

Order of Worship

DECEMBER 24, 2020 THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

*** CALL TO WORSHIP**

based on Psalm 126

Minister: The Lord has done great things for us!
People: And we are filled with joy!
Minister: Our God has turned our weeping into singing, our tears into songs of joy!
People: O Christ of God, come anew in our hearts this day, and remain in us forever.

*** O COME, ALL YE FAITHFUL**

ADESTE FIDELIS, John Francis Wade

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:

Refrain: O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

God of God, Light of Light; Lo, he abhors not the Virgin's womb: Very God, begotten, not created; *(Refrain)*

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation, Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above; Glory to God in the highest; *(Refrain)*

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning: Jesus, to thee be all glory giv'n; Word of the Father, late in flesh appearing; *(Refrain)*

*** PRAYER OF ADORATION**

THE FIRST LESSON

Sol and Jonathan Edwards

Genesis 3:8-15

The Lord pronounces judgment upon Satan and promises the Redeemer to come from the seed of the woman

COME, O REDEEMER, COME

Fernando Ortega

Father enthroned on high, holy, holy! Ancient, eternal Light, hear our prayer: Come, O Redeemer, come! Grant us mercy. Come, O Redeemer, come! Grant us peace.

Lord, save us from the dark of our striving, Faithless, and troubled hearts weighed down. Come, O Redeemer, come! Grant us mercy. Come, O Redeemer, come! Grant us peace.

Look now upon our need. Lord, be with us. Heal us and make us free from our sin. Come, O Redeemer, come! Grant us mercy. Come, O Redeemer, come! Grant us peace.

THE SECOND LESSON

Mary Rebecca and Cody Dick

Genesis 22:15-18; Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

The Lord illustrates and announces his intention to deliver his people through the Christ child

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

The Christ Candle

The Hodges Family (3:00) Colby, Lisa, Kennedy, and Avery

The Patterson Family (4:30) Matt, Laura, Noah, Sofia, and Elias

Jana Fay and Charles Bacarisse (6:00)

Lighting the Advent wreath originated in Germany, based on a Roman custom of the ceremonial entrance of a ruler to a province or city as his 'advent' (from the Latin adventus, meaning 'arrival'). One candle is lit the first Sunday of Advent, two are lit the second Sunday, etc. Each of the candles has special significance. The final candle, the Christ candle, is lit at Christmas.

Minister: The Advent wreath helps us remember the miracle of God's becoming human for our sake. The wreath is a circle, causing us to remember the eternity of God's love for us and for all humanity. It is decked with green boughs, causing us to remember the newness of life we have in Christ Jesus.

The first candle reminds us of the prophets' hope for God's salvation to come.

The second candle reminds us of Jesus' humility in coming to earth and being born in a stall.

The third candle reminds us of the joy of the shepherds as they heard the good news of Jesus' arrival.

The fourth candle reminds us of the angels' song of peace for all the earth.

People: The fifth candle reminds us of the glorious mystery of the incarnation, as we find in the Gospel of John, "The Word became flesh and dwelt among us."

Minister: So let us stand and sing as we celebrate the coming of God to the world!

*** O COME, O COME, EMMANUEL**

VENI EMMANUEL, Bob Kauflin and Steve Cook, Latin antiphons

Soloist: O come, O come, Emmanuel And ransom captive Israel, That mourns in lonely exile here, Until the Son of God appear.

All:

O come, thou, Dayspring from on high, And cause thy light on us to rise; Disperse the gloomy clouds of night, And death's dark shadow put to flight.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, O come, true prophet of the Lord, And turn the key to heaven's door; Be thou our comforter and guide, And lead us to the Father's side.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall by his word our darkness dispel.

O come, our great High Priest, and intercede, Thy sacrifice, our only plea; The judgment we no longer fear, Thy precious blood has brought us near.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel has banished every fear of hell.

O Come, thou King of nations, bring An end to all our suffering; Bid every pain and sorrow cease. And reign now as our Prince of Peace.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel! Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel! Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come again with us to dwell.

THE THIRD LESSON

Wendy and Patrick McWilliams

Isaiah 11:1-9

The prophet Isaiah foreshows the peace that Christ will bring

Andrew Peterson

THE FOURTH LESSON

Tofe Alimi

Matthew 1:18-25

The angel of the Lord appears to Joseph and announces the birth of Jesus through the virgin Mary

*** ANGELS WE HAVE HEARD ON HIGH**

GLORIA, Traditional French carol

Angels we have heard on high, Sweetly singing o'er the plains, And the mountains in reply, Echoing their joyous strains.

> Refrain: Gloria in excelsis Deo. Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong? Say what may the tidings be, Which inspire your heav'nly song? <u>(Refrain</u>)

Come to Bethlehem and see Him whose birth the angels sing; Come, adore on bended knee Christ the Lord, the newborn King. (*Refrain*)

*** THE PEACE OF GOD**

Minister: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And also with you!

