

Christ The King Episcopal Church

40 Charleston Road, Willingboro, New Jersey 08046

The Fourth Sunday of Advent

Sunday, December 24, 2023. 9.30am



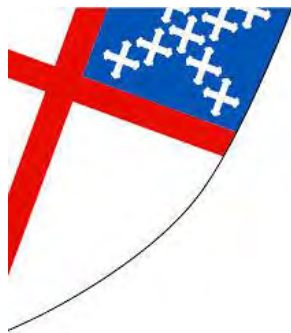
The Reverend Father Vernal Savage
Priest-In-Charge

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

Worship Plan for Sunday, December 24, 2023

4th Sunday of Advent | The Holy Eucharist Rite One | Penitential Order

At the sound of the bell, please stand.

MEDITATION: Behold your God (LEVAS 2)

Oh thou— that tell - est good ti - dings to Zi - on, Oh

thou— that tell - est good ti - dings to Je - ru - sa - lem:

Lift up your voice with strength,— Lift it up don't be a - fraid. Be -

The musical score is written in 6/8 time with a key signature of three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat). It consists of three systems, each with a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The lyrics are: 'Oh thou— that tell - est good ti - dings to Zi - on, Oh', 'thou— that tell - est good ti - dings to Je - ru - sa - lem:', and 'Lift up your voice with strength,— Lift it up don't be a - fraid. Be -'. The piano accompaniment features a steady eighth-note bass line and chords in the right hand.

hold your God. A - rise, and shine, for the

light of the world is come. Be - hold your God!

PROCESSIONAL HYMN *Come, thou long-expected Jesus (Stuttgart) (H 66)*

1 Come, thou long - ex - pect-ed Je - sus, born to set thy peo - ple free;
 2 Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art:
 3 Born thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a child, and yet a king,
 4 By thine own e - ter - nal Spi - rit rule in all our hearts a - lone;

from our fears and sins re - lease us, let us find our rest in thee.
 dear de - sire of ev - ery na - tion, joy of ev - ery long - ing heart.
 born to reign in us for ev - er, now thy gra - cious king - dom bring.
 by thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it raise us to thy glo - rious throne.

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.

We beseech thee, Almighty God, to purify our consciences by thy daily visitation, that when thy Son our Lord cometh he may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

THE LESSONS

FIRST READING: 2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16

[Joan Burke]

The people sit.

A Reading from the Second book of Samuel.

¹Now when the king was settled in his house, and the LORD had given him rest from all his enemies around him, ²the king said to the prophet Nathan, "See now, I am living in a house of cedar, but the ark of God stays in a tent." ³Nathan said to the king, "Go, do all that you have in mind; for the LORD is with you."

⁴But that same night the word of the LORD came to Nathan: ⁵Go and tell my servant David: Thus says the LORD: Are you the one to build me a house to live in? ⁶I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent and a tabernacle. ⁷Wherever I have moved about among all the people of Israel, did I ever speak a word with any of the tribal leaders of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, "Why have you not built me a house of cedar?" ⁸Now therefore thus you shall say to my servant David: Thus says the LORD of hosts: I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep to be prince over my people Israel; ⁹and I have been with you wherever you went, and have cut off all your enemies from before you; and I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. ¹⁰And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may live in their own place, and be disturbed no more; and evildoers shall afflict them no more, as formerly, ¹¹from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel; and I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover the LORD declares to you that the LORD will make you a house. ¹⁶Your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me; your throne shall be established forever.

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

Silence may follow.

PSALM: Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26

[Joan Burke]

Remain seated.

