. The monologues are the creation of Pastor Ettner. Some of the language may sound a bit dated, yet, the truth of the gospel never gets old.

Join us on Zoom to hear Jesus's enemies tell their stories!

Mid-Week Lent Worship

Every Wednesday through March 24th. 7:00pm

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82406769540?pwd=bE0va1lvNTFBSXNNaHc3THEzL2h3UT09>

Meeting ID: 824 0676 9540

Passcode: 386468

Dial by phone using same ID and Passcode

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

Giving: Thank you for your generous contributions to the work of the church.

Giving options remain the same in the New Year:

First, mail a check to the church office.

Second, use your online banking bill pay.

Third, set up an automatic payment through our third-party giving platform, Vanco. Use the link on our website www.tigardlutherans.com to set this up

(if you need help setting this up, give a call to the church office.).

Fourth, click on the "donate" button on our website to make a single contribution through Vanco.

CRISTO REY MISA

Padre Roberto Maldonado continues to celebrate weekly misa on Facebook live every Sunday at 5pm. Invite your friends to like or follow our Facebook page or check out Christ the King/Cristo Rey website at

www.tigardlutherans.com.

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

Continue to set aside non-perishable food for the Cascade Vineyard Church food bank. There are members ready to pick up your donations, or you can stop by the church and drop it in the barrel outside the office doors. Bless you.

There are members who need assistance with household projects, shopping and other errands. Please contact the office if you are able to help.

REOPENING NOTICE

We had hoped Easter would be the day to once again rejoice together in worship. Sadly, the COVID-19 vaccine roll-out has not been as smooth as we had anticipated. It will be some time before it is widely administered. The executive team of the church council has made the decision that for now we will continue to worship online. The health and safety of our congregation, staff and community has been and continues to be our primary concern. The COVID-19 Task Force is regularly evaluating the situation to determine when it is safe to resume in-person worship. We are grateful for the opportunity to worship as a community, Sunday mornings via Zoom. We invite you to commit to making the most of being present together remotely.

CTK PRESCHOOL NEWS

During February our classes made special Valentines for some of the senior members of Christ the King Church as well as for their families. We put them in envelopes and mailed them, too. The MWF class had a Chinese New Year Parade with our Red Painted Dragon that had attached red items from home taped all over it to make it especially lucky! We shouted, "Kung Hei Fat Choi" You can see all the fun on our Facebook page: Christ the King Preschool-Tigard. Please "like" us to see what we are up to each month.

Last year in March 2020, we had to suddenly end our in-person school year. Our next school year that began September 2020 we were able to start meeting in person again.

Every day, we are thankful that our preschool families have stayed healthy and we've continued to thrive in our preschool. Thank you for your prayers.

Thrivent members please consider Christ the King Preschool for your Thrivent Choice Dollars. Christ the King Preschool is one of the choices on the Thrivent website. Christ the King church members can also donate to CTK Preschool by just designating it on their offering envelopes. Any questions please contact: Heidi Livingston, Director, Christ the King Preschool 503-333-5331. Director@christthekingpreschool.com



DO YOU NEED ANYTHING?

Are you in need of anything? ANYTHING!!! Seriously, do you need some groceries, a meal prepared, your sheets changed, your laundry done...Anything! Please contact the church office. No need is trivial. Your fellow ministers of the gospel of Jesus are ready to be the hands and feet of Jesus for you. 503.639.2789. Or send an email to ctkoffice@tigardlutherans.com. You are precious, you are loved.



COMMUNITY GARDEN UPDATE

George Klein of the Property and Grounds Committee has worked hard to rehabilitate and clean up the community garden area. The garden guidelines have been updated to keep all the gardeners aware of the expected care and upkeep of their plots. We also want to especially thank our church secretary, Linda, for her help and efforts with getting information written and printed. There are still two garden boxes available for planting if anyone is interested in doing some

gardening this spring. Contact George to get more information as he is monitoring and working with the gardeners now and can be contacted at gkleins@comcast.net or 503-318-9637.

In God's service,
Brian Liebenstein, Liaison to Property & Grounds Team

"We could not become like God, so God became like us. God showed us how to heal instead of kill, how to mend instead of destroy, how to love instead of hate, how to live instead of long for more. When we nailed God to a tree, God forgave. And when we buried God in the ground, God got up."

