

THIS WEEK AT CHRIST THE KING:

SUNDAY (12/23) Divine Worship, 9:00 a.m.
Fellowship Time, 10:05 a.m.
Education Hour, 10:20 a.m.

MONDAY **Christmas Eve Candlelight Service, 5:30 p.m.**

TUESDAY **Christmas Day Service (Comm.), 9:00 a.m.**

WEDNESDAY Emerald Bay Service, 4:00 p.m.

THURSDAY **Divine Worship, 6:30 p.m.**

SUNDAY (12/30) **Divine Service, 9:00 a.m.**
Fellowship Time, 10:05 a.m.
No Sun. School

OUR MISSION

*Christ the King Ev.
Lutheran Church **gives all
praise and thanks to the
Triune God** for His grace
received through Word
and Sacrament **by
sharing the saving
Gospel of Christ** with the
people of this community
and the world.*



CHRISTMAS WORSHIP SCHEDULE



<i>Christmas Eve Candlelight Service</i>	Monday, Dec. 24, 5:30 p.m.
<i>The Nativity of our Lord - Christmas Day (Comm.)</i>	Tuesday, Dec. 25, 9:00 a.m.
<i>New Year's Eve Service (Comm.)</i>	Monday, Dec. 31, 5:30 p.m.

December 23, 2018—4th Sunday of Advent

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

Welcome and thank you for joining us for worship today! In our service we gather before our almighty and saving God to hear God's holy and powerful Word and celebrate His life-giving Sacraments, offering Him our prayers and praises along the way as God strengthens our faith and walks us ever closer to our eternal home with Him.

TODAY'S FOCUS

He Comes Bearing Gifts—The Gift of Love! Love is rarely a gift. Yet with God, His love is *always* a gift. God the Father sees us doing what is evil and failing to do what is good. Instead of abandoning us, however, God the Son gladly took on human flesh, suffered, and died to atone for our sins. Why? Love—love that is undeserved, love that is always a gift.

SERVICE NOTES

If you need any assistance, please ask any of our ushers for help. In inclement weather, or if walking from your car is difficult, please make use of the carport. The ushers will gladly park and/or retrieve your car for you if needed.

If you are a visitor with us today, please sign the Guest Book before you leave today (the red binder in the front of church). If you would like to learn more about our church or are interested in church membership, please speak with Pastor Van Kampen.

If you have small children, please note that there is a Parents' Room at the rear of the sanctuary if you need to temporarily calm a child. From the Parents' Room you can still see, hear, and participate in the worship service. You can also find "busy bags" in the narthex, good for young children who like to draw.

For your convenience the order of service is printed on the following pages. The order of service is Lessons and Carols for Advent, with a gathering rite based on *Veni Emmanuel* (O Come, Emmanuel).

SERVING IN WORSHIP

Minister	Rev. S. Piet Van Kampen
Organist	Deb Meyer
Elder on Duty	Paul Kirchner
Ushers	Brian Busse, Jason Diestler, David Schlemmer, Carl Schmidt
Altar Guild	Lila Barlament & Jan Johnson

BENEDICTION

M: Go forth into the world in peace, be of good courage, hold fast to that which is good, render to one evil for evil, strengthen the fainthearted, support the weak, help the afflicted, honor all people, love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

And the blessing of God Almighty—the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit—be upon you and remain with you forever.

C: Amen.

CAROL

O Come, All Ye Faithful | TLH #102 (v. 1, 4)

After the chimes have played, you may be seated.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ALTAR FLOWERS - If you are interested in sponsoring altar flowers, please sign up on the flower chart in the fellowship hall. Thanks!

SNACK SPONSORS - Thanks to the Kirchners for sponsoring and serving snacks during our fellowship time this morning. If you're interested in sponsoring and serving snacks, please sign up on the sheet in the fellowship hall!

THE MITTEN TREE - In the entryway of the church stands the Mitten Tree! Bring your donation of brand new mittens, hats and scarves and hang them on the tree to be given to those in need.

CHRISTMAS BIBLE HOUR - You are invited to stay following fellowship time for a special showing of "My Son, My Savior", a short film about the relationship between Jesus and His mother Mary.

THANKS - Thanks to the Kitchen Committee for all their work in preparing and serving the Christmas Fellowship Dinner last Sunday!

answered and said to him, "I am Gabriel, who stands in the presence of God, and was sent to speak to you and bring you these glad tidings. ²⁰ "But behold, you will be mute and not able to speak until the day these things take place, because you did not believe my words which will be fulfilled in their own time." ²¹ And the people waited for Zacharias, and marveled that he lingered so long in the temple. ²² But when he came out, he could not speak to them; and they perceived that he had seen a vision in the temple, for he beckoned to them and remained speechless. ²³ And so it was, as soon as the days of his service were completed, that he departed to his own house. ²⁴ Now after those days his wife Elizabeth conceived; and she hid herself five months, saying, ²⁵ "Thus the Lord has dealt with me, in the days when He looked on me, to take away my reproach among people."

