



FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 21, 2025

CHRIST THE KING
LUTHERAN CHURCH

CRISTO REY IGLESIA LUTERANA

PRESIDING MINISTER
Pastor Dorothy Cottingham

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC
Tim Ditch

CANTOR
Paul Gonzales

LAY ASSISTANT
Cody Schnauffer

ALTAR CARE
Valerie Briggs

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 21, 2025 • Fourth Sunday of Advent

Today Isaiah prophesies that a young woman will bear a son and name him Emmanuel. The gospel is Matthew's account of the annunciation and birth of the one named Emmanuel, God-with-us. During these final days of Advent we pray, "O come, O come, Emmanuel," a beloved hymn based on the O Antiphons, ancient prayers appointed for the seven days preceding Christmas. On this final Sunday of Advent we prepare to celebrate the birth of the one born to save us from the power of sin and death.

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.

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

*The assembly stands.
All may make the sign of
the cross, the sign that is
marked at baptism, as the
presiding minister begins.*

Silence is kept for reflection.

KYRIE

CANTOR In peace, in peace,

Cantor: *All:*

Let us pray to the Lord, have mer - cy, Christ, have
mer - cy, Lord, have mer - cy.

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

Cantor: *All:*

Let us pray to the Lord, have mer - cy, Christ, have
mer - cy, Lord, have mer - cy.

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

Cantor: *All:*

Let us pray to the Lord, have mer - cy, Christ, have
mer - cy, Lord, have mer - cy.

Cantor:

Help, save, and de - fend us, O God.

All:

A - - - - men.

*A brief silence is kept
before the prayer.*

The assembly is seated.

*The candles of the
Advent wreath are lighted.*

*An Israelite and Aramean
military coalition presented
a serious threat to King Ahaz
of Judah. In response, Ahaz
decided to secure his throne
and kingdom by seeking
Assyrian help. Isaiah reminds
Ahaz that human attempts to
establish security will fail. The
prophet gives the sign that is
the only source of true safety:
Immanuel, God is with us!*

*In Mary's song of praise we
hear of a saving God who
remembers, scatters, lifts up,
and fulfills all things.*

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. With your abundant grace and might, free us from the sin that hinders our faith, that eagerly we may receive your promises, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

Blessed are you, O Lord our God, ruler of the universe. You call all nations to walk in your light and to seek your ways of justice and peace, for the night is past, and the dawn of your coming is near. Bless us as we light the fourth candle of this wreath. Rouse us from sleep, that we may be ready to greet our Lord when he comes and welcome him into our hearts and homes, for he is our light and our salvation.

Blessed be God forever. Amen.

WORD

READING

ISAIAH 7:10-16

A reading from the prophet Isaiah, the seventh chapter.

Again the Lord spoke to Ahaz, saying, "Ask a sign of the Lord your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven." But Ahaz said, "I will not ask, and I will not put the Lord to the test." Then Isaiah said, "Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals that you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son and shall name him Immanuel. He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. For before the child knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will be deserted.

Word of God. Word of life.

Thanks be to God.

THE MAGNIFICAT

LUKE 1:46B-55

Listen to the words of Mary from the gospel according to Luke.

"My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has looked with favor on the lowly state of his servant. Surely from now on all generations will call me blessed, for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name; indeed, his mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts. He has brought down the powerful from their thrones and lifted up the lowly; he has filled the hungry with good things and sent the rich away empty. He has come to the aid of his child Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants forever."

Most of the Christians in Rome do not know Paul. In this letter's opening he introduces himself as an apostle divinely appointed to spread God's gospel. The gospel's content is the promised coming of Christ, and Paul's mission is to bring about the obedience of faith among all nations, including his Roman audience.

And Mary remained with her about three months and then returned to her home.

Word of God. Word of life.

Thanks be to God.

READING

ROMANS 1:1-7

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans, the first chapter.

Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy scriptures, the gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh and was declared to be Son of God with power according to the spirit of holiness by resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the gentiles for the sake of his name, including you who are called to belong to Jesus Christ,

To all God's beloved in Rome, who are called to be saints:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Word of God. Word of life.

Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

PASTOR DOROTHY

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

The assembly stands to greet the Holy Gospel.

CANTOR, THEN ALL

Refrain



CANTOR The virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel, Emmanuel.

ALL **Refrain**

Matthew's story of Jesus' birth focuses on the role of Joseph, who adopts the divinely-begotten child into the family of David and obediently gives him the name Jesus, which means "God saves."

The assembly is seated.