- ¹Your love, O LORD, forever will I sing; *
from age to age my mouth will proclaim your faithfulness.
- ²For I am persuaded that your love is established for ever; *
you have set your faithfulness firmly in the heavens.
- ³“I have made a covenant with my chosen one; *
I have sworn an oath to David my servant:
⁴I will establish your line forever, *
and preserve your throne for all generations.’ ”
- ¹⁹You spoke once in a vision and said to your faithful people: *
“I have set the crown upon a warrior
and have exalted one chosen out of the people.
- ²⁰I have found David my servant; *
with my holy oil have I anointed him.
- ²¹My hand will hold him fast *
and my arm will make him strong.
- ²²No enemy shall deceive him, *
nor any wicked man bring him down.
- ²³I will crush his foes before him *
and strike down those who hate him.
- ²⁴My faithfulness and love shall be with him, *
and he shall be victorious through my Name.
- ²⁵I shall make his dominion extend *
from the Great Sea to the River.
- ²⁶He will say to me, ‘You are my Father, *
my God, and the rock of my salvation.’ ”

SECOND READING: Romans 16:25-27

[Linda Anderson]

The people sit.

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

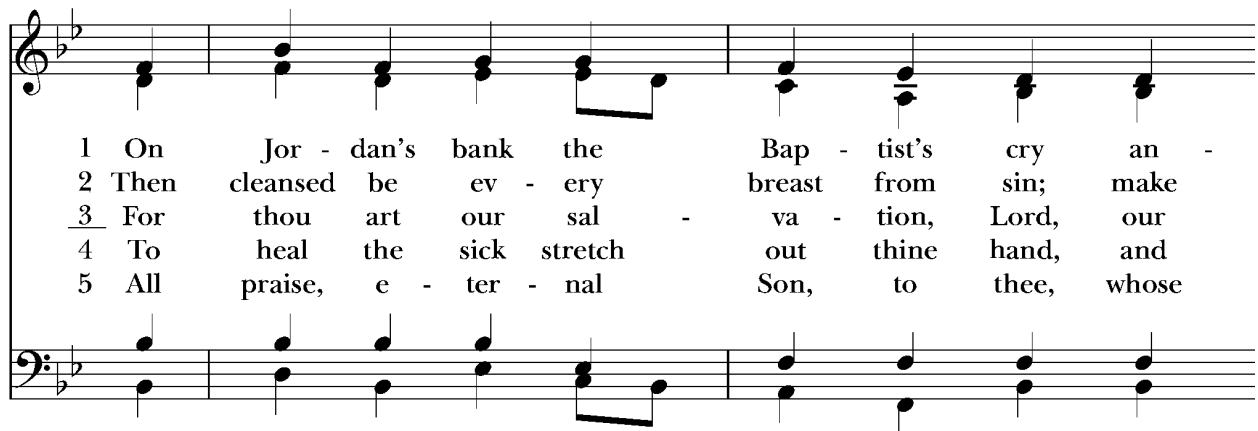
²⁵Now to God who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages ²⁶but is now disclosed, and through the prophetic writings is made known to all the Gentiles, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith—²⁷to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever! Amen.

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

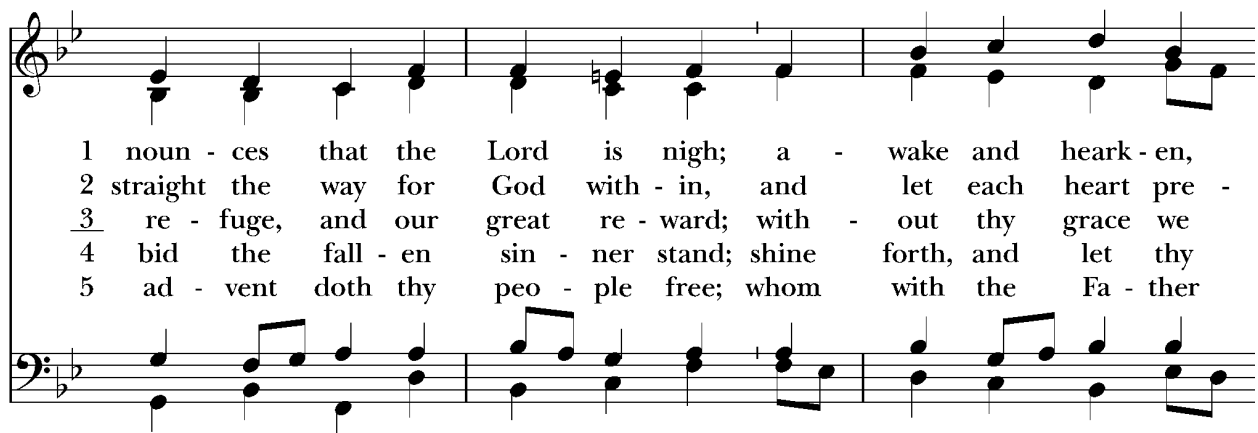
Silence may follow.

