

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 14, 2025



PRESIDING MINISTER

Pastor Dorothy Cottingham

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC **Tim Ditch**

Paul Gonzales

LAY ASSISTANT

Jane Hershberger

ALTAR CARE

Sharon Ray

Welcome to Christ the King Lutheran Church/Cristo Rey Iglesia Luterana. Whether you are worshiping in person or online, we're glad you are here! Please fill out a Connection Card and drop it in the offering plate or complete it online at www.tigardlutherans.com/connect

Sunday, December 14, 2025 • Third Sunday of Advent

A note of joyful expectation marks today's worship. Isaiah announces that the desert shall rejoice and blossom, and Jesus points to the unexpected and transforming signs of God's reign. We wait with patience for the coming of the Lord, even as we rejoice at his presence among us this day: in word and holy supper, in church and in our homes, in silent reflection and in works of justice and love. We pray that God would open our eyes and ears to the wonders of Christ's advent among us.

This worship service is being recorded and will be available on Facebook, YouTube, and the church website.

When indicated, please stand as you are able.

The assembly reads the **bold print**.

GATHERING

INVOCATION

En el nombre de Dios, Creador, Redentor y Sabiduría Santa. Amén.

In the name of God, Creator, + Redeemer, and Holy Wisdom.

Amen.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

The assembly stands.

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is

marked at baptism, as the

presiding minister begins.

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. 4 You are freed and forgiven, saved by grace, and ready to welcome the Savior. Amen.

This text was written at the request of the editors of The Oxford Book of Carols (1928) to provide a new Advent text for an existing carol tune, here named for the city in eastern France where it originated—BESANCON. Author Eleanor Farieon imaginatively expressed the cosmic implications of Christ's coming by addressing each stanza to a part of creation. Farjeon, a musician, poet, and writer from a literary and musical family, is best known for "Morning Has Broken."



APOSTOLIC GREETING

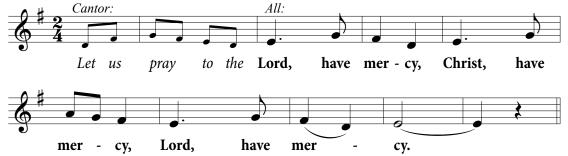
GATHERING HYMN

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

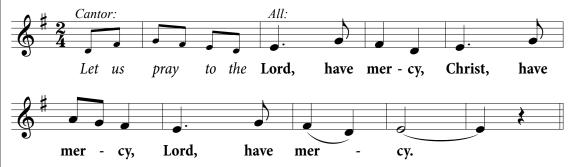
And also with you.



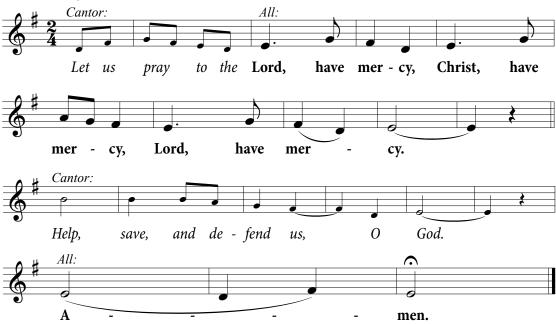




CANTOR For the reign of God and for peace throughout the world, for the unity of all ...



CANTOR For your people here who have come to give you praise, for the strength to live your Word ...



PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

A brief silence is kept before the prayer.

Stir up the wills of all who look to you, Lord God, and strengthen our faith in your coming, that, transformed by grace, we may walk in your way; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

The assembly is seated.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

The first and second candles of the Advent wreath are lighted.

Blessed are you, O Lord our God, ruler of the universe. Your prophets spoke of a day when the desert would blossom and waters would break forth in the wilderness. Bless us as we light the candles on this wreath. Strengthen our hearts as we prepare for the coming of the Lord. May he give water to all who thirst, for he is our light and our salvation.

Blessed be God forever. Amen.

WORD

READING ISAIAH 35:1-10

A reading from the prophet Isaiah, the thirty-fifth chapter.

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad; the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly and rejoice with joy and shouting. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the Lord, the majesty of our God.

Strengthen the weak hands and make firm the feeble knees. Say to those who are of a fearful heart, "Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you."

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf shall be opened; then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness and streams in the desert; the burning sand shall become a pool and the thirsty ground springs of water; the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp; the grass shall become reeds and rushes.

A highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Holy Way; the unclean shall not travel on it, but it shall be for God's people; no traveler, not even fools, shall go astray. No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there. And the ransomed of the Lord shall return and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

Word of God. Word of life.

Thanks be to God.