The assembly stands.
Carol Birkland (b. 1946) wrote this paraphrase of a 15th-century German carol to make the words more accessible to today's generation. In other translations, the text consists of Mary's words to Joseph. The paraphrase altered this style to make the words a dialogue between the couple. The tune JOSEPH LIEBER, JOSEPH MEIN takes its title from the German text with which it was traditionally sung. In its original form, it was sung as a lullaby around the manger as part of a medieval Nativity mystery play held in the church. Mystery plays were like little operas that brought biblical stories to life.

HOLY GOSPEL

MATTHEW 1:18-25

El Santo Evangelio según Mateo, capítulo uno.

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the first chapter.

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

Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be pregnant from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to divorce her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

"Look, the virgin shall become pregnant and give birth to a son,
and they shall name him Emmanuel,"

which means, "God is with us." When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife but had no marital relations with her until she had given birth to a son, and he named him Jesus.

El Evangelio del Salvador.

The Gospel of the Savior.

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

THE HOMILY

PASTOR DOROTHY

HYMN OF THE DAY

Gentle Joseph, Joseph Dear

1. "Gen - tle Jo - seph, Jo - seph dear, stay with me, for the
 2. "Glad - ly Mar - y, Mar - y mine, I will cra - dle the
 3. "Peace to all and God's good - will," heaven and earth with this

ba - by's near; God will sure - ly your good - ness hear, as
 child di - vine; Here will heav - en and earth com - bine, for
 song will fill; Soon will God, in the eve - ning still, be

you will love this new - born child," says Mar - y.
 you will bear God's child, O dear - est Mar - y.
 born in Beth - le - hem, the child of Mar - y.

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.

In the anticipation of these days, prepare our hearts for your arrival. Stir our spirits through the gifts of artists, musicians, poets, and preachers, as together we proclaim your advent among us. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

The earth breaks forth in singing as it heralds the Messiah's coming. Fill our hearts with wonder as we join heaven and nature in announcing this holy birth. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

You send your saving grace and peace to the nations. Lead us in work for justice and care for the common good. May we meet the Christ-child we seek in the faces of our neighbors. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

When tears of grief, exhaustion, or loneliness come, or physical or emotional hurt overwhelms us, come to our aid. Uphold all who are anxious, who know the challenges of depression, or who are ill, especially Myrna, Travis, Gaynelle, Jonathan, Kole, Del, Jean, Sandy, Don, Nancy, Betty, and Nick. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Surround expectant parents and those suffering from infant loss with communities of support. Bless young children and new parents. Guide us in ways that provide safety for all children and those who care for them. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

*Here other intercessions
may be offered.*

For what else do the people of God pray?

We give thanks for all who have treasured the gospel and lived in faithful service. Strengthen our earthly journeys until, at the last, your face shines upon us and we are held in your love. 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.

The assembly is seated.

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!"

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.)

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

MEAL

PREPARE OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS AND OUR TABLES

OFFERTORY HYMN

God Almighty, We Are Waiting

1. God Al - might - y, we are wait - ing for a sav - ior
2. God In - car - nate, we are wait - ing for the feast day

to ap - pear. Meet us in our des - ert jour - ney;
of your birth. Look - ing back and look - ing for - ward

give a sign that you are near: burn - ing bush - es,
to the Christ's re - turn to earth. Help us to pro -

part - ed wa - ters, food a - plen - ty in the wild.
claim the gos - pel, till the world is rec - on - ciled.

As we look for signs and won - ders, help us see you in a child.
Help each one of us, your peo - ple, to re - ceive you like a child.

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:

Holy, Holy

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 in the high - est. Blest is he,

blest is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -

san - na. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

EUCCHARISTIC 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:

Memorial Acclamation



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.

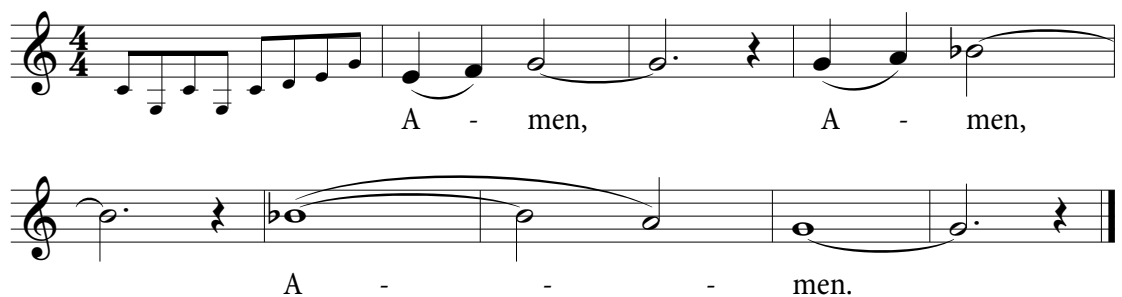
Come, Lord Jesus. (*Ven, Señor Jesús.*)

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.

