

Christ The King Episcopal Church

40 Charleston Road, Willingboro, New Jersey 08046

The Second Sunday of Advent

Sunday, December 10, 2023. 9.30am

Change of Starting Time for Church Service

The results of the polling regarding this matter has produced a very close result and as a result we had a discussion about it at the vestry meeting and a compromise was proposed of **9:30am**. We implement the new service time next month as of the first

**Sunday, November 12,
2023**

Wear A Mask

Due to the recent uptick in COVID VIRUS cases Nationwide, it is **STRONGLY RECOMMENDED** that you wear a mask at all times while in the Church buildings.



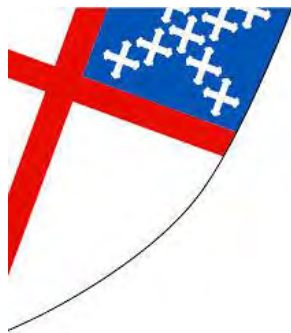
The Reverend Father Vernal Savage
Priest-In-Charge

Welcome to Christ the King Episcopal Church

Welcome to Christ The King Episcopal Church in Willingboro, NJ, a vibrant and growing Episcopal parish in Willingboro, Burlington county, New Jersey. Over the past 60 years, the fabric of Christ the King has been woven by the Spirit from the lives and gifts of diverse people; their desire to live their faith through worship, service, study, and stewardship; and the ever-evolving life of Burlington County itself.

Our parish is guided by its mission to share God’s love for all people. Together, we seek to build relationships with one another and with our neighbors, to cultivate compassion, to deepen our knowledge and spiritual practices, to work for justice rooted in essential human dignity, and to live as conscientious contributors to the life of our city and the Anglican Communion worldwide. As we grow together in service and love, we know ourselves, first and foremost, as followers of Jesus.

We are delighted to welcome you today; thank you for the gift of your participation and prayers. If you are new to Christ the King, please introduce yourself to a member of the clergy or one of the Ushers.



CHRIST THE KING EPISCOPAL CHURCH OFFICIALS			
	TITLE	NAME	TERM ENDING
	Priest-In-Charge	Reverend Vernal Savage	
	Senior Warden	Emerson Cooper	2023
	Junior Warden	Jermaine Smith	2023
	Vestry Member	Marcelle Arthur	2023
	Vestry Member	Helen Baylock	2025
	Vestry Member	Carolyn Booker	2025
	Vestry Member	Joan Burke	2025
	Vestry Member	Catherine Edwards	2024
	Vestry Member	Dan Gunning	2024
	Vestry Member	Nathan Roberts	2024
	Vestry Member	Maxine Harvey	2024
	Vestry Member	Kenneth Mallory	2023
	Clerk of the Vestry	Regina Lamptey	2023
	Secretary	Annette Grubbs	
	Ambassador to Vestry	Debra Adkins	
	Treasurer	Daniel Lamptey	2023

About This Service

The Season of Advent

In the Episcopal Church, the season of Advent marks the beginning of the new liturgical year. The name of the four-Sunday season originates from the Latin word *adventus*, meaning “to approach.”

During Advent, Christians joyfully await the coming of Jesus, a celebration commemorated on the feast of the Nativity of Our Lord, also known as Christmas Day.

The season is full of expectation and preparation, not only for Christ’s incarnation, but also for his promised “second coming” in majesty.

PURPLE/VIOLET for Advent (or **ROYAL BLUE**) & Lent (or **UNBLEACHED LINEN**). **RED** is used in Holy Week, the Day of Pentecost, and at ordinations. On the 1st Sunday, a blue candle (hope) is lit. On the 2nd Sunday we add the second blue candle (peace or preparation) while on the 3rd Sunday, the pink candle (joy) is lit. The 4th Sunday in Advent marks the lighting of the final blue candle (love).

Sources: The Book of Common Prayer, An Episcopal Dictionary of the Church

Worship Plan for Sunday, December 10, 2023

Second Sunday of Advent | The Holy Eucharist Rite One | Penitential Order

At the sound of the bell, please stand.

MEDITATION:

ENTRANCE HYMN *On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry (Winchester New) (H 76)*

1 On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry an -
 2 Then cleansed be ev - ery breast from sin; make
 3 For thou art our sal - va - tion, Lord, our
 4 To heal the sick stretch out thine hand, and
 5 All praise, e - ter - nal Son, to thee, whose

1 noun - ces that the Lord is nigh; a - wake and heark - en,
 2 straight the way for God with - in, and let each heart pre -
 3 re - fuge, and our great re - ward; with - out thy grace we
 4 bid the fall - en sin - ner stand; shine forth, and let thy
 5 ad - vent doth thy peo - ple free; whom with the Fa - ther

1 for he brings glad tid - ings of the King of kings.
 2 pare a home where such a might - y guest may come.
 3 waste a - way like flowers that with - er and de - cay.
 4 light re - store earth's own true love - li - ness once more.
 5 we a - dore and Ho - ly Spi - rit ev - er - more.

OPENING ACCLAMATION (BCP p. 319)

The people standing, the Celebrant says

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever.
Amen.

CONFESSION OF SIN (BCP p. 319)

All kneel.

The Celebrant says

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ saith:

Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind.
This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it: Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.

Matthew 22:37-40

The Deacon or Celebrant then says

Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

Silence may be kept.

