



## Fourth Sunday of Advent / Christmas Eve

December 24

- 10:00 a.m. Lessons and Carols  
with Holy Communion  
(Only one morning service!)
- 4:00 p.m. *Weihnachtsmesse*  
German-language service
- 6:00 p.m. Holy Communion  
around the Crèche  
with Carols and Candlelight
- 10:00 p.m. Holy Communion with  
Carols and Candlelight  
(Incense)

## Christmas Day

December 25

- 11:00 a.m. Carols and Communion

## First Sunday of Christmas

December 31

- 10:00 a.m. Holy Communion  
(Only one morning service!)

January 1

- 6:00 p.m. Organ Concert

## Join a Choir or Chorus?

January is a time when our programs restart — a good time to consider joining the Choir or Chorus! If you sing and wish to participate, please speak to Rick or Brian!

## New Year's Day Organ Concert

Monday, January 1 at 6:00 p.m., join Brian Glikes and Rick Erickson as they perform our popular annual New Year's Day organ concert - this year featuring works for organ four hands and feet! Works presented will include a transcription of Mendelssohn's Reformation symphony, along with music by Mozart. All welcome!

## January 7 Festival of the Epiphany and Baptism of Our Lord

Join us in closing the 12 days of Christmas with the celebration of Epiphany and Baptism of Our Lord on January 7. We will bless the nave and inscribe the lintel at the 8:30 and 10:50 a.m. services. The magi will be back and coffee hour features king cake. A printed prayer rite and chalk can be taken home to inscribe and bless one's own house or door.

## January 7 Small Catechisms for 3 Year Old Children

Children age 3 will receive the gift of Luther's Small Catechism to mark the milestone of language which they acquire during their third year of life. Children are now ready for the fun with words and welcome the discovery of making meaning. Prayer life and the passing on of prayer traditions can now be shaped in home and church life. Families with three year old children are invited for the milestone recognition at both Sunday services.

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## SUNDAY FORUM

*on break until January*

**December 24** — No Sunday Forum Worship at 10:00 a.m.

**December 31** — No Sunday Forum Worship at 10:00 a.m.

## Flowers for January and February

The 2018 Altar Guild Flower Chart is on the mobile bulletin board. Flower arrangements for weekend services are \$65. **January and February have many open Sundays for flower dedications.** Please pay for the flowers when you sign up. For online giving use the Donate link on the church home page. Checks to Christ the King Lutheran Church or cash in an envelope should say "Altar Flowers."

## Luther League Escape Room Trip January 7, 5:00 p.m.

A great afternoon of fellowship as we welcome the New Year, locked together in a room together for an hour at the Houston Escape Room. We will meet at church and car-pool over to Houston Escape Room located at 100 Jackson St #120 at 5:00 p.m. Cost is \$20 which covers admission and dinner. Please RSVP to Ben Remmert ASAP. Friends are welcome to attend.

## Are You Interested in Membership with Christ the King Church?

Friends who are new (or not so new!) to Christ the King Church are warmly invited to a luncheon and orientation on Sunday, **January 21 at 12:30 p.m., in the 3rd floor conference room.**



The meeting has three purposes.

1. Establish new friendship with each other and the pastoral staff.
2. Learn about this community of faith – who we are, our traditions, our commitments, our place in global Lutheranism, why we do things the way we do.
3. Express whether one wants to demonstrate public commitment to God's mission to the world through the ministry of Christ the King Lutheran Church.

New members will be received in worship on Sunday, January 28. Please contact the church office ([ctk@ctkelc.org](mailto:ctk@ctkelc.org) or 713-528-2864) to sign-up for the lunch meeting, or speak with one of the pastors if you have further questions. Wherever and whoever you have been, you are welcome here as one of God's children and Christ's disciples in our mission to amplify God's love in the world.

