



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. 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.

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! 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.

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 start the new year with a necessary reserve fund. We need \$195,000 by year's end to ensure our health going into 2020. Thank you for your prayerful sacrificial support.



Longest Night

Service of Hope and Comfort

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

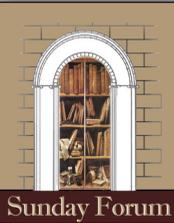
This contemplative service offers time for remembering, sharing our hurting places with God, and preparing our hearts for the coming of Christ. Join others for whom the Christmas season is bittersweet to hear scripture, offer prayers for healing and wholeness, and to sing hymns that acknowledge God's 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.

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 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.

T
H
I
S

W
E
E
K



SUNDAY FORUM
9:45 a.m. in the parish hall

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

The 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. Bellfort 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.

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.

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.

Advent Organ Meditations

Friday, December 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 20, 12:15-12:45 p.m. in the nave.

SEARCH Coffee Ministry

Wednesday, December 18, 10:00 a.m.

Please join us in hosting our monthly coffee hour for SEARCH Homeless Services clients at the Perry St. Apartments, 4415 Perry, a New Hope Housing project in the Third Ward **Wednesday, December 18, 10:00-11:00 a.m.** This collaboration with SEARCH takes place every third Wednesday of the month. For more information, contact Beverly at beverlydavis@ctkelc.org. **We are collecting 2020 calendars** for Perry Street residents. Drop off in the basket in the narthex.

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 and 20% of your purchase will be donated to Luther League. Thank you so much for your support!

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.

Flowers for the Nave

The 2020 Altar Guild Flower Chart