The prophet describes the return from the Babylonian captivity as a joyous procession to Zion. God's coming reign will bring a renewal of creation in which health and wholeness will be restored. There is no need for fear, for God is coming to save.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

PSALM 146:5-10

A reading from Psalm 146.

Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their help, whose hope is in the Lord their God:

who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is in them; who keeps promises forever;

who gives justice to those who are oppressed, and food to those who hunger. The Lord sets the captive free.

The Lord opens the eyes of the blind; the Lord lifts up those who are bowed down; the Lord loves the righteous.

The Lord cares for the stranger; the Lord sustains the orphan and widow, but frustrates the way of the wicked.

The Lord shall reign forever, your God, O Zion, throughout all generations. Hallelujah!

READING JAMES 5:7-10

A reading from the letter of James, the fifth chapter.

Be patient, therefore, brothers and sisters, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. Brothers and sisters, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! As an example of suffering and patience, brothers and sisters, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

Word of God. Word of life.

Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

PASTOR DOROTHY

In anticipation of the Lord's coming, Christians are called upon to cultivate patience rather than discontent. The assembly stands to greet the Holy Gospel.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring glad tidings to the poor. Alleluia.

ALL **Refrain**

HOLY GOSPEL MATTHEW 11:2-11

El Santo Evangelio según Mateo, capítulo once.

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the eleventh chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord. (¡Gloria a ti, oh Señor!)

When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, "Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?" Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, those with a skin disease are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me."

As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? What, then, did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. What, then, did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written,

'See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.'

"Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist, yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he."

El Evangelio del Salvador.

The Gospel of the Savior.

Praise to you, O Christ. (¡Alabanza a ti, oh Cristo!)

The assembly is seated.

THE HOMILY PASTOR DOROTHY

7

John the Baptist expects the Messiah to bring God's judgment upon the earth (Matt. 3:11-12). From a prison cell, he wonders whether Jesus is the one who will do this. Jesus' response indicates that God's reign is indeed being fulfilled already through healing and restoration.

The assembly stands.

James Montgomery wrote this text for use at a Moravian settlement Christmas service in 1821 and later included it at the close of a speech delivered at a Liverpool, England, missionary meeting. Adam Clark, who was present at the meeting, was so impressed that he published it in his Bible commentary of 1822. Montgomery was one of England's greatest hymnwriters, ranking with John Wesley, Isaac Watts, John Newton, and William Cowper. He wrote and published more than 400 hymns in over 10 volumes; he also worked as a newspaper editor and teacher of poetry. This anonymous tune is named ELLACOMBE, an Anglo-Saxon word meaning island or coastal area (combe) of elves (ella). It first appeared in a Roman Catholic hymnal from Wirtemberg, Germany, in 1784. The tune name was supplied by an English hymnal editor.

HYMN OF THE DAY



THE 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

The lay assistant offers the prayers.

In our waiting and watching, we come to you in prayer, O God, trusting your promise to renew the church, the nations, and the whole creation.

A brief silence.

God of power and mercy, we praise you for Jesus and his acts of healing and liberation. Lead us to proclaim the good news from generation to generation, that all may place their hope in you. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

When lands are parched and dry, bring rain and snow; where wilderness is barren, sow seeds of life. Fill the lands with trees that grow, plants that flower, and creatures that thrive, as nature proclaims the wonder of your works. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

When there is injustice or corruption among nations and leaders, root it out. Turn their attention to inequity and the cries of the poor. Instill a deeper sense of compassion and care in all who govern. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

When bodies weaken and hearts grow fearful, speak your blessing. We pray especially for Travis, Gaynelle, Jonathan, Kole, Del, Jean, Sandy, Don, Nancy, Betty, Nick, and Myrna. In uncertain times, remind us of the promise spoken to our ancestors in faith. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

When people are imprisoned or held captive, break the chains and offer release. Strengthen the work of the church in restorative justice, breaking cycles of poverty, and welcoming the immigrant. We pray today for Global Refuge and Lutheran Social Services. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

For what else do the people of God pray?

As we await your coming, we give thanks for the faithful who have lived and died in faith. May their boldness of faith inspire our witness and work. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

The presiding minister concludes the prayers.

Draw near to us, O God, as we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy through Jesus Christ, Emmanuel.

Amen.

PASSING THE PEACE

La paz del Señor sea siempre con ustedes.

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you. (Y también contigo.)

The assembly is seated.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

MEAL

PREPARE OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS AND OUR TABLES

OFFERTORY HYMN



The assembly stands.