Great Amen



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

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

DISTRIBUTION

COMMUNION BLESSING

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

Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn

1. A - wake! A - wake, and greet the new morn, for
2. Re - joice, re - joice, take heart in the night, though

an - gels her - ald its dawn - ing. Sing out your joy, for
dark the win - ter and cheer - less, the ris - ing sun shall

soon he is born, be - hold! the Child of our long - ing.
crown you with light, be strong and lov - ing and fear - less;

Come as a ba - by weak and poor, to bring all hearts to -
Love be our song and love our prayer and love our end - less

geth - er, he o pens wide the heav'n - ly door, and
sto - ry; may God fill ev - 'ry day we share, and

lives now in - side us for ev - er.
bring us at last in - to glo - ry.

All are welcome at this meal.

The assembly stands.

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 263

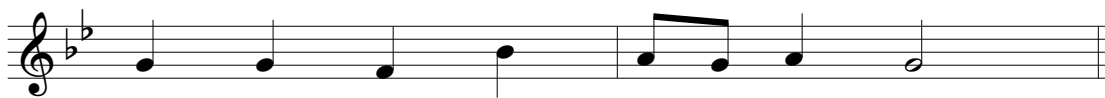
Savior of the Nations, Come



1. Sa - vior of the na - tions, come; vir - gin's son, make
2. Not by hu - man flesh and blood, but the mys - tic
3. Won - drous birth—oh, won - drous child— from his throne, a
4. From God's heart the Sav - ior speeds, back to God his
5. Now your man - ger, shin - ing bright, hal - lows night with
6. Praise we sing to Christ the Lord, vir - gin's son, in -



- here your home. Mar - vel now, O heav'n and earth:
Breath of God, was the Word of God made flesh,
vir - gin mild! Ver - y God, and Mar - y's son,
path - way leads; out to van - quish death's com - mand,
new - born light. Night can - not this light sub - due;
car - nate Word! To the ho - ly Trin - i - ty



- God has cho - sen such a birth.
fruit of wom - an, blos - som fresh.
ea - ger now his race to run!
back to reign at God's right hand.
let our faith shine ev - er new.
praise we sing e - ter - nal - ly!

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Keep awake.

Thanks be to God.

The text of this hymn is attributed to Ambrose of Milan (340-397). Ambrose, one of the great Latin church fathers, is remembered best for his preaching, his struggle against the Arian heresy, and his introduction of metrical and antiphonal singing into the Western church. When the bishop of Milan, an Arian, died in 374, the people demanded that Ambrose, who was not ordained or even baptized, become the bishop. He was promptly baptized and ordained, and he remained bishop of Milan until his death. Martin Luther's German version dropped one syllable from each line of the Latin text, giving the hymn its characteristically declarative Lutheran form. The hymn is particularly apt for this last Sunday of Advent as it celebrates the wonder of the incarnation, the coming among us of "the Word of God made flesh." The tune, NUN KOMM DER HEIDEN HEILAND, is a chorale derived from a chant.



The Longest Night

a modern evensong

Sunday, December 21 • 4 p.m.
a service of healing and hope



Christmas Services

Christmas Eve
7 p.m.

Christmas Day
10:30 a.m.

THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH



SUBSCRIBE to our weekly eNews and read past issues here: tigardlutherans.com/enews



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**

TODAY

The Longest Night: A Modern Evensong. Tonight, December 21, is the longest night of the year. This afternoon at 4 o'clock we'll gather in the sanctuary for *The Longest Night: A Modern Evensong*. This is a gentle service of healing and hope with quiet carols, readings, silence, and candlelight. People who are grieving, recovering, struggling with Seasonal Affective Disorder, or simply in need of respite from the hectic busy-ness of the season will find this an especially meaningful service. It will be in-person only in the sanctuary.

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.

We continue to collect change and loose bills for the laundry ministry of Just Compassion. Drop your donation in the plastic washing machine on the table in the entry. Or send along an extra amount with your regular gift to the church and mark it clearly for "laundry."

Pick up a blue BottleDrop bag for your personal use and benefit Christ the King/Cristo Rey. To date you have deposited more the \$800 worth of cans and bottles. Keep up the good work for the environment and for our ministries here. Simply return the filled bag to any BottleDrop location and scan the barcode.

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.



CHRIST THE KING

LUTHERAN CHURCH

CRISTO REY IGLESIA LUTERANA

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**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.

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.

Creando 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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