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

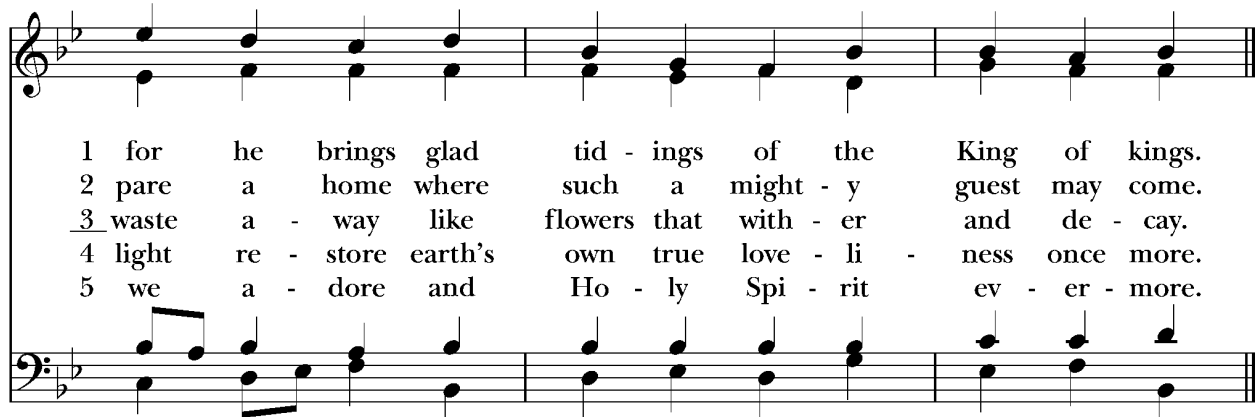
All stand.



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.

GOSPEL: Luke 1:26-38

[The Reverend Vernal Sauvage]

All stand.

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

People Glory be to thee, O Lord.

²⁶In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, ²⁷to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." ²⁹But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. ³⁰The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. ³¹And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. ³²He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. ³³He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." ³⁴Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" ³⁵The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. ³⁶And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. ³⁷For nothing will be impossible with God." ³⁸Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

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 Sauvage]

CHOIR HYMN:

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 O How I Love Jesus (LEVAS 95)

1. There is a name_ I love to hear, I love to sing_ its worth;—
2. It tells me of___ a Sav - ior's love, Who died to set_ me free;—
3. It tells me what_ my Fa - ther hath In store for ev - 'ry day,___
4. It tells of one___ whose lov - ing heart Can feel my deep - est woe,___

1. It sounds like mu - sic in mine ear, The sweet - est name on earth. —
2. It tells me of___ His pre - cious blood, The sin - ner's per - fect plea. —
3. And though I tread_ a dark - some path, Yields sun - shine all the way. —
4. Who in each sor - row bears a part, That none_ can bear be - low. —

O how I love Je - sus, O how I love Je - sus, —

O how I love Je - sus, Be - cause___ He first loved me!___

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It consists of four systems of music. Each system has a vocal line in the treble clef and a piano accompaniment in the bass clef. The key signature is three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat) and the time signature is 6/8. The lyrics are printed below the vocal line of each system.