Minister and People

Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against thee
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved thee with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of thy Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in thy will,
and walk in thy ways,
to the glory of thy Name. Amen.

The Priest stands and says

The Almighty and merciful Lord grant you absolution and remission of all your sins, true repentance, amendment of life, and the grace and consolation of his Holy Spirit. Amen.

OPENING ANTHEM OR SONG OF PRAISE (BCP p. 324)

The following is sung, all standing

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY (BCP p. 325)

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People And with thy spirit.
Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty God, give us grace that we may cast away the works of darkness, and put upon us the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which thy Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the quick and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

THE LESSONS

FIRST READING: Isaiah 40:1-11

[Olin Mitchell]

The people sit.

A Reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

¹“Comfort, O comfort my people,”
says your God.

²“Speak tenderly to Jerusalem,
and cry to her
that she has served her term,
that her penalty is paid,
that she has received from the LORD’s hand
double for all her sins.”

³A voice cries out:

“In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD,
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

⁴Every valley shall be lifted up,
and every mountain and hill be made low;
the uneven ground shall become level,
and the rough places a plain.

⁵Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed,
and all people shall see it together,
for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.”

⁶A voice says, “Cry out!”
And I said, “What shall I cry?”

All people are grass,
their constancy is like the flower of the field.

⁷The grass withers, the flower fades,

when the breath of the LORD blows upon it;
surely the people are grass.
⁸The grass withers, the flower fades;
but the word of our God will stand forever.
⁹Get you up to a high mountain,
O Zion, herald of good tidings;
lift up your voice with strength,
O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings,
lift it up, do not fear;
say to the cities of Judah,
“Here is your God!”
¹⁰See, the Lord GOD comes with might,
and his arm rules for him;
his reward is with him,
and his recompense before him.
¹¹He will feed his flock like a shepherd;
he will gather the lambs in his arms,
and carry them in his bosom,
and gently lead the mother sheep.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

Silence may follow.

PSALM: Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13

[Olin Mitchell]

Remain seated.

¹You have been gracious to your land, O LORD; *
you have restored the good fortune of Jacob.
²You have forgiven the iniquity of your people *
and blotted out all their sins.
⁸I will listen to what the LORD God is saying, *
for he is speaking peace to his faithful people
and to those who turn their hearts to him.
⁹Truly, his salvation is very near to those who fear him, *
that his glory may dwell in our land.
¹⁰Mercy and truth have met together; *
righteousness and peace have kissed each other.
¹¹Truth shall spring up from the earth, *
and righteousness shall look down from heaven.
¹²The LORD will indeed grant prosperity, *
and our land will yield its increase.
¹³Righteousness shall go before him, *
and peace shall be a pathway for his feet.

SECOND READING: 1Thessalonians 5: 16-24

[Maxine Harvey]

The people sit.

A Reading from Paul's First letter to the Church in Thessalonika.

¹⁶Rejoice always, ¹⁷pray without ceasing, ¹⁸give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. ¹⁹Do not quench the Spirit. ²⁰Do not despise the words of prophets, ²¹but test everything; hold fast to what is good; ²²abstain from every form of evil. ²³May the God of peace himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. ²⁴The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do this.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Silence may follow.

SEQUENCE HYMN *We're Marching to Zion* (LEVAS 12)

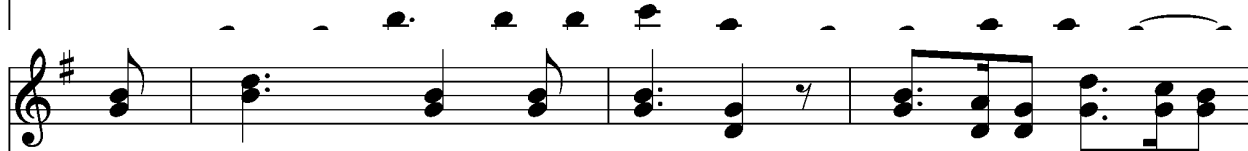
All stand.

1. Come, we that love— the Lord, And let our joys— be known;— Join
 2. Let those re - fuse— to sing Who nev - er knew— our God;— But
 3. The hill of Zi - on yields A thou-sand sa - cred sweets— Be -
 4. Then let our songs— a-bound, And ev - 'ry tear— be dry;— We're

1. in a song with sweet ac - cord, Join in a song with sweet ac -
 2. chil - dren of the heav'n - ly King, But chil - dren of the heav'n - ly
 3. fore we reach the heav'n - ly fields, Be - fore we reach the heav'n - ly
 4. march-ing through Im - man - uel's ground, We're march-ing thro' Im - man - uel's



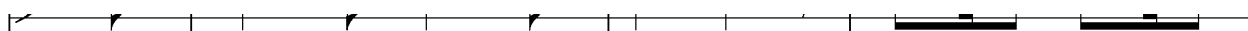
1. cord, And thus sur - round the throne, And thus sur - round the throne.—
2. King, May speak their joys a - broad, May speak their joys a - broad.—
3. fields, Or walk the gold - en streets, Or walk the gold - en streets.—
4. ground, To fair - er worlds on high, To fair - er worlds on high.—



We're march - ing to Zi - on, Beau - ti-ful, beau - ti-ful



We're march - ing on to Zi - on,



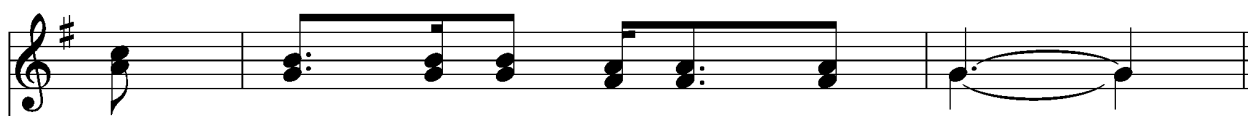
We're march - ing on to Zi - on,



Zi - on; We're march - ing up - ward to Zi - on,



Zi - on, Zi - on,



The beau - ti - ful cit - y of God.