CAROL *The Advent of Our King* | TLH #68 (v. 1, 3)

NINTH LESSON: Luke 1:26-38 - *The angel Gabriel announces the birth of Jesus*

Now in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, ²⁷ to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸ And having come in, the angel said to her, "Rejoice, highly favored one, the Lord is with you; blessed are you among women!" ²⁹ But when she saw him, she was troubled at his saying, and considered what manner of greeting this was. ³⁰ Then the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. ³¹ "And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bring forth a Son, and shall call His name JESUS. ³² "He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Highest; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David. ³³ "And He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of His kingdom there will be no end." ³⁴ Then Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I do not know a man?" ³⁵ And the angel answered and said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Highest will overshadow you; therefore, also, that Holy One who is to be born will be called the Son of God. ³⁶ "Now indeed, Elizabeth your relative has also conceived a son in her old age; and this is now the sixth month for her who was called barren. ³⁷ "For with God nothing will be impossible." ³⁸ Then Mary said, "Behold the maidservant of the Lord! Let it be to me according to your word." And the angel departed from her.

CAROL *The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came* | Sung by the Choir

HYMN *Hark, a Thrilling Voice Is Sounding* | TLH #60 (v. 1, 3, 4)

SERMON - Micah 5:2 **Christ's Coming Is a Gift of Love**

OFFERING

Please stand.

PRAYER

M: O God, You make us glad with the expectation of the coming of Your one and only Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. Grant that we, who with joy receive Him as our Redeemer, may without fear behold Him when He will come to be our Judge, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.



ORDER OF SERVICE for the SEASON OF ADVENT

Please stand.

INVOCATION & CONFESSION OF SINS

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

M: When God created the world, he made the crown of his creation—the human race—in his image. Perfect people lived in a perfect world in a perfect relationship with God.

C: But mankind rebelled against God, bringing sin into the world and death to all. God declared the wages of sin to be death. We too are guilty, and we confess our sinful thoughts, words, and actions.

M: However, God—who is Love—did not want to be separated from his children forever. He promised a Savior who would bear the punishment for sin, defeat the devil, and break the bonds of death.

Genesis 1:26; Romans 6:23

ALL:

O, come, O, come, Em - man - u - el, And ran - som cap - tive
Is - ra - el That mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here
Un-til the Son of God ap-pear. Re-joice! Re-joice!
Em-man - u - el Shall come to you, O Is - ra - el!

M: When the time had fully come, God sent his Son. Jesus, our Savior, has paid the ransom for your debt; your sins are forgiven. In view of God's mercy, today we light the *love* candle. This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him.

C: This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins.
Galatians 4:4,5; 1 John 4:9;10

ALL:

O, come, my Love, who gives to me Grace un - de - served, un -
 end - ing, free. Help me to share this gift most rare
 That all, God's hope and peace, may share. Re-joice! Re-joice!
 Em-man - u - el Shall come to you, O Is - ra - el!

M: In the love of God we go to the world—to our friends, relatives, acquaintances and neighbors. We regard no one from a worldly point of view. If anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come. All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation.

C: God has committed to us the ministry of reconciliation. We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. Jesus, who had no sin, became sin for us; in him we have become the righteousness of God.
2 Corinthians 5:16-21

ALL:

Re-joice! Re-joice! Em-man - u - el Shall come to you, O Is - ra - el!

FIFTH LESSON: Isaiah 7:10-15 - *A virgin will give birth to a Son, and His name will be "Immanuel"*

Moreover the LORD spoke again to Ahaz, saying, ¹¹ "Ask a sign for yourself from the LORD your God; ask it either in the depth or in the height above." ¹² But Ahaz said, "I will not ask, nor will I test the LORD!" ¹³ Then he said, "Hear now, O house of David! *Is it a small thing for you to weary men, but will you weary my God also?*" ¹⁴ "Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign: Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His name Immanuel." ¹⁵ "Curds and honey He shall eat, that He may know to refuse the evil and choose the good."