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.

CHOIR SONGS: "Sign Me Up"

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 O come, O come, Emmanuel (Veni, veni, Emmanuel) (H 56)



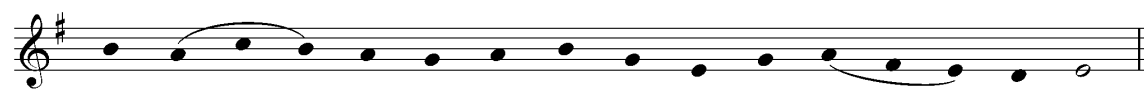
(Dec. 23) 1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som
(Dec. 17) 2 O come, thou Wis - dom from on high, who or - derest
(Dec. 18) 3 O come, O come, thou Lord of might, who to thy
(Dec. 19) 4 O come, thou Branch of Jes - se's tree, free them from
(Dec. 20) 5 O come, thou Key of Da - vid, come, and o - pen
(Dec. 21) 6 O come, thou Day - spring from on high, and cheer us
(Dec. 22) 7 O come, De - sire of na - tions, bind in one the
(Dec. 23) 8 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som



1 cap - tive Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile
2 all things might - i - ly; to us the path of know - ledge
3 tribes on Si - nai's height in an - cient times didst give the
4 Sa - tan's ty - ran - ny that trust thy might - y power to
5 wide our heaven - ly home; make safe the way that leads on
6 by thy draw - ing nigh; dis - perse the gloom - y clouds of
7 hearts of all man - kind; bid thou our sad di - vi - sions
8 cap - tive Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile



1 here un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
2 show, and teach us in her ways to go.
3 law, in cloud, and ma - jes - ty, and awe.
4 save, and give them vic - tory o'er the grave. Re - joice! Re - joice!
5 high, and close the path to mis - er - y.
6 night, and death's dark shad - ow put to flight.
7 cease, and be thy - self our King of Peace.
8 here un - til the Son of God ap - pear.



Em - man - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

The stanzas may be used as antiphons with "The Song of Mary" on the dates given.

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 for voice and piano in 2/4 time. It consists of three systems of music. The first system has a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The lyrics are: "We re - mem - ber His death, — We pro - claim His re - sur - rect -". The second system continues the vocal line and piano accompaniment. The lyrics are: "— ion, — We a - wait — His com - ing — in". The third system has two first endings. The first ending has the lyrics: "glo - ry. — We re - glo - ry. —". The second ending has the lyrics: "glo - ry. —".

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 *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.

ABLUTION *Prepare Ye the Way of the Lord* (LEVAS 11)

The musical score is arranged in five systems. Each system consists of a piano accompaniment (left and right hands) and a vocal line. The piano accompaniment is in 4/4 time and features a steady bass line of quarter notes and chords in the right hand. The vocal line is in treble clef and includes two vocal parts. The lyrics are: "Pre - pare ye the way of the Lord." and "Pre - pare ye the way of the Lord." The second system includes a repeat sign at the beginning and a fermata over the final note of the vocal line. The third system includes a repeat sign at the beginning and a fermata over the final note of the vocal line. The fourth system includes a repeat sign at the beginning and a fermata over the final note of the vocal line. The fifth system includes a repeat sign at the beginning and a fermata over the final note of the vocal line. The lyrics are: "Pre - pare ye the way of the Lord." and "Pre - pare ye the way of the Lord." The score includes triplets and fermatas.

1.-4. *Final ending* **Fine**

1. Make straight in the
 2. Fill ev - 'ry
 3. Go up to a
 4. Say to all

1.-4. *Final ending* **Fine**

D.S.

1. des - ert a high - way for our God.
 2. val - ley, bring all moun - tains low.
 3. moun - tain and shout with a loud voice.
 4. peo - ple, here is your God.

D.S.

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.