GOSPEL: Mark 1:1-8

[The Reverend Vernal Savage]

All stand.

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

People Glory be to thee, O Lord.

¹The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

²As it is written in the prophet Isaiah,

“See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,
who will prepare your way;

³the voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

‘Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight.’”

⁴John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁵And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. ⁶Now John was clothed with camel’s hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷He proclaimed, “The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. ⁸I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise be to thee, O Christ.

SERMON HYMN:

(Verse 1: “Alleluia” Verse 2: “God is with us”)

SERMON

[The Reverend Father Vernal Savage]

THE CREED (BCP p. 326)

All stand.

We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE (BCP p. 328)

All remain standing.

Let us pray for the whole state of Christ's Church and the world.

After each paragraph of this prayer, the People may make an appropriate response, as directed.

Almighty and everliving God, who in thy holy Word hast taught us to make prayers, and supplications, and to give thanks for all men: Receive these our prayers which we offer unto thy divine Majesty, beseeching thee to inspire continually the Universal Church with the spirit of truth, unity, and concord; and grant that all those who do confess thy holy Name may agree in the truth of thy holy Word, and live in unity and godly love.

Give grace, O heavenly Father, to all bishops and other ministers [especially _____], that they may, both by their life and doctrine, set forth thy true and lively Word, and rightly and duly administer thy holy Sacraments.

And to all thy people give thy heavenly grace, and especially to this congregation here present; that, with meek heart and due reverence, they may hear and receive thy holy Word, truly serving thee in holiness and righteousness all the days of their life.

We beseech thee also so to rule the hearts of those who bear the authority of government in this and every land [especially _____], that they may be led to wise decisions and right actions for the welfare and peace of the world.

Open, O Lord, the eyes of all people to behold thy gracious hand in all thy works, that, rejoicing in thy whole creation, they may honor thee with their substance, and be faithful stewards of thy bounty.

And we most humbly beseech thee, of thy goodness, O Lord, to comfort and succor [_____ and] all those who, in this transitory life, are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity.

Additional petitions and thanksgivings may be included here.

And we also bless thy holy Name for all thy servants departed this life in thy faith and fear [especially _____], beseeching thee to grant them continual growth in thy love and service; and to grant us grace so to follow the good examples of [_____ and of] all thy saints, that with them we may be partakers of thy heavenly kingdom.

Grant these our prayers, O Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our only Mediator and Advocate.
Amen.

THE PEACE (BCP p. 332)

All stand.

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And with thy spirit.

Then the Ministers and the People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

PEACE HYMN *My Lord, What a Morning* (LEVAS 13)

Harmony

My Lord, what a morn-ing, My Lord, what a morn-ing, O

Fine

my Lord, what a morn-ing, When the stars be-gin to fall.

Unison

1. You'll hear the trum - pet sound,
 2. You'll hear the sin - ner mourn, To wake the
 3. You'll hear the Chris - tian shout,

na - tions un - der - ground, Look - ing to my God's right

D.C.

hand, When the stars be - gin to fall.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

[By Maxine Harvey]

Announcements, not to exceed 150 words, are to be submitted to ctk@christthekingnj.org by 5:00 pm on the Tuesday preceding the Sunday you wish the announcements to run.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERTORY SENTENCE (BCP p. 343)

The Celebrant says

Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and make good thy vows unto the Most High.

Psalm 50:14

OFFERTORY HYMN *Hark! the glad sound! the Savior comes (Bristol) (H 71)*

1 Hark! the glad sound! the Sa - vior comes, the Sa - vior
2 He comes, the pri - soners to re - lease in Sa - tan's
3 He comes, the bro - ken heart to bind, the bleed - ing
4 Our glad ho - san - nas, Prince of Peace, thy wel - come

prom - ised long; let ev - ery heart pre -
bond - age held; the gates of brass be -
soul to cure; and with the trea - sures
shall pro - claim; and heaven's e - ter - nal

pare a throne, and ev - ery voice a song.
fore him burst, the i - ron fet - ters yield.
of his grace to en - rich the hum - ble poor.
arch - es ring with thy be - lov - ed Name.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

SURSUM CORDA (BCP p. 340)

The People remain standing.

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People And with thy spirit.
Celebrant Lift up your hearts.
People We lift them up unto the Lord.
Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People It is meet and right so to do.

PROPER PREFACE (BCP p. 341)

Facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God.
Because thou didst send thy beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing.
Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

SANCTUS (BCP p. 341)

Celebrant and People

*Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts:
Heaven and earth are full of thy glory.
Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High.
Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.*

WORDS OF INSTITUTION (BCP p. 341)

The people kneel or stand.

Then the Celebrant continues

All glory be to thee, O Lord our God, for that thou didst create heaven and earth, and didst make us in thine own image; and, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to take our nature upon him, and to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption. He made there a full and perfect sacrifice for the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks to thee, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink this, all of you; for this is my Blood of the New Covenant, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me."