Rachel Held Evans, Searching for Sunday: Loving, Leaving, and Finding the Church

My Faith Journey by Ruthanne Rusnak

*You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart...soul...strength and mind; and your neighbor as yourself.
Luke 10:27*

I first came to Christ the King in 2017. I am not from a Lutheran background and I am still "learning to be Lutheran." My participation began with joining the choir. About 2 years ago I heard the announcement from Kathleen Carney about forming a team to explore the idea of expanding our welcome to specifically include people who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, intersex, and asexual plus. I knew immediately that I wanted to be a part of that journey.

I was brought up in evangelical, fundamentalist tradition as a Conservative Baptist. In Sunday school we sang "Jesus loves me, this I know", "Jesus loves the little children, all the children of the world" (my favorite.) But also "Be careful little hands-feet-eyes-ears-mouth what you do/where you go/what you see and do or say. For the Father up above is looking down in love. So, be careful little feet where you go."

I learned that God is love, but was also watching and judging my every behavior. God became more of a policeman than a loving father. I learned to be judgmental of others (including my Roman Catholic aunts and uncles) who didn't believe and live as my nuclear family did. I learned to judge them because I was taught God judged them.

Some of the sins to be judged were smoking, drinking, playing cards, dancing and going to movies in addition to breaking any of the Ten Commandments. I later learned that divorce was not acceptable and those who were divorced were ostracized from the church. Also ostracized were any lesbians or homosexuals. I didn't know about transgender, bisexual, intersex or other gender identification.

As I came to know lesbians and homosexuals through my work as an R. N. and through community contacts, I realized that they did not feel welcome in churches in the community. Not even the man who was the son of a Baptist minister. On the contrary, he felt guilt and separation from his parents and his evangelical background. They told him he was rejected by God because of his lifestyle; and he believed them.

When a nurse I worked with expressed an interest in learning about the Bible, I invited her to attend a singles group Bible study at my church. I was dumbfounded to hear her say that she and her life partner would not be welcomed in any church other than The Metropolitan Church of Portland because they were lesbians.

As I began to realize the pain, separation and isolation felt by gays and lesbians I met, I came to believe that literal and judgmental interpretation of the Bible was placing human limits on God's love and care for all of His children.

It was a gradual transition for me to accept same gender relationships and even longer to accept same gender marriage. I am grateful, now, to have friends who are committed and happily married gay and lesbian couples. I believe that God's love embraces all of us and encourages each of us to openly love and commit to the person we've been led to share life with.

Historically, organized religion (Protestant, Catholic, Jewish, Muslim) have all ostracized the LGBTQIA+ community. We have passively and actively denied them. I believe it is time that we extend an intentional welcome to people of all gender expressions and sexual preferences to fellowship and serve with us in God's church.

I invite you to join the RIC team in our journey to explore a process to better love all of our neighbors.

Ruthanne Rusnak, (she/her)

CHRIST THE KING LUTHERAN CHURCH
11305 SW BULL MOUNTAIN ROAD
TIGARD, OR 97224

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Nancy Doss
- 1 Ruth Rusnak
- 5 Melita Schmidt
- 8 Gaynelle Dressel
- 14 Sara Lagasse
- 14 Annika Larson
- 22 Tracie Henninger
- 23 Louise Tucker
- 27 Ranen Clifton
- 28 Ryan Larson
- 30 Dan Stell
- 31 Lyla Hendrickson

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO:

- 13 David & Nancy Doss
- 13 Tom & Windi Struck

Please call the church office if your birthday or anniversary date is not listed or is incorrect.



*CTK OFFICE HOURS
MONDAY-FRIDAY
8:30 AM TO 12:30 PM*

CHURCH CALENDAR

- March 7, 14, 21, 28 10:30am Service Zoom Worship
- March 3, 10, 17, 24 Mid-Week Lent Zoom Worship 7pm
- March 4, 11, 18, 25 Zoom Anti-Racism Discussion, 7pm
- March 9 Church Council, 7pm

Church Staff

Dorothy Cottingham, Pastor
Roberto Maldonado, Padre
Linda Wesolowski, Business Administrator
Tim Ditch, Music Director
Heidi Livingston, CTK Preschool Director

Sunday Service

10:30 am Worship
5pm Misa

Church Office 503.639.2789
Cristo Rey Contact 971.335.8331

ctkoffice@tigardlutherans.com
CristoReyTigard@gmail.com

www.tigardlutherans.com

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