Author Ann Bell Worley writes: "God Almighty, We Are Waiting" was my first hymn. It started with the first line in my head during the season of Advent. *I remember writing down* that first line and keeping a notebook by my bedside that evening, tossing and turning, and writing a line at a time. In the morning, I had a full hymn." She continues: "My undergraduate degree is in music, and I grew up in a liturgical tradition. Both of those factors highly influenced my experience in and contributions to the Baptist churches I served. I loved teaching the significance of the Christian year in a denomination that traditionally didn't follow it, because it had tremendous impact on people who were intentionally living their faith and hadn't been exposed to Christian seasons outside of Christmas and Easter. The season of Advent holds special importance to me as the anticipation of a new beginning, so I suppose it's no accident my first hymn would be an Advent hymn!"

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

Nourishing God, you are water in the wilderness and streams in the desert. Through this meal, satisfy our parched places, that we may rejoice and be for the world signs of your kingdom come. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

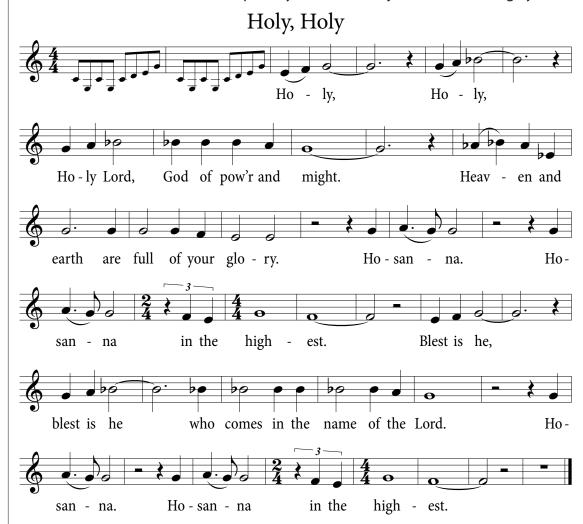
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer, through whom you will also make all things new in the day when he comes to judge the world in righteousness. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

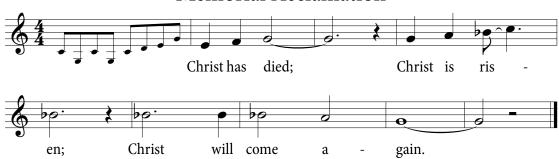
Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life: Blessed are you for the birth of creation. Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light. Blessed are you for your promise to your people. Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams. Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will. Blessed are you for your Son Jesus, the Word made flesh.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:





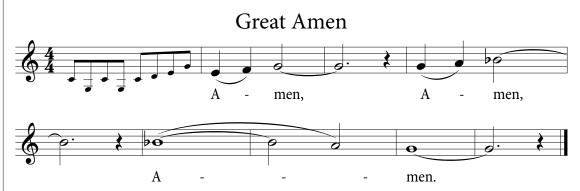
With this bread and cup we remember your Word dwelling among us, full of grace and truth. We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection. We look with hope for his coming.

Come, Lord Jesus. (Ven, Señor Jesús.)

Holy God, we long for your Spirit. Come among us. Bless this meal. May your Word take flesh in us. Awaken your people. Fill us with your light. Bring the gift of peace on earth.

Come, Holy Spirit. (Ven, Espíritu Santo.)

All praise and glory are yours, Holy One of Israel, Word of God incarnate, Power of the Most High, one God, now and forever.



THE LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION

All are welcome at this meal.

Here is life. God is with us. Come, receive what God has promised.

DISTRIBUTION

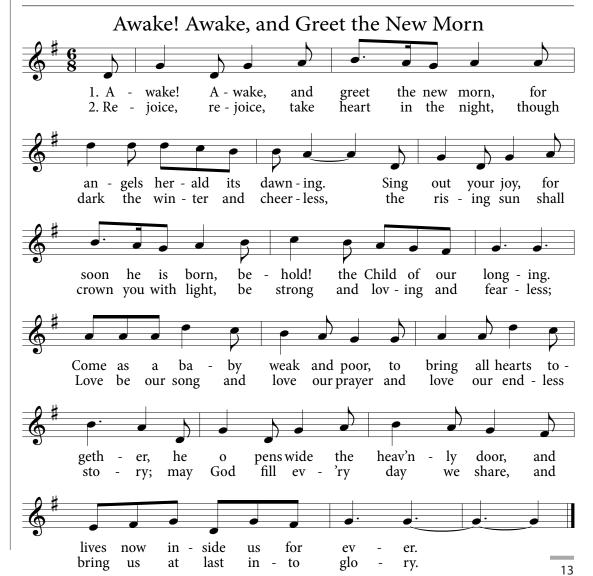
COMMUNION BLESSING

The assembly stands.