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, we thy people do celebrate and make, with these thy holy gifts which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; and looking for his coming again with power and great glory.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us, and, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, to bless and sanctify these gifts of bread and wine, that they may be unto us the Body and Blood of thy dearly-beloved Son Jesus Christ.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, whereby we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies. Grant, we beseech thee, that all who partake of this Holy Communion may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, and be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction; and also that we and all thy whole Church may be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord; By whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. AMEN.

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION (LEVAS 260) *We remember His Death*

The musical score is written in 2/4 time with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). It consists of three systems of music, each with a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The lyrics are: "We re - mem - ber His death, — We pro - claim His re - sur - rect - ion, — We a - wait — His com - ing — in glo - ry. — We re - glo - ry. —". The first system covers the first two lines of lyrics. The second system covers the next two lines. The third system covers the final line of lyrics and includes a first ending (marked '1.') and a second ending (marked '2.').

THE LORD'S PRAYER (BCP p. 336)

The Celebrant then continues

And now, as our Savior Christ hath taught us, we are bold to say,

People and Celebrant

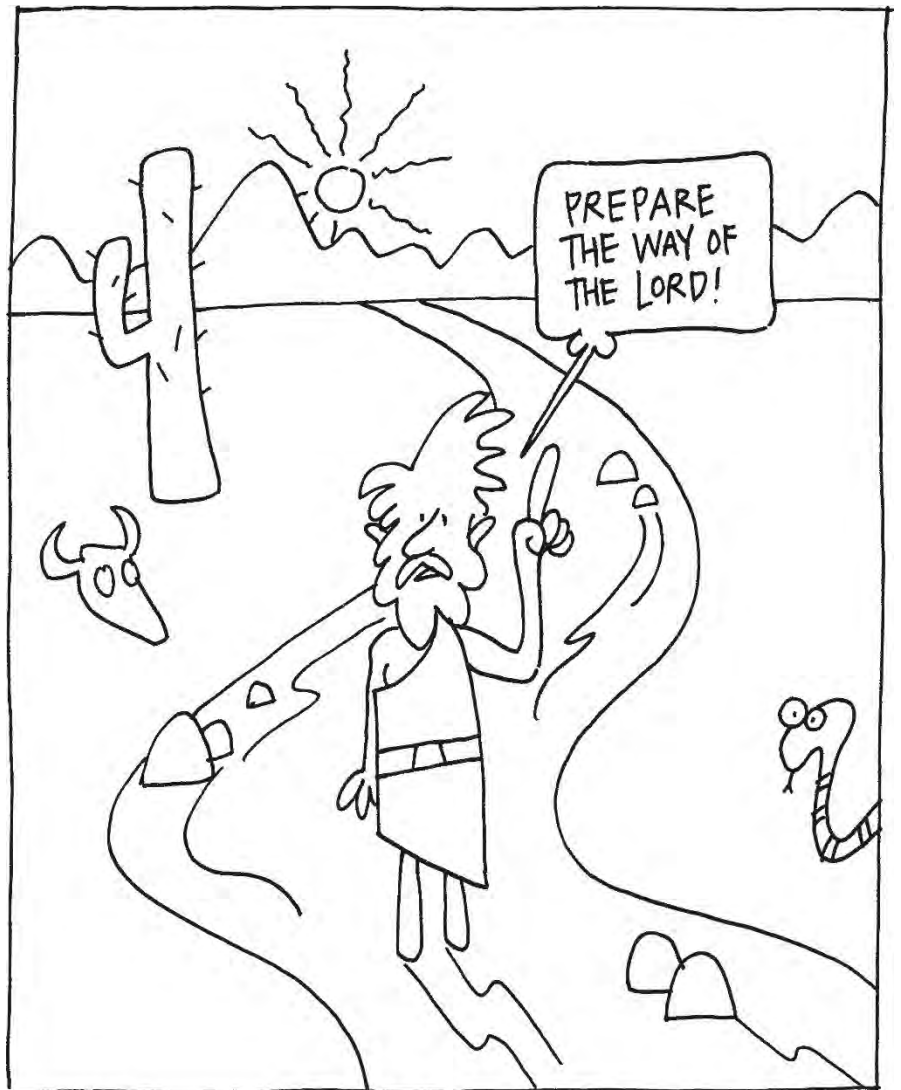
Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

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.



The Breaking of the Bread

FRACTION ANTHEM [LEVAS 268] *Christ Our Passover*

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

Christ our passover is sacrificed for us;

Therefore let us keep the feast.

Christ our passover is sacrificed for us;

Therefore let us keep the feast.

Christ our passover is sacrificed for us;

Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

SANCTUS: [LEVAS 269] *Lamb Of God*

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:

Have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:

Have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:

Grant us peace. Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS (BCP p. 337)

The following prayer may be said. The People may join in saying this prayer

We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. *Amen.*

INVITATION (BCP p. 338)

The Celebrant says

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

DISTRIBUTION (BCP p. 338)

The ministers receive the Sacrament in both kinds, and then immediately deliver it to the people.

The Bread and the Cup are given to the communicants with these words

The Body of our Lord Jesus Christ, which was given for thee, preserve thy body and soul unto everlasting life. Take and eat this in remembrance that Christ died for thee, and feed on him in thy heart by faith, with thanksgiving.

The Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, which was shed for thee, preserve thy body and soul unto everlasting life. Drink this in remembrance that Christ's Blood was shed for thee, and be thankful.

.

COMMUNION HYMN *I come with joy to meet my Lord (Land of Rest) (H 304)*

Unison or harmony

1 I come with joy to meet my Lord, for -
 2 I come with Chris - tians far and near to
 3 As Christ breaks bread and bids us share, each
 4 And thus with joy we meet our Lord. His
 5 To - geth - er met, to - geth - er bound, we'll

1 giv - en, loved, and free, in awe and won - der
 2 find, as all are fed, the new com - mu - ni -
 3 proud di - vi - sion ends. That love that made us
 4 pres - ence, al - ways near, is in such friend - ship
 5 go our dif - ferent ways, and as his peo - ple

1 to re - call his life laid down for me.
 2 ty of love in Christ's com - mun - ion bread.
 3 makes us one, and stran - gers now are friends.
 4 bet - ter known: we see, and praise him here.
 5 in the world, we'll live and speak his praise.

ABLUTION SONG: "Hallelu"

*Hallelujah, Hallelujah,
 O Lord We Praise Your Name
 All the Glory, All The Praise,
 O Lord We Praise Your Name"*

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER (BCP p. 339)

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

The People may join in saying this prayer

Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. *Amen.*

BLESSING (BCP p. 339)

The priest blesses the people, saying

The peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be amongst you, and remain with you always. *Amen.*

POST-COMMUNION HYMN *Lord, dismiss us with thy blessing (Sicilian) (H 344)*

1 Lord, dis - miss us with thy bless - ing; fill our hearts with
2 Thanks we give and a - dor - a - tion for thy Gos - pel's
3 so that when thy love shall call us, Sa - vior, from the
joy and peace; let us each, thy love pos - sess - ing,
joy - ful sound: may the fruits of thy sal - va - tion
world a - way, fear of death shall not ap - pall us,
tri - umph in re - deem - ing grace: O re - fresh us,
in our hearts and lives a - bound: ev - er faith - ful,
glad thy sum - mons to o - bey. May we ev - er,
O re - fresh us trav - eling through this wil - der - ness.
ev - er faith - ful to thy truth may we be found;
may we ev - er reign with thee in end - less day.

DISMISSAL (BCP p. 340)

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE *Thank You, Lord* (LEVAS 232)

1 Thank you, Lord, thank you, Lord, thank you,
 2 Been so good, been so good, been so good,
 3 Been my friend, been my friend, been my friend

Lord, _____ I just want to thank you, _____ Lord.
 good, _____ I just want to thank you, _____ Lord.
 friend, _____ I just want to thank you, _____ Lord.

FINAL PRAYER: *By Priest or Deacon*

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Date	WORSHIP LEADER	EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER	YOUTH LEADER	USHERS	COUNTING
Sunday December 10	Olin Mitchell Maxine Harvey			Olin Mitchell Judith Richards	Kenneth Mallory Marcelle Arthur
Sunday December 17	Maxine Harvey Regina Lamptey			Diane Staten Ransolina Roberts	Nathan Roberts Helen Baylock
Sunday December 24	Joan Burke Linda Anderson			Patricia Mitchell Regina Lamptey	Emerson Cooper Dan Gunning
Sunday December 31	Sarah Smith Olin Mitchell			JoyAnn Lambert Marcus Gales	Catherine Edwards Carolyn Booker

Christmas Service Dates –

- a) Advent 4 – 2023 December 24th in the morning at 9:30am
- b) Christmas Eve Service – 2023 December 24th at 7:00pm (Carol singing at 6:30pm)
- c) New Year’s Eve – 2023 December 31st - Service in the morning at 9:30am
- d) New Year’s Eve Watchnight Service – 2023 December 31st at 10:00pm (Carol singing begin at 10:00pm)

PRAYERS

To add names to the prayer list, email ctk@christthekingnj.org or call 609.877.2992. Names are kept on the list for a month and can be added again upon request.

Contact the Church Office for contact information of the names on the prayer list

Our Father of mercies and God of all comfort, our only help in time of need. We humbly beseech thee to behold, visit, and relieve thy sick servants below for whom our prayers are desired. Look upon them with the eyes of thy mercy; comfort them with a sense of thy goodness; preserve them from the temptations of thy enemy; and give them patience under their affliction. In thy good time, restore them to health, and enable them to lead the residue of their life in thy fear, and to thy glory; and grant that finally they may dwell with thee in life everlasting; through Jesus Christ of Lord. Amen.

PRAYER LIST

Josie Howard	Josephine White
Marion Cannon	Freda Oasin
Ted Cannon	Jean Thomas
Angela Cannon	Edythe Munson
Marilyn Capehart	Margaretta McDougal
Eustace December	Gloria Davis
Yvonne December	Carolyn Booker
Billie Miller	John Booker
Melvina Berry	Olin Mitchell
Basil Mitchell	Patricia Mitchell
Mildred Bailey	Florence James
Nathaniel Evans	Victor Medina
Glenda Evans	Christiana Trivigno
Ryan Kerr	Emmanuel Ogbuokiri
Jada Jackson	Sherman Clahar
Judith Jackson	Mark Lockett
Tracey Lewis	Robyn Lockett
Eleanor Williams	

