



## **Lessons and Carols in Sunday Worship**

**December 8, 8:30 and 10:50 a.m.**

Festive music and Advent readings lead through the Story of Salvation of our God in anticipation of the advent of Jesus Christ, the Redeemer, to be born in Bethlehem. Our Church Choir, Chorus, together with children and youth tell the story in song while the confirmation youth lead most of the liturgy. All are invited to the festive Advent reception in the courtyard between services.

## **Annual Meeting of the Congregation, Part 1**

**December 8, 12:30 p.m., parish hall**

Part 1 of the Annual Meeting of the congregation will take place on Sunday, December 8, immediately following the 10:50 a.m. service. The agenda will include presentation of preliminary budget for 2020 and council member elections. Your presence and voice in the planning and administration of our congregational life together is vital. Thank you for your presence and support.

## **Justice Advocacy Event**

**Sunday, December 8,  
after each worship service**

The Justice Advocacy Ministry Team invites you to advocate for justice after each worship service on Sunday, December 8. There will be several justice topics to choose from & different ways to advocate (including using your iphone!). Stop by the table after worship and raise your voice for justice!

## **Pledge Cards 2020**

***We Build a House***

All members and friends are welcome to participate in our annual stewardship campaign. Pledge cards are available in the narthex and may be placed in the offering or turned in to the church office.

## **Advent Organ Meditations**

**Fridays, December 13 and 20, 12:15 p.m**

Music and readings for Advent focus our hearts on expectant anticipation. Come and enjoy 30 minute meditations with music from the organ and scripture reading on December 13 and 20, 12:15-12:45 p.m. in the nave.

## **Bach Vespers for Advent**

**Sunday, December 15 at 6:00 p.m.**

Vespers for Advent on Sunday, December 15 at 6:00 p.m. will feature our Bach Choir and Orchestra presenting Bach's Cantata 36 "Schwingt freudig euch empor."

Also featured will be hymns of the season, organ settings of the chorale "Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland," motets by Handel, Hassler, and a rare gem from the period of the Mexican Baroque by an anonymous composer! Please join us for this always popular seasonal observance. Vespers is preceded by a talk in the parish hall at 5:15. A wine and cheese reception follows. Free will offering will be received.

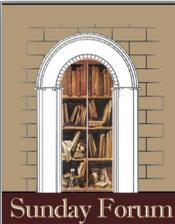
## **Longest Night**

**Service of Hope and Comfort**

**Saturday, December 21, 6:00 p.m.**

This contemplative service offers time for remembering, sharing our hurting places with God, and preparing our hearts for the coming of Christ. Join others for whom the Christmas season is bittersweet to hear scripture, offer prayers for healing and wholeness, and to sing hymns that acknowledge God's presence with those who mourn and grieve, with those who suffer, and with those who struggle. God is the light shining in our darkness. All are welcome! The service will be followed by a brief time for light refreshments and fellowship.

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## SUNDAY FORUM

9:45 a.m. in the parish hall

**December 8:** Lessons and Carols Festive Advent Reception in the courtyard

**December 15:** Children's Christmas Pageant in the parish hall. Waffle Café by Luther League.

**December 22:** The Magnificat is an ancient song of the church, and has been inspiration for music and art. Join Rick and Mary Joy as they explore some musical settings from a wide variety of sources.

**December 29:** Christmas Goodies in the courtyard

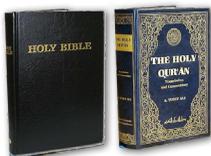
### Young Adults/Young Professionals

CTK Young Adults meet **December 15, again after Advent Bach Vespers, 7:00 p.m.**, at The Ginger Man for "Holiday Cheer and Chatter." As ever, we enjoy community with each other by catching up on personal news and looking forward with planning for a robust 2020.

### The New Lutheran-Muslim "Scriptural Reasoning" Group

**Tuesday, December 17, 6:00 p.m.**

**at the Blue Mosque – The Islamic Institute**



Come join this dynamic new group of Lutherans and Muslims at the Blue Mosque – The Islamic Institute, 9301 W. Belfort Ave. on **Tuesday,**

**December 17 at 6:00 p.m.** We'll read and discuss parallel texts from The Bible and the Qur'an while deepening understanding of our own and our neighbors' faith. We'll also enjoy a meal together. See Pastor Duane for further info.

### Pageant: *Christmas Around the World*

**December 15, 10:00 a.m.**

We celebrate Christmas (a bit early) with the pageant *Christmas Around the World*. All children join to sing and play the story of Jesus' birth. On December 15, all children will meet at 9:30 a.m. in the parish hall to get ready. Bring the whole family and enjoy waffles baked by the Luther League until the doors open at 10 a.m. The youth will make sure to have plenty of waffles for the cast after the show. Rehearsal times are in the schedule below, dress rehearsal will be on December 14.

### Music Practice for Children and Youth

We invite all children and youth to join rehearsals in the parish hall for the Christmas Pageant, Advent 2 and Christmas Eve.

#### Rehearsal work:

December 7, 10-11:30 a.m. (Saturday)

December 14, 10-11:30 a.m. (Saturday)

### Worship, Christmas pageant, Christmas Eve:

December 8, Sunday morning, Advent 2

December 15, Christmas Pageant, Advent 3, between services

December 24, 6:00 p.m. service

### Tamales! Tamales! Tamales!

Between services on **Sunday, December 15**, the members of Good Shepherd Church (El Buen Pastor) will be selling their delicious tamales again. The cost is \$12 per package. Proceeds go to support projects for their church. Remember, don't wait too long, they always go fast. Thank you to our friends at El Buen Pastor Lutheran Church.