THE OFFERING

THE FIFTH LESSON

Cecille and George Shannon

Luke 2:1-7

St. Luke tells of the birth of Jesus

WHAT CHILD IS THIS

GREENSLEEVES, Traditional English carol

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.

So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh; Come, peasant, King, to own him; The King of Kings salvation brings, Let loving hearts enthrone him. Raise, raise the song on high, The virgin sings her lullaby: Joy, joy for Christ is born, The babe, the son of Mary.

THE SIXTH LESSON

Isabella Oliver

Luke 2:8-20

The shepherds go to the manger

THE HOMILY

"Comfort and Joy"

SILENT NIGHT

THE SEVENTH LESSON

Mary Ann and Mark Miller

1 John 1:1-3; Colossians 1:15-20

St. John unfolds the great mystery of the Incarnation of our Lord and praises the incarnate, resurrected Lord Jesus

*** HARK! THE HERALD ANGELS SING**

MENDELSSOHN, Charles Wesley and Felix Mendelssohn Barthody

Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King: Peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!" Joyful, all ye nations, rise, Join the triumph of the skies; With th'angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!" Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!" Christ, by highest heav'n adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord! Late in time behold him come, Offspring of the Virgin's womb. Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; Hail th'incarnate Deity, Pleased as man with men to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel. Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King."

* BENEDICTION

Minister: May he who by his Incarnation gathered into one things earthly and heavenly, fill you with the sweetness of inward peace and goodwill; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always.

*** HARK! THE HERALD ANGELS SING**

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 man no more may die, Born to raise the sons of earth, Born to give them second birth. Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"

Worship Leaders

Mark Austin
Joe Beam
Daniel Campbell
Joe Deegan
Micaela Dougan
Conrad Guthrie
Clay Holland
Jaime Jimenez
Taylor Leachman
Frank Matta
Steven Wiggs
Andrés Zelaya

trumpet drums & timpani keyboard & vocals guitar & vocals bass homily liturgy liturgy electric guitar cello liturgy

Audio/Visual Team

Abigail Cunningham Namath Naif Amber Saugier Titus Saugier Natalie Voogt projections audio switcher camera projections

CCLI# 1268735

Welcome! We are so glad you are with us today. Here are a few things going on within the life of the church that we don't want you to miss. For a full list of upcoming events, please visit christtheking.com.

Pastoral Leadership Transition

As the Pulpit Committee continues to examine John Trapp as candidate for Senior Pastor of Christ the King, they would like to hear from you. You can contact them and find up-to-date information at christtheking.com.

Officer Recommendations

Church members are invited to recommend individuals for the office of Elder or Deacon. If you would like to see a list of our current Session and Deacons and recommend someone, please visit christtheking.com/staff/.

Congregational Care

The challenges of living through the Covid-19 pandemic have made it difficult to keep up with everyone and the important milestones in your lives. We want to know how we can pray for you and come alongside you. Please let Catherine Duffin, our Parish Coordinator, know if you are expecting a baby, have experienced a loss, or are processing a new illness so that we can best serve you.







AKE YOUR FIRST STEP

Schedule your tour today

ThePreschoolAtChristTheKing.com



Given by

Catherine & Brian Fox

The Gary Family

Bob Hansen

Jack, Tucker and Dash Hays

Shannon and Clay Holland

Emily Kuo and Michael Chu

Emily Kuo and Judy Liu

Maggie Olinde

Loving Grandkids: Isabella, Diego, Anna Teresa & Cecilia

Carolyn and Doug Sparkes

Lisa & Brad Thielemann

Urquiola Family

Their Christ the King Family

Their Christ the King Family

In memory of

Our grandparents

Our Grandmothers: Bernyce Mougey, Susan Bryan, Dorothy Gary, and Nadara Hansen

Lucy Hansen

Great-Grandma Hays

Jane and Pete Holland

Dr. Eunice Kuo

Kim Loftin

Lance Olinde and Mr. & Mrs. Patrick Olinde

Barbara L. Oliver

Jo Ann Sparkes and Jean and Jack Durkee

Joe Meador

Hugo Urquiola C., Mary Lou Escanero, Abuela Juanita Esteves James Moore

David Bole





Given by

Mom and Dad

William & Andrew Fox

Christina & Rosie McWhorter

The Hays Boys

Emily Kuo and Michael Chu

Maggie Olinde

Sara & Bret Oliver

Carolyn and Doug Sparkes

Anna, Thomas and Sarah Thielemann

The Thielemann Family

Jeffrey Whittle

Polly Whittle

Polly and Jeffrey Whittle family

In honor of

Reese, Matson and Layla Dowiak who bring us so much joy. We love you!