BUILDING FUND ENVELOPES

The Church Building Fund is set up to track the donations and expenses of improvement of the church's buildings. In addition, the fund maintains an ongoing building fund in order to have money available for emergency repairs to existing buildings. The Building Fund Envelope is the source by which parishioners can contribute to the fund. The fund has about \$19,245.50 which is far below our projections due to numerous improvement that needs undertaken. We urgently urge all Parishioners to contribute generously to the fund by using their Building Fund Envelopes. *Thanks,*

EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION

All parishioners wanting to add an emergency contact to the church's directory, please write the contact's name and number and put it in the collection plate. This information will be kept PRIVATE & CONFIDENTIAL

MEN OF CHRIST THE KING MONTHLY MEETING

The MoCTK monthly meeting is held the second Saturday of every month at 10.00am on Zoom. All the Men of Christ the King are members of this group and are expected to attend. **Next meeting is January 13th, 2023, at 10.00am**

Office Volunteers – I do have persons offering themselves to serve in the office. I would like to have a pool of about four (persons). They would be required to do diocesan training in Safe Church, and other checks. Also, they would be trained internally to use all the equipment in the church office. A schedule would be done for the date that is convenient for them to serve.

Life Group Ministries

The Women's Life Group has resumed meetings on Thursdays, 3:00-4:15 PM We invite any women interested to call with questions or for information. Carolyn Booker 412-337-2576.

Give Easily from Here

Click here [Give Now](#) to make a donation or make your contributions to Christ the King Episcopal Church. Willingboro, New Jersey at any time, even if you are on vacation. You will receive an email confirmation for your transaction.

BIBLE STUDIES - TUESDAYS

Bible Study Every Tuesday at 7:00pm over Zoom.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86374035494?pwd=R3lrV1ZMTG5pUE9zZnllZngyNTZTd09> Meeting ID: 863 7403 5494; Password: 007431;

WEDNESDAY PRAYER MEETING

Join us on Wednesday Night Bible Study on Zoom at 7:15pm. Wednesday Prayer Meetings is now on Zoom (Using the Church Zoom Link) **On Zoom:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86374035494?pwd=R3lrV1ZMTG5pUE9zZnllZngyNTZTd09> Meeting ID: 863 7403 5494; Password: 007431;

By Linda Anderson

LOOKING TO JOIN THE ALTAR GUILD MINISTRY?

We are looking for new volunteers; men and women, to join us in preparing the sanctuary for Sunday services. All are welcome to come and learn about this labor of love! **Please call Linda Anderson at 609-760-1050 for more information. Thank you!**

VOLUNTEER NOMINATION COMMITTEE

The Priest-In-Charge are seeking volunteers for the Nomination Committee for the next vestry members. Contact the Priest In Charge or Senior Warden if you wish to volunteer.

December Birthdays

1 st - Ida Godwin	21 st - Joseph Stewart
1 st - Gloria Davis	24 th - Orya Pollard
6 th - Ransolina Robert	24 th - Diane Staten
10 th - Nathaniel Evans	26 th - Shelton Radix
12 th - Ted Canon	29 th - Kingsley Chukwuocha
13 th - Debra Stewart	30 th - Linda Anderson
17 th - Desiree A. Mentis	30 th - Dan Gunning

Order Your Calendars for 2024

Cost is \$3 each. Please reserve via church secretary or calling Linda Anderson at 609.760.1050
Thanks so much!,

Christ The King Choir Announcement

We are recruiting new members for the Choir.

If you are interested in singing with us please contact Linda Anderson for more information.

Calling All UBE Members, Chapters, and Friends UBE IS GOING TO THE MOVIES!

WHEN: Tuesday, January 23, 2024
WHAT: "A CASE FOR LOVE"

This documentary, a heartfelt yet personally challenging movie inspired by the teachings and writings of Presiding Bishop Michael Bruce Curry, examines whether love – specifically unselfish love – is the solution to the extreme societal and political divide facing the US.

The film team travels across the U.S. interviewing everyday people from various walks of life and ethnicities, striving to live their lives selflessly. Stories include racial justice, military, foster care, sexual trafficking, love and loss, and others as well-known figures including Pete Buttigieg, Al Roker, Sam Waterston, Becca Stevens, Russell Moore, John Danforth, John Clyburn, Kelly Brown Douglas, and Jon Meacham weigh in on the issue.

The viewer is challenged to make their own verdict.

UBE's INVITE:

- **Get a group together and GO on January 23, 2024**

Find a theatre: <https://acaseforlovemovie.com/theaters/>
View Movie Trailer: <https://acaseforlovemovie.com>

- **Send a photo back to UBE at leadership@theube.org.**
- **Attend UBE's Monthly Talk2Talk Program on December 17 at 4:00 pm EST** where the featured guest will be film producer Brian Ide. To register for Talk2Talk, click this link:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJMkcuirDgtGtUvtvtaFCwYgv-EaCOF0YeNW>.

- **Accept the "A MONTH OF UNSELFISH LOVE" challenge!**

For one month after seeing the film, commit to living an unselfish life of love. During these 30 days, people across the country will perform daily acts of selflessness and will journal their moments. Movie study guide and journal available at <https://acaseforlovemovie.com>.

UBE IS GOING TO THE MOVIES! WON'T YOU JOIN US!