RETIRING HYMN *Blest be the King whose coming (Valet will ich dir geben) (H 74)*

Descant

3 Blest be the King whose com - ing is in the name of

1 Blest be the King whose com - ing is in the name of
 2 Blest be the King whose com - ing is in the name of
 3 Blest be the King whose com - ing is in the name of
 4 Blest be the King whose com - ing is in the name of

God! He on - ly to the hum - ble re - veals the face of

God! For him let doors be o - pened, no hearts a - gainst him
 God! By those who tru - ly lis - ten his voice is tru - ly
 God! He on - ly to the hum - ble re - veals the face of
 God! He of - fers to the bur - dened the rest and grace they

God. All power is his, all glo - ry! All

barred! Not robed in roy - al splen - dor, in
 heard; pi - ty the proud and haugh - ty, who
 God. All power is his, all glo - ry! All
 need. Gen - tle is he and hum - ble! And

things are in his hand, all a - ges and all
 power and pomp, comes he; but clad as are the
 have not learned to heed the Christ who is the
 things are in his hand, all a - ges and all
 light his yoke shall be, for he would have us

peo - ples, till time it - self shall end!
 poor - est, such his hu - mil - i - ty!
 Prom - ise, who has a - tone - ment made.
 peo - ples, till time it - self shall end!
 bear it so he can make us free!

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
 3 Been my friend, been my friend, been my

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*

Date	WORSHIP LEADER	EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER	YOUTH LEADER	USHERS	COUNTING
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
Sunday January 7				Hubert Lambert Janette Webster	
Sunday January 14				Gloria Davies Beatrice Ogboukiri	
Sunday January 21				Olin Mitchell Judith Richards	
Sunday January 28				Diane Staten Ransolina Roberts	
Sunday February 4				Patricia Mitchell Regina Lamptey	
Sunday February 11				JoyAnn Lambert Marcus Gales	
Sunday February 18				Hubert Lambert Janette Webster	
Sunday February 25				Gloria Davies Beatrice Ogboukiri	

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 \$19,742.50 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**

Thank you to Christ the King members for all your support during our Annual Christmas Concert. I continue to receive compliments on our blessed event. It was an honor celebrating our "Man For All Seasons", Frank Spencer. May God continue to give us strength to maintain this tribute to start the Advent season. For those who could not join us or watch, please look at the concert it on YouTube at your leisure. Your sister in Christ, **Linda Anderson**

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

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=R3lrV1ZMTG5pUE9zZnllZmgyNTZTdDz09> 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	
7 th - John Booker	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.

From the Priest

I also wanted to share with you the following: -

2. **Bible Study (reminder)** will be held on Tuesdays of each week at 7:00pm. The change takes effect this week, but we will not have bible study because of my attendance at the clergy conference.
3. **Day off (reminder)** has been changed from Fridays of each week to Mondays beginning in the season of Advent. This becomes effective the week of December 10th.
4. **Office Volunteers (reminder)** – 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.
5. **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 9:30pm)
6. Birthday Party for Jesus - Sponsored by the Commission on Black Ministry. All youth are invited to attend the event to be held on Friday, December 29th, 2023 at 4:00pm on ZOOM. The ZOOM meeting ID 965-136-9748 and the password 859 488.

POSITION VACANT

- Church Secretary
- Treasurer

Contact the Priest-In-Charge or Senior Warden if you are interested.

An inspirational Christmas message to church members

A blessed Christmas to you! May Joy be your gift at Christmas and may Faith, Hope, and Love be your treasures in the New Year. As we celebrate the birth of Jesus, may His light illuminate your path and His peace fill your heart. Wishing you a Christmas filled with heavenly blessings.



Presiding Bishop Michael Curry's Christmas Message 2023:



good news of great joy for all people: To you is born this day in the city of David, a savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. And this will be a sign for you: You will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.” And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, “Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!” The message of the angel is as scandalous and striking now as it was then. For in it is embedded God's message in the death and resurrection of Jesus: to trust and believe in the invincibility of the good in spite of the titanic reality of evil, because God is good all the time.