Pastor Clay & Mrs. Holland

Teresa Garcia

Our past, current and future teachers of The Preschool at Christ The King

The pastors and staff at Christ the King

Mrs. Wei Wu

Prayers lifted up by our Christ the King Family

The Holland Family

Our grandparents: Bonnie Meador, Carol and Vernon Thielemann

Patti & Raymond Cunningham

Polly Whittle

Jeff Whittle

Suzanne Whittle and Jeri and Jerry Kinder



COMING TO KNOW THE KING

The gospel is the good news that God is restoring all things unto himself in and through Jesus Christ. The gospel speaks to the fact that Jesus Christ, as Savior and Lord, is redeeming all things unto himself, and that includes individuals who cast aside attempts to find salvation in anyone or anything else and trust in Christ alone. But why is trust in Christ necessary, and what does it mean to trust him? One way to understand this trust is through the "Five Cs" of the gospel.

Character of God

Who is God? The Bible affirms that God is loving, compassionate, and a friend of sinners. But it also affirms that he, who is one God in three persons (Father, Son and Holy Spirit) is holy, just, immense, eternal, invisible, all-powerful, incomprehensible, all knowing, and perfect in all he is and does. He is the Almighty King over all creation.

Genesis 1:1; Isaiah 6:3; Revelation 1:8; Revelation 4:1-11

Condition of Man

Who am I? We must see ourselves the way God sees us. The Bible affirms that human beings are created in the image of God; therefore, they are the crown jewel of creation, endowed with dignity and the weight of glory. However, that's only part of the story. Due to the fall of Adam, our first parent, all human beings are dead in sin, falling short of the glory of God, and are unable to do anything to merit a restored relationship with God. There is a chasm that separates us as sinners from God, and we can do nothing on our own to bridge that gap.

Genesis 1:27; Psalm 8:4-8; Isaiah 64:6; Ephesians 2:1-3

Cross of Christ

What must be done for a sinful person such as I to have a restored relationship with a holy God? God alone can provide the way, and he has – not by anything we have done but by sending his Son and our Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. Jesus lived a life of complete obedience to his Heavenly Father, perfectly keeping the commands of God's law that we are unable to fulfill. He then took the punishment and guilt of our sins on his shoulders and put them to death by dying on the cross in our place. When Jesus died, he completed the work that had to be done to secure our salvation. Only Jesus can bridge the gap between God and us. Romans 3:21-26; Ephesians 2:4-7; Revelation 5:9-10

Coming to Faith in Christ

How can the benefits of the cross of Christ be personally appropriated? Only by faith alone in Christ alone. Though salvation is totally of God, coming to faith in Christ, or conversion, involves us turning from autonomous independence to submissive trust in Christ alone for our acceptance before God by faith. Faith involves the entire person (intellect, emotion and will). It is not just assent to a body of propositional statements, nor an emotional moment of spiritual awareness. True faith is recognition of your sinfulness before a holy God, sorrow for your sin, and a wholesale embrace of Christ alone for your salvation.

John 14:6; Romans 5:1-2; Ephesians 2:8-9

Course of Life

How then, ought a Christian to live? The Christian is one who stands in grace. And that grace will, at a heart level, produce life transformation. There is no such thing as a Christian who knows Jesus as Savior, but not as Lord and King. If you are united to Christ by faith, God has given you the gift of the Holy Spirit who leads you in sanctification (the process of God working in your life to make you more and more like Christ). The Christian is called to walk with the King and serve him gladly all the days of his life as his salvation is worked out, trusting that he who began a good work in you will carry it out unto completion. Romans 8:1-11; Philippians 1:6



This certainly has been a year of unexpected events, hasn't it? When we began 2020, Coronavirus was in the news but not part of the everyday lexicon, the November elections seemed like a long way away, and Christ the King was not in the process of exploring a leadership transition. Today, we are surrounded, in many ways, by the unknown.

The unknown is always difficult and often disorienting. That is why it is wise for us as a church to fix our eyes on Jesus, who "is the same yesterday and today and forever" (Hebrews 13:8). In a world that moves so quickly and where it feels like we are often tossed to and fro by forces outside our control, it is vital to be reminded of the words of the Psalmist:

For the LORD is good; his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations (Psalm 100:5).

I must confess that I am sometimes tempted to doubt the faithfulness of God at this time of year. I doubt because I am often held captive by fear. Will this be the year that the Lord does not provide for Christ the King? What does that even mean in 2020, anyway? Does God know what difficult economic times we are living in, and does he care?

The answer, of course, is that God does know the economic strain of 2020, and he does care. His call on us is to trust in him, and to keep our eyes fixed upon our Savior. I have always been amazed at how faithfully the Lord has provided for the needs of Christ the King, and he is again calling us prayerfully to trust him for his provision for our church.

Please join me in praying that God will meet our every need as he has faithfully done in years past. And as you pray, seek the Lord on how you may participate in addressing both the needs and opportunities before us.

Finally, rest in the strong arms of our Savior Jesus who delights to welcome the weary into his embrace. For the Lord is good; his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations.

(From a letter to Christ the King from Clay Holland)

MINISTRY BUDGET UPDATE

Please contact John Allison for more information at (713) 892-5464.			
2020 Ministry Budget Goal	\$	4,615,000	
Expected Giving through 12/13/20	\$	4,437,500	
Received as of 12/13/20	\$	3,427,092	
Variance	\$	(1,010,408)	