Christmas Service Dates –

- Advent 4 – 2023 December 24th in the morning at 9:30am
- Christmas Eve Service – 2023 December 24th at 7:00pm (Carol singing at 6:30pm)
- New Year's Eve – 2023 December 31st - Service in the morning at 9:30pm
- New Year's Eve Watchnight Service – 2023 December 31st at 10:00pm (Carol singing begin at 10:00pm)

Blue Christmas - We will integrate into the 3rd Sunday in Advent service a time to acknowledge all who have died during the period of Covid, recent deaths, and those affected by the loss. We will as much as we are able invite families to participate in the service.

Bible Study will be held on Tuesdays (not Mondays) of each week at 7:00pm. The change took effect last week.

Priest-In-Charge Day off has been changed from Fridays of each week to Mondays beginning in the season of Advent. This becomes effective the week of December 10th.

Protect Yourself from These Common Frauds

With the approach of the holidays, the number of fraudulent email, phone calls, and text messages is on the rise. The bishop and diocesan staff will never ask for gift cards and will only contact you on dioceseofnj.org email addresses.

Church members and leaders are commonly targeted by scammers who pretend to be known clergy or diocesan staff. These messages may come via email or text message and try to convince you to send money, buy gift cards, or send information that the huckster shouldn't have access to.

These messages can look genuine, but there are usually clues that they are not:

1. The "sender's" name is not used the way the person actually does. For instance, messages claiming to be from Bishop French might be signed "Reverend Sally."
2. The sender's email address is not the same as the real person's (though it might be close)
3. The sender says that they cannot talk right now but request you keep the conversation in text or email

Here are some tips from the [FBI's Scams and Safety web site](#):

How to Protect Yourself

- ask for your username or password.
- Don't click on anything in an unsolicited email or text message. Look up the company's phone number on your own (don't use the one a potential scammer is providing), and call the company to ask if the request is legitimate.
- Carefully examine the email address, URL, and spelling used in any correspondence. Scammers use slight differences to trick your eye and gain your trust.
- Be careful Remember that companies generally don't contact you to what you download. Never open an email attachment from someone you don't know and be wary of email attachments forwarded to you.
- Set up two-factor (or multi-factor) authentication on any account that allows it, and never disable it.
- Be careful with what information you share online or on social media. By openly sharing things like pet names, schools you attended, family members, and your birthday, you can give a scammer all the information they need to guess your password or answer your security questions.

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Presiding bishop released from hospital, continuing recovery at home



[Episcopal News Service] **Presiding Bishop Michael Curry** has been released from the hospital and is continuing his

recovery at home, according to a [Dec. 8 press release](#) from The Episcopal Church’s Office of Public Affairs.

Curry fell while visiting Syracuse, New York, and suffered a subdural hematoma, or brain bleed, that required surgery. He was admitted Dec. 3 to a hospital near his home in Raleigh, North Carolina, and underwent surgery on Dec. 4.

His surgeon is happy with his continued progress. Curry will be attending follow-up appointments and working from home in the days ahead, the release said.

Earlier this year, on Sept. 20, the presiding bishop underwent surgery to remove an adrenal gland and a non-cancerous attached mass following treatment earlier for episodes of internal bleeding.

Curry, at 70, is wrapping up the final year of his nine-year term as presiding bishop. He suffered a subdural hematoma at least once before, in the first month of his tenure. A subdural hematoma is usually caused by a head injury strong enough to burst blood vessels, which can then cause pooled blood to push on the brain.

The previous brain bleed likely was caused when he tripped over a curb and hit his head on the morning of his installation, Nov. 1, 2015, although at the time he did not know he had injured himself that seriously. It became apparent a little over a month later when he [experienced](#) memory lapse while preaching.

Episcopal bishops grant ‘permission’ for St. Nicholas to minister in their dioceses during Advent

[Episcopal News Service] St. Nicholas may not be paying attention to The Episcopal Church’s polity, but his fellow bishops certainly are.



St. Thomas the Apostle Episcopal Church in Dallas, Texas, receives a visit from St. Nicholas to kick off Advent. Photo: Carl Youngberg, via [episcopalchurch.org](#)

Several Episcopal bishops have issued statements timed to Dec. 6, the feast day for St.

Nicholas, ceremoniously granting him “permission” to travel within their dioceses – presumably to deliver toys and other delights to good girls and boys according to the common Christian tradition during Advent.

St. Nicholas [served in the fourth century as bishop of Myra](#), in a region that today is part of Turkey. He later would become the inspiration for the modern Christmas figure Santa Claus.

As “a bishop from another diocese,” even Nicholas would need permission to visit the Diocese of Western North Carolina. Permission granted, wrote Western North Carolina Bishop José McLoughlin.

“May his presence bring blessings to us all and inspire in us the spirit of giving, joy and generosity to those we love and those in need. I am positively jolly to grant his request,” McLoughlin said in his Dec. 6 letter.

Arizona Bishop Jennifer Reddall and Los Angeles Bishop John Harvey Taylor issued similar proclamations, welcoming St. Nicholas to minister in their dioceses.

“May his presence be a blessing and a sign of hope for all,” Taylor said.

“I encourage every family in our diocese to make room for Bishop Nicholas and offer him your own

gifts – I hear he enjoys cookies and milk,” Reddall wrote.

Oklahoma Bishop Poulson Reed went a step further and released a video declaration for the feast day. It was recorded at St. Paul’s Cathedral in Oklahoma City under a stained-glass window honoring St. Nicholas.