CAROL

Oh, Come, Oh, Come, Emmanuel | TLH #62

SIXTH LESSON: Micah 5:2-4 - *The Ruler over Israel will be born in Bethlehem*

"But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, *Though* you are little among the thousands of Judah, *Yet* out of you shall come forth to Me The One to be Ruler in Israel, Whose goings forth *are* from of old, From everlasting." ³ Therefore He shall give them up, Until the time *that* she who is in labor has given birth; Then the remnant of His brethren Shall return to the children of Israel. ⁴ And He shall stand and feed *His flock* In the strength of the LORD, In the majesty of the name of the LORD His God; And they shall abide, For now He shall be great To the ends of the earth...

CAROL

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates | TLH #73 (2nd tune, v. 1, 4)

SEVENTH LESSON: Zechariah 9:9-12 - *The King comes, gentle and riding on a donkey's foal*

"Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, your King is coming to you; He *is* just and having salvation, Lowly and riding on a donkey, A colt, the foal of a donkey. ¹⁰ I will cut off the chariot from Ephraim And the horse from Jerusalem; The battle bow shall be cut off. He shall speak peace to the nations; His dominion *shall be* 'from sea to sea, And from the River to the ends of the earth.' ¹¹ "As for you also, Because of the blood of your covenant, I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit. ¹² Return to the stronghold, You prisoners of hope. Even today I declare *That* I will restore double to you."

CAROL

Comfort, Comfort, Ye My People | TLH #61 (v. 1-2)

EIGHTH LESSON: Luke 1:5-25 - *The angel announces the birth of John the Baptist*

There was in the days of Herod, the king of Judea, a certain priest named Zacharias, of the division of Abijah. His wife *was* of the daughters of Aaron, and her name *was* Elizabeth. ⁶ And they were both righteous before God, walking in all the commandments and ordinances of the Lord blameless. ⁷ But they had no child, because Elizabeth was barren, and they were both well advanced in years. ⁸ So it was, that while he was serving as priest before God in the order of his division, ⁹ according to the custom of the priesthood, his lot fell to burn incense when he went into the temple of the Lord. ¹⁰ And the whole multitude of the people was praying outside at the hour of incense. ¹¹ Then an angel of the Lord appeared to him, standing on the right side of the altar of incense. ¹² And when Zacharias saw *him*, he was troubled, and fear fell upon him. ¹³ But the angel said to him, "Do not be afraid, Zacharias, for your prayer is heard; and your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you shall call his name John. ¹⁴ "And you will have joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth. ¹⁵ "For he will be great in the sight of the Lord, and shall drink neither wine nor strong drink. He will also be filled with the Holy Spirit, even from his mother's womb. ¹⁶ "And he will turn many of the children of Israel to the Lord their God. ¹⁷ "He will also go before Him in the spirit and power of Elijah, 'to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children,' and the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, to make ready a people prepared for the Lord." ¹⁸ And Zacharias said to the angel, "How shall I know this? For I am an old man, and my wife is well advanced in years." ¹⁹ And the angel

CAROL*When Sinners See Their Lost Condition | TLH #65 (v. 1, 5-6)***SECOND LESSON: Isaiah 40:1-10** - Prepare the way of the LORD!

"Comfort, yes, comfort My people!" Says your God. ² "Speak comfort to Jerusalem, and cry out to her, That her warfare is ended, That her iniquity is pardoned; For she has received from the LORD's hand Double for all her sins." ³ The voice of one crying in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the LORD; Make straight in the desert A highway for our God. ⁴ Every valley shall be exalted And every mountain and hill brought low; The crooked places shall be made straight And the rough places smooth; ⁵ The glory of the LORD shall be revealed, And all flesh shall see *it* together; For the mouth of the LORD has spoken." ⁶ The voice said, "Cry out!" And he said, "What shall I cry?" "All flesh *is* grass, And all its loveliness *is* like the flower of the field. ⁷ The grass withers, the flower fades, Because the breath of the LORD blows upon it; Surely the people *are* grass. ⁸ The grass withers, the flower fades, But the word of our God stands forever." ⁹ O Zion, You who bring good tidings, Get up into the high mountain; O Jerusalem, You who bring good tidings, Lift up your voice with strength, Lift *it* up, be not afraid; Say to the cities of Judah, "Behold your God!" ¹⁰ Behold, the Lord GOD shall come with a strong *hand*, And His arm shall rule for Him; Behold, His reward *is* with Him, And His work before Him.

CAROL*Comfort, Comfort, Ye My People | TLH #61 (v. 1-2)***THIRD LESSON: Jeremiah 23:5-6** - God will raise up for David a righteous Branch

"Behold, *the* days are coming," says the LORD, "That I will raise to David a Branch of righteousness; A King shall reign and prosper, And execute judgment and righteousness in the earth. ⁶ In His days Judah will be saved, And Israel will dwell safely; Now this *is* His name by which He will be called: THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS.