May the body and blood of our Lord and Savior, Jesus the Christ, strengthen you and keep you to life everlasting.

Amen.

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE



Marty Haugen used the imagery of various chapters from the books of Isaiah and Matthew for this Advent hymn, written in 1983. These are traditional texts for the Advent season, and Haugen wanted to provide them in a format that was easy for church congregations to sing. Haugen composed this tune for his own text, calling it REJOICE, REJOICE, from the opening words of the last stanza. The hymn has four stanzas; we sing the first and fourth stanzas here. Haugen has published more than 200 pieces of religious music for a variety of settings, including a communion service for Lutheran congregations, Now the Feast and Celebration.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

God our host, at this table you have fed us with joy and gladness. Send us forth, eager to share the feast, welcome the stranger, and bear good fruit in the name of Jesus. Amen.

SENDING BLESSING

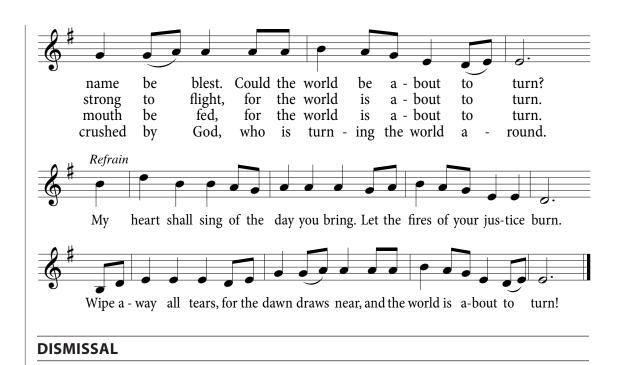
Dios todopoderoso, Creador, + Redentor, y Sabadurío Santo, los bendiga ahora y siempre. Almighty God, Creator, + Redeemer, and Holy Wisdom, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN ELW 723 This paraphrase of the Canticle of the Turning Magnificat by Rory Cooney has a wild flair about it that cries out the radical nature of this canticle. "Let the king beware," for justice will 1. My with a ultimately bring down every soul cries out iov - ful shout that the tyrant. Cooney says he "simply 2. Though all, am small, God, my my vou wanted to write a setting of 3. From the halls of for - tress power to the tower, not a the canticle that attempted 4. Though the na tions from rage age to age, we re to capture the revolutionary spirit of the gospel, of a God who 'pulls down the mighty from their thrones and raises up the lowly." Rory Cooney has been Director of Liturgy And my God of my heart great, spir - it sings of the and Music Ministries at St. And your mer - cy will last from the work great things in me, Anne Catholic Community in will be left ware for your stone stone. the king be Barrington, Illinois, since 1994. ber who holds fast: God's mer - cy must de His published compositions span a career of sonawritina that began in the early 1970s. This tune, called STAR OF COUNTY DOWN, is the Irish version of KINGSFOLD. Here who drous things that you bring the ones won to wait. is what Cooney says about of the past the end of the age be. depths to to his choice of this tune: As jus tice tears - 'ry from his throne. ev ty - rant a Catholic musician, I liv from the er us con quer-or's crush - ing grasp. wanted to have the music be accessible to assembly singing and ensemble playing. Irish folk music, with its narrative milieu of You fixed your sight vant's plight, and longing for freedom and on your ser my Your the shame, and a sort of "bloom where ver name puts proud to to y you're planted" joie de vivre The the shall for hun gry poor weep no more, in the midst of penury and This sav ing word that our fore - bears heard is the oppression, seemed to me to be a natural fit. STAR OF COUNTY DOWN, as far as I know, is a quasi-nationalistic song whose lyrics are about from east weak - ness you did not spurn, So shall my west a plot to win over a beautiful show your might, put the those who would for you yearn, You will girl. The tune is rhythmic and are food they There ta bles spread, ev - 'ry well-known, though, and can nev - er earn; 'Til sung by crowds at rugby prom - ise which holds us bound, the spear and rod can be

continued next page

matches and the like, so fit

the bill for my needs.



THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

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



ANNOUNCEMENTS AND WEEKLY eNEWS

This is an abbreviated list of announcements. Be sure to read the weekly eNews for complete coverage of this week's news. Follow the link or QR code in the box above to subscribe.

WORSHIP IN PERSON AND ON ZOOM SUNDAY AT 10:30 A.M.

Zoom "doors" open at 10 a.m.