## Contemplative Worship Saturdays, 6:00 p.m.

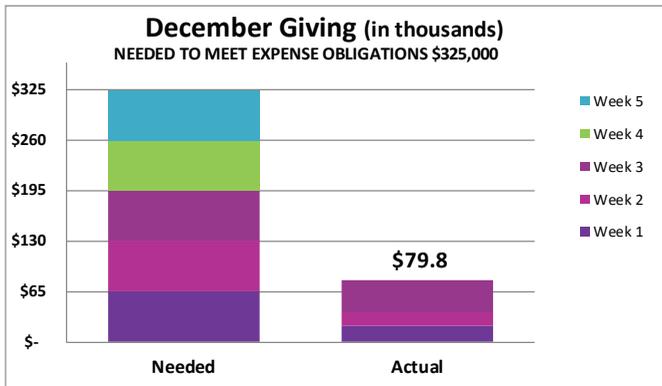
Saturday at 6:00 p.m. worshipers gather for a contemplative service with holy communion. Hymns and chants, short readings and times for silence invite mind and heart to quiet down and open up for God's word and promise. Prayer around the Cross and Anointing with Healing Blessing are included on the first and second Saturdays of the month respectively.

## We Love a Parade!

On **Martin Luther King Jr. Day, Monday, January 15**, the "Love Thy Neighbor" Group of Christ the King Church joins the MLK Grande Parade. All members and friends are welcome to join. The parade starts at the corner of Elgin and San Jacinto at 10:00 a.m., but all groups gather for registration by 9:00 a.m. at the SE corner of Holman and San Jacinto. The theme of the parade is "The Color of Unity." We will have a banner, two cars, and however many would like to walk the route of 1.5 miles with individual signs provided (or you can make your own). Please contact Rebecca Shields at [rshields63@gmail.com](mailto:rshields63@gmail.com) if you are interested in joining the parade walkers, representing Christ the King Church's commitment to the Gospel-Faith,-Justice-Welcome. We need an accurate count of participants by January 8 so to ensure enough signs for all.

## Your Ministry Needs Your Generosity

It's not unusual that we need your generosity at the end of the year to balance the budget and to start the new year with a necessary reserve fund. No thanks to Harvey, we are down on receipts and high on expenses. We need \$325,000 by year's end to ensure our health going into 2018. Last year we came near this mark at year's end. Can we do it again? And better? Thank you so much for your prayerful and sacrificial support.



## Give Generously. Reduce Taxable Income.

An IRA donation can do even more. It can help you build a bright future for Christ the King and enjoy some special tax advantages.

As some of our members have discovered, the IRA Charitable Rollover allows individuals age 70½ and over to give up to \$100,000 per year directly from an IRA to Christ the King. This action can satisfy your required minimum distribution (RMD) while being excluded from your taxable income.

Build bright futures. What could be better?

## Keeping Connected to Christ the King Church



Christ the King Church has many opportunities to stay connected to life in and outside the church through facebook and our **weekly MailChimp email service**. Keep an eye out for these great opportunities to participate and keep in touch with the life of Christ the King Church. Please let us know

if you are not getting out weekly emails, and for extra assistance, please contact the church office at [ctk@ctkelc.org](mailto:ctk@ctkelc.org).

**Like Us On Facebook**—Christ the King Lutheran Church—and stay connected.

### **This is Christ's church. There is a place for you here.**

We are the church that shares a living, daring confidence in God's grace. Liberated by our faith, we embrace you as a whole person—questions, complexities and all. Join us as we do God's work in Christ's name for the life of the world. [elca.org](http://elca.org)

## Plan Ahead- Summer 2018

### Lutherhill Elementary Summer Camp- July 15-July 20

Those completed 1st-5th grade will spend a whole week at Lutherhill discovering all of the joys camp has to offer with Deacon Ben Remmert! Alpha Campers (1st Graders) are at camp from July 15-18 and Youngin's (2nd-3rd Graders) and Yearling's (4th-6th Graders) are at camp from July 15-20. Enjoy fun bible studies, camp-wide worships, afternoon activities and daily All Camp activities. Spend an evening around the campfire making s'mores. Sign up and register by February 15 to guarantee a spot.

### Lutherhill Beach Camp July 22-27

Those that have completed 6th-8th grade can experience a week at Lutherhill as a confirmation group with Deacon Ben Remmert! Beach camp is located at the new Zion Retreat Center, Galveston Island. Campers will experience the love of Christ both inside and outside the walls of Zion by taking advantage of the beach and surrounding attractions. Jr. High students will dive into Bible studies, enjoy worships on the Gulf of Mexico, cook for one another, experience service opportunities in the surrounding communities, explore the island of Galveston, and grow in community with fellow junior high students. Sign up and register by February 15.