### Year-End Tax Deductible Contributions from Any Asset

As you prayerfully consider your calendar year-end giving, remember: You can take advantage of the charitable tax deduction for any gifts given before December 31. Checks must be dated and postmarked in 2019. Of course any gifts placed in the offering plate through December will be credited to 2019.

## Flowers for the Nave

The 2020 Altar Guild Flower Chart will soon be on the mobile bulletin board. Flower arrangements for weekend services are \$65. Please pay for the flowers when you sign up. Checks can be made out to Christ the King Lutheran Church with "Altar Flowers" in the memo line and placed in the offering.

## Shop & Support our Fundraiser for Luther League!

It's never been easier to change a life for the better and support the Luther League this holiday season. You'll do a world of good by supporting this Serrv & Earn fundraiser. Dedicating to fighting poverty through fair trade since 1949, Serrv International works with nearly 8,000 artisans and farmers in 24 countries to bring you the world's most beautiful handcrafts. Until December 23, you can get your shopping done buying handmade gifts and home décor for your friends and family. Use the web link [www.serrv.org?a=LutherLeague](http://www.serrv.org?a=LutherLeague) and 20% of your purchase will be donated to Luther League. Thank you so much for your support!

## How Can I Get Involved at Christ the King Church in 2020?

Each year the members of Christ the King Church generously donate their time and talent to the mission of living our faith. As we approach our 75th anniversary year, we invite members and friends to fill out a survey indicating your interests. In December you will receive a catalog in your email in-box (in PDF format) which describes many opportunities for your involvement in congregational life and community outreach in 2020. You will then receive a link to an online survey at [SurveyMonkey.com](http://SurveyMonkey.com) to indicate your interests. Of course, there will also be paper copies available, both the catalog and response forms, in the narthex. We hope everyone will consider getting involved in strengthening our congregation's mission to be a healing place for one another, our community, and the world.

## ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

### Third Sunday of Advent

#### December 14

6:00 p.m. Contemplative Worship *Healing Blessing*

#### December 15

8:30 a.m. Worship

10:00 a.m. Children's Christmas Pageant and Waffle Café

10:50 a.m. Worship

6:00 p.m. Bach Vespers for Advent

#### Friday, December 20

12:15 p.m. Advent Organ Meditation

Music and readings for Advent

### Fourth Sunday of Advent

#### December 21

6:00 p.m. Contemplative Worship *The Longest Night*  
A Service of Hope and Comfort

#### December 22

8:30 a.m. Worship

10:50 a.m. Worship

### Christmas Eve

#### December 24

4:00 p.m. *Heiligabend* 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 28

6:00 p.m. Contemplative Worship

#### December 29

8:30 a.m. Worship

10:50 a.m. Worship

### New Year's Day

#### January 1

6:00 p.m. New Year's Day Concert on the Bach Organ

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

Susanna Schuster	Aeron Hoogerwerf
Michael Vollmers	Peter Winston
Yanis Eberhart	Dorothy Chesley
Yonas Eberhart	Ryan Morris

### Sunday, December 8

8:30 a.m. Worship/Lessons & Carols  
 9:45 a.m. Advent Reception, courtyard  
 9:45 a.m. Sunday School and Confirmation  
 9:45 a.m. Justice Advocacy, courthard  
 10:50 a.m. Worship/Lessons & Carols  
 12:30 p.m. Congregation meeting, parish hall  
 12:30 p.m. Luther League, youth room

### Monday, December 9

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

### Tuesday, December 10

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

### Wednesday, December 11

8:15 a.m. Morning Prayer, 3rd floor  
 6:15 p.m. Brass Choir, 001  
 7:30 p.m. Church Choir, 001  
 7:30 p.m. Chorus, 011

### Thursday, December 12

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

### Friday, December 13

8:15 a.m. Morning Prayer, nave  
 9:00 a.m. Prayer Shawl Ministry, 3rd floor  
 10:00 a.m. Final Friday Morning Bible Study of the year, council room  
 12:15 p.m. Advent organ meditation, nave

### Saturday, December 14

10:00 a.m. Child/youth music  
 1:00 p.m. Yoga, parish hall  
 6:00 p.m. Contemplative Worship, nave

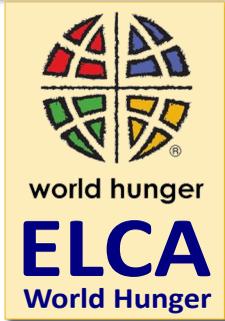
### Sunday, December 15

8:30 a.m. Worship, ELW 5  
 9:45 a.m. Waffle Cafe, parish hall  
 9:45 a.m. Christmas Pageant, parish hall  
 10:50 a.m. Worship, ELW 5  
 12:30 p.m. Luther League, youth room  
 6:00 p.m. Bach Vespers, nave  
 7:00 p.m. Young Adults, offsite



## ELCA WORLD HUNGER APPEAL

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 \$18,882** 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.

## Advent Star

During Advent through Epiphany a star appears at Christ the King Lutheran Church. In the early nineteenth century special multi-pointed stars began to be used in the Moravian churches of Saxony. They are made from paper, perhaps originally as geometry projects. Soon the stars were very popular in the churches as reminders of the light of creation, of the prophecy that a star would arise out of Jacob, of the Star of Bethlehem, and of the bright and Morning Star, Jesus Christ. They also became popular in the Lutheran churches of Saxony and beyond. The star appears in Advent and remains until the Epiphany of Our Lord and sometimes even later.

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  
 Mary Joy Silmaro, Music Associate    Robert Walp, Brass Choir Director  
 Beth Hartfiel, Interim Church Administrator 2353 Rice Blvd, Houston TX, 77005  
 Phone: 713-523-2864    Email: ctk@ctkelc.org    Website: ctkelc.org  
 Office Hours: Tuesday - Friday 7:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.