To trust and believe in the enduring power of love, of truth, of the good, and of justice when the reality of the opposite seems so prodigious. To trust and believe in the enduring power of love, justice, kindness, and compassion, all

because God is love and the author of all that is true, noble, and just. “Do not be afraid,” the Scripture says, “for see, I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: To you is born this day in the city of David, a savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. And this will be a sign for you: You will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.”

Lord, we pray, give us this sign anew. Give us the lowly, the tired, those of high estate and low, and those of no estate. Church folk, those who haven't stepped through the red doors for years or ever, give us all a sign. Give us the working, the watching, the weeping. Give us that sign anew; as you did in the first century, so now in the 21st. Give us the expected, the faithful, the passionate, the undeserving; give us a sign.

“The angel said to them, ‘Do not be afraid, for see, I am bringing you good news of great joy for all people: To you is born this day in the city of David, a savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord.’”

On behalf of the entire Episcopal Church, we wish you and yours a Merry Christmas and a joyous new year.

God love you. God bless you. May God hold us all in those almighty hands of love. Merry Christmas.

**The Most Rev. Michael B. Curry
Presiding Bishop and Primate, The Episcopal
Church**

‘A sign for you’

The following is a transcript of Episcopal Church Presiding Bishop Michael Curry's recorded Christmas message for 2023.

Hello to my family of faith in The Episcopal Church, and to all of our ecumenical and interfaith friends, and to all people of love and goodwill.

I want to first thank you all for your prayers and well wishes this year as I have weathered some health issues. Please know that I'm doing well, following the doctor's orders.

I'm also ever more aware of the power of the messages of Advent to watch, to wait, and to listen to the pregnant voice of silence, as one version of the Bible says. And out of that watching, waiting, and listening, following the way of Jesus of Nazareth and his way of love, the Spirit of God being our helper.

So please allow me to offer a reading from the Gospel according to Luke. You know it well. The deep truth embedded in it, simple story of the birth of a baby. That deep truth has long given me strength for these 70 years, strength that I often did not have on my own. For some, it may seem fanciful, but in its own way, it points to what the Bible calls hope beyond hope. It reads:

While Mary and Joseph were in Bethlehem, the time came for her to deliver her child. She gave birth to her firstborn son, wrapped him in bands of cloth and laid him in a manger because there was no place for them in the guest room. Now in that same region, there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. The angel said to them, “Do not be afraid, for see, I am bringing you

CHRIST THE KING EPISCOPAL CHURCH 2024 PLEDGE CARD

NAME:	ENVELOPE #
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	PLEDGE DESCRIPTION	FREQUENCY Amounts			
		WEEKLY	MONTHLY	QUARTERLY	ONE-TIME
1	Pledge/Tithe (Weekly or Monthly)	\$ -	\$ -		
2	Initial Offering				\$ -
3	Altar Guild		\$ -		
4	Dues: ECW		\$ -		\$ -
5	Dues: Men of CTK		\$ -		\$ -
6	Building Fund		\$ -		
7	Mission Offering			\$ -	
8	Maundy Thursday				\$ -
9	Good Friday				\$ -
10	Easter				\$ -
11	Christmas				\$ -
12	Thanksgiving				\$ -
13	Repast				\$ -
14	Endowment				\$ -
15	Youth				\$ -
16	Other:				\$ -
17	Other:				\$ -
18	Other:				\$ -

Signature: _____

Dear Parishioners. Above is your 2023 Pledge (Estimated Giving) Card.
Please enter your pledges in the white area only. We will do the math for you.
Line 1: Enter either your weekly pledge or your monthly pledge only.
I understand that I can adjust this estimate of giving at any time by contacting the Treasurer.
Pledge payments can be made online by Credit Card or ACH (Checking Account).
Contact the Treasurer for more and questions or additional information