**We celebrate with these members and friends who are remembering their baptism this week:**

Sarah Thweatt	Peter Nikonowicz	Penny Linsenmayer
Alexandra Uri	David Jurgens	Stephanie Hoogerwerf
Katie Feuille	Will Mallon	Alexander Skoracki
Evren Gener	Pierce Mathis	Christina Azure-Keller
Niell Gorman	Charles Turner	Marlee Thompson
Eric Olafson	Lucky Sahualla	Anna Fay Williams
Louis Monroe	Oliver Miertschin	Shanna Thorvilson
		Meredith Murphy

**Sunday, December 24**

- 10:00 a.m. Lessons and Carols with Holy Communion, nave
- 4:00 p.m. *Weihnachtsmesse*  
German-language service, nave
- 6:00 p.m. Holy Communion around the Crèche with Carols and Candlelight, nave
- 10:00 p.m. Holy Communion with Carols and Candlelight (Incense), nave

**Monday, December 25 Christmas Day**

- Church Office Closed
- 11:00 a.m. Carols and Communion, nave

**Tuesday, December 26**

- Church Office Closed
- 8:15 a.m. Morning Prayer, 3rd floor

**Wednesday, December 27**

- 8:15 a.m. Morning Prayer, 3rd floor

**Thursday, December 28**

- 8:15 a.m. Morning Prayer, 3rd floor

**Friday, December 29**

- 8:15 a.m. Morning Prayer, 3rd floor

**Saturday, December 30**

- 6:00 p.m. Contemplative Worship, nave

**Sunday, December 31**

- 10:00 a.m. Worship, nave

**Monday, January 1 New Year's Day**

- Church Office Closed
- 8:15 a.m. Morning Prayer, 3rd floor
- 6:00 p.m. Organ Concert, nave

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The Rev. Dr. Duane Larson, Senior Pastor  
The Rev. Karin Liebster, Associate Pastor  
Deacon Ben Remmert, Director of Youth and Family Ministry  
Beverly Davis, Director of Congregational Care  
Linda Schoene, Congregational Nurse  
Deacon Rick Erickson, Cantor, Director of Bach Society Houston  
Brian Glikes, Music Associate Robert Walp, Brass Choir Director  
Noelle Jung, Church Business Administrator

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Email: [ctk@ctkelc.org](mailto:ctk@ctkelc.org) Website: [ctkelc.org](http://ctkelc.org)  
Office Hours: Tuesday - Friday 7:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.



**ELCA  
World Hunger  
Appeal**

The mission offering is collected at the church doors at the end of worship.

The December Mission Offering is designated for the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America World Hunger Appeal. The ELCA's commitment to supporting people who live with chronic hunger, disease, and poverty around the corner and around the world is carried out by ELCA World Hunger through relief, development, education, and advocacy. **Last year, we contributed over \$24,000** to the World Hunger Appeal and, historically, our congregation has regarded the World Hunger Appeal as one of our distinctive global mission priorities.

All money raised by the World Hunger Appeal comes through specially designated offerings and donations from ELCA members, congregations, and friends. ELCA World Hunger receives no benevolence (general budget money from general ELCA member offerings); the ELCA's world hunger ministry is based in congregations, where most of the fundraising takes place.

**Mexico Spring Break Trip: March 9-14, 2018  
\$500 deposit due asap, Balance due February 1**

The Combined Choir and Chorus of Christ the King Church is travelling south to Mexico City for Spring Break 2018. Members and friends of CTK are welcome to join the choir and chorus for this trip! We will carry the spirit of the Reformation forward as we join in songs and service with sister congregations (Spanish and German Speaking) and with the Lutheran Seminary. We will engage in a day of service through Amextra after preparing prayerfully for this adventure as part of our Lenten Worship. There will be plenty of time for organized cultural and touristic adventures too. Tour Packets are available in the Narthex or via email. **Dates:** March 9-14 with an option to add on two days until March 16.

**Price for Singers and Youth:** \$1,750 for 5 day and \$2000 includes airfare, most meals, lodging (4 star), and activities. \$500 deposit due immediately Balance due February 1.

Travel will be arranged on Southwest Airlines and through Amextra for group travel. Contact Rick Erickson, Alicia Goodrow or Anna Vanbuskirk for more info.