Phone-in # 1-253-215-8782

Meeting ID 865 1710 7296 Password 299944

CHRISTMAS WORSHIP SCHEDULE

12/21, 4 p.m. • The Longest Night: A Modern Evensong (S)

12/24, 7 p.m. • Christmas Eve Worship (S/Z)

12/25, 10:30 a.m. • Christmas Day Worship (S/Z)

12/28, 10:30 a.m. • First Sunday of Christmas (S/Z)

S-Sanctuary Z-Zoom

THIS WEEK

Packed with Pride gratefully accepts non-perishable food and hygiene donations. *Especially needed is canned tuna and other canned proteins*. You may leave them in the donation barrel outside the office door or in the donation basket in the Sanctuary. Thank you for your generosity.

GIVING

There are several ways to share your tithes and offerings:

- Place your offering in the plate on Sunday morning.
- Mail a check to the church office (11305 SW Bull Mountain Rd., Tigard, OR 97224).
- Use your bank's online bill-pay service.
- Set up a recurring or single payment through Vanco by visiting our website tigardlutherans.com and clicking on the Donate tab.
- Scan the QR code (right) with your mobile device to go directly to our giving page.



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Rev. Dorothy Cottingham Pastor pastordorothy@tigardlutherans.com 503-639-2789 ext. 102

Tim Ditch Director of Music and Parish Administrator **ctkoffice@tigardlutherans.com** 503-639-2789 ext. 101



Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. Romans 15:7

Christ the King Lutheran Church/Cristo Rey Iglesia Luterana is a community of children of God who are seeking to know God by following the teachings of Jesus Christ, who welcomed all.

This community of faith is enriched and strengthened by diversity. We welcome all to share in the life and ministries of worship, sacraments, responsibilities, leadership, and blessings of participation in this congregation. We are committed to the work of racial equity.

Believing that God's unbounded love and grace are offered to all and meant to be shared and celebrated by all, we embrace differences of age, race, ethnicity, language, gender identity and expression, sexual orientation, physical and mental abilities, appearance, economic status, marital status, and family situation.

No matter what your life experience is or has been, you are a child of God and you are welcome here.

Por lo tanto, recibíos los unos a los otros, como también Cristo nos recibió, para gloria de Dios. Romanos 15:7

Christ the King Lutheran Church/Cristo Rey Iglesia Luterana es una comunidad de hijos e hijas de Dios que buscan conocer a Dios siguiendo las enseñanzas de Jesucristo, quien ampara a todos.

Esta comunidad de fe se enriquece y fortalece con la diversidad. Damos la bienvenida a todos a compartir la vida y los ministerios de adoración, sacramentos, responsabilidades, liderazgo, y bendiciones de participación en esta congregación. Estamos comprometidos con el trabajo de la equidad racial.

Creyendo que el amor y la gracia ilimitados de Dios se ofrecen a todos y están destinados a ser compartidos y celebrados por todos, aceptamos las diferencias de edad, raza, etnia, idioma, identidad y expresión de género, orientación sexual, habilidades físicas y mentales, apariencia, estado económico, estado civil, y situación familiar.

No importa cuál sea o haya sido tu experiencia de vida, eres un hijo(a) de Dios y eres bienvenido(a) aquí.



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All copyrighted music is reprinted and streamed by permission of OneLicense #A-706725 unless otherwise noted. All rights reserved. Music engraved by Tim Ditch. | People, Look East • Setting by Kristina Langlois, 2000. Based on a French carol. © 2000 Morningstar Music. | People, Look East • Words by Eleanor Farjeon, 1928. © David Higham Associates. French folk melody. BESANÇON. | Kyrie • Ancient Greek text; alt. Music by Marty Haugen, 1990. Words and music © 1990 GIA Publications. | Advent Gospel Acclamation • Verses © 1970, 1997, 1996 CCD. Music by Andrew Wright, 1999. © 1999 Andrew Wright. Published by OCP. | We Hail You, God's Anointed • Words by James Montgomery, 1821; alt. Music from Gesangbuch der herzoglichen Wirtembergischen katholischen Hofkapelle, 1784. ELLACOMBE. | God Almighty, We Are Waiting • Words by Ann Bell Worley, 2005. © 2005 Hope Publishing Company. Music by William Moore, Columbian Harmony, 1825. HOLY MANNA | Holy, Holy | Memorial Acclamation | Great Amen • Music from Mass of the Incarnate Word by Bob Hurd, 1979. © 1979 Bob Hurd. | Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn • Words and music by Marty Haugen, 1983. REJOICE, REJOICE, © 1983 by GIA Publications | Canticle of the Turning • Words by Rory Clooney, 1990; based on the Magnificat. © 1990 GIA Publications. Irish traditional melody. STAR OF THE COUNTY DOWN.