CAROL*Behold, a Branch Is Growing | TLH #645 (v. 1-3)***FOURTH LESSON: Isaiah 64:1-9** - Prepare the way of the LORD!

Oh, that You would rend the heavens! That You would come down! That the mountains might shake at Your presence -- ² As fire burns brushwood, As fire causes water to boil -- To make Your name known to Your adversaries, *That* the nations may tremble at Your presence! ³ When You did awesome things *for which* we did not look, You came down, The mountains shook at Your presence. ⁴ For since the beginning of the world *Men* have not heard nor perceived by the ear, Nor has the eye seen any God besides You, Who acts for the one who waits for Him. ⁵ You meet him who rejoices and does righteousness, *Who* remembers You in Your ways. You are indeed angry, for we have sinned -- In these ways we continue; And we need to be saved. ⁶ But we are all like an unclean *thing*, And all our righteousnesses *are* like filthy rags; We all fade as a leaf, And our iniquities, like the wind, Have taken us away. ⁷ And *there is* no one who calls on Your name, Who stirs himself up to take hold of You; For You have hidden Your face from us, And have consumed us because of our iniquities. ⁸ But now, O LORD, You *are* our Father; We *are* the clay, and You our potter; And all we *are* the work of Your hand. ⁹ Do not be furious, O LORD, Nor remember iniquity forever; Indeed, please look -- we all *are* Your people!

CAROL*O Savior, Rend the Heavens Wide | Sung by the Choir*

LESSONS & CAROLS FOR ADVENT

PRAYER

C: 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.

M: The almighty God bless us with His grace, Christ give us the joys of everlasting life, and may the King of angels bring us all to the fellowship of the citizens above.

C: Amen.

You may be seated.

FIRST LESSON: Genesis 3:1-24 - Adam and Eve disobey God and are banished from the garden

Now the serpent was more cunning than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said to the woman, "Has God indeed said, 'You shall not eat of every tree of the garden?'" ² And the woman said to the serpent, "We may eat the fruit of the trees of the garden; ³ "but of the fruit of the tree which *is* in the midst of the garden, God has said, 'You shall not eat it, nor shall you touch it, lest you die.' " ⁴ Then the serpent said to the woman, "You will not surely die. ⁵ "For God knows that in the day you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." ⁶ So when the woman saw that the tree *was* good for food, that it *was* pleasant to the eyes, and a tree desirable to make *one* wise, she took of its fruit and ate. She also gave to her husband with her, and he ate. ⁷ Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they knew that they *were* naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves coverings. ⁸ And they heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden. ⁹ Then the LORD God called to Adam and said to him, "Where *are* you?" ¹⁰ So he said, "I heard Your voice in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; and I hid myself." ¹¹ And He said, "Who told you that you *were* naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you that you should not eat?" ¹² Then the man said, "The woman whom You gave *to be* with me, she gave me of the tree, and I ate." ¹³ And the LORD God said to the woman, "What *is* this you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate." ¹⁴ So the LORD God said to the serpent: "Because you have done this, You *are* cursed more than all cattle, And more than every beast of the field; On your belly you shall go, And you shall eat dust All the days of your life. ¹⁵ And I will put enmity Between you and the woman, And between your seed and her Seed; He shall bruise your head, And you shall bruise His heel." ¹⁶ To the woman He said: "I will greatly multiply your sorrow and your conception; In pain you shall bring forth children; Your desire *shall be* for your husband, And he shall rule over you." ¹⁷ Then to Adam He said, "Because you have heeded the voice of your wife, and have eaten from the tree of which I commanded you, saying, 'You shall not eat of it': "Cursed *is* the ground for your sake; In toil you shall eat of it All the days of your life. ¹⁸ Both thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you, And you shall eat the herb of the field. ¹⁹ In the sweat of your face you shall eat bread Till you return to the ground, For out of it you were taken; For dust you *are*, And to dust you shall return." ²⁰ And Adam called his wife's name Eve, because she was the mother of all living. ²¹ Also for Adam and his wife the LORD God made tunics of skin, and clothed them. ²² Then the LORD God said, "Behold, the man has become like one of Us, to know good and evil. And now, lest he put out his hand and take also of the tree of life, and eat, and live forever" -- ²³ therefore the LORD God sent him out of the garden of Eden to till the ground from which he was taken. ²⁴ So He drove out the man; and He placed cherubim at the east of the garden of Eden, and a flaming sword which turned every way, to guard the way to the tree of life.