“May the ministry of this godly bishop, both seen and unseen, in churches, schools and homes, inspire in human hearts a deep love for our savior Jesus Christ,” Reed said, “and a spirit of generosity in our gift-giving, especially towards children and those in need.”

Nicholas is remembered as a protector of children, though most of the details of his biography are lost to history.

“Many of the accounts of Nicholas’ life recount his habit of secret gift-giving to those in need, a tradition that many Christians have felt inspired to continue in his honor,” according to the entry for his feast day in The Episcopal Church’s “Lesser Feasts and Fasts.”

Bishop Mark Edington, who leads the Convocation of Episcopal Churches in Europe, [said in a Facebook post](#) that he chose to leave the ceremonial declarations to other bishops but wanted to use the occasion to draw attention to “the role Turkey played in the early centuries of the church.”

With that in mind, Edington said he planned to mark St. Nicholas’ feast day by donating to [Episcopal Relief & Development](#) to support humanitarian relief to the communities in Turkey still recovering from a deadly and devastating earthquake in February.

“The attention of the world has moved on to other crises, but as the winter sets in again the people left amid the ruins are still struggling to rebuild and recover,” Edington wrote. “May Saint Nicholas’ spirit of generosity guide us in our use of the resources entrusted to us.

– David Paulsen is a senior reporter and editor for Episcopal News Service. He can be reached at dpaulsen@episcopalchurch.org.

Invitation to a Holy Advent

[Linda Buskirk](#)

As sure as Santa Claus directed the crowds into Macy’s at the end of the Thanksgiving



Day parade, we can expect to be swept up into the rush of the “the holidays.”

On Ash Wednesday, we are invited, “to the observance of a holy Lent, by self-examination and repentance; by prayer, fasting, and self-denial; and by reading and meditating on God’s holy Word.” (BCP)

The invitation is just as real at Advent. Well, except for the fasting and self-denial. But let’s not simply surrender to the forces pulling us away from a holy observance. We are invited to journey with Joseph and Mary, considering their amazing calls to serve and how they responded in faith and obedience. We are invited to expect a great light and to find it lying in a manger.

From today onwards, let’s each RSVP in the affirmative to the invitation for a holy Advent. Resolve to make time for prayer, wonder, and contemplation. Invite your children to join you in lighting an Advent wreath at home. Seek new understanding through spiritual Advent resources available at [Vital Practices](#) or [Forward Movement](#). Consider how you can bring the Light of Christ into the world of an aging neighbor, a grieving friend, or a Santa Claus ringing a bell.

The invitation of Advent is not about giving up merriment, but it does require intentionality to push back the crowds, catalogs and spiked eggnog. Create space for holiness and reverent attention. Accept the invitation to light and love.



December 10, 2023 – Advent 2 (B)
Second Week of Advent: Journeying with Family and Friends

As we continue our Advent walk, we invite you to see the Way of Love as a journey that can expand to include family and friends. Mary said “yes” to the call to birth Jesus, God’s Word, into the world and immediately went in haste to share her good news with her cousin, Elizabeth—a four-day journey into the Judean hills. Isn’t that what happens when we hear good news? We are driven to go and tell others. The Way of Love is good news that demands to be shared.

For more Advent resources related to the Way of Love, visit episcopalchurch.org/wayoflove. There, you’ll find links to the full Advent curriculum *Journeying the Way of Love*, as well as *Living the Way of Love in Community*, a nine-session curriculum for use anytime.

Sunday, December 10

WORSHIP

Read Luke 3:1-6. How does the story of John the Baptist fill your heart with hope?

Monday, December 11

TURN

Turn away from the busyness of the world right now. Turn your heart and mind toward giving thanks for this time of reflection, refreshment, and renewal.

Tuesday, December 12

LEARN

Read Luke 1:45. Share your faith story with one new person this week. It can be someone you have known for a while who has not heard the faith part of your story.

Wednesday, December 13

PRAY

Pray along with the Collect for Advent 2, found on page 211 of The Book of Common Prayer. As you are out and about for the rest of this week, notice the people you pass. Ask God to bless them in their lives and work. See how this changes the way you go about your week.

Thursday, December 14

BLESS

Spend a significant amount of time today discerning if there is a special blessing or gift you can share with your church, a local ministry, or with your community. Ask God to inspire and equip you with the fortitude and tools to make this gift something truly memorable and heartfelt.

Friday, December 15

GO

Go out of your way to have a conversation with someone you might not normally visit with today. Ask God to open your heart to hear this person as God does.

Saturday, December 16

REST

Put your phone on airplane mode and leave it in a dresser drawer for an hour or two. Whatever happens in that time, you can handle later. Give this time to yourself and Jesus, to rest and recharge for the week ahead.



THE WAY OF LOVE
Practices for Jesus-Centered Life



Help those in need this winter, Christ The King, by supporting our
Annual “One Warm Coat and Socks” Drive.

October 29 – December 10, 2023

Please bring New or Nearly New coats and socks for Men, Women or Children in all sizes for donation to local non-profit organizations

Now is the time to give back for all the blessings we have received.

Donation boxes for coats will be located in the Guild Room next Sunday

Anyone wanting to make a financial donation, please make your checks payable to “Christ The King Episcopal Church” and place in the collection plate or mail to the church office.

Donations will support the following Non-Profits:

- Trinity Cathedral Food Pantry Outreach
- Catholic Charities of Burlington - Community Access Center

Brought to you by: *Christ The King Parish Life Committee*

“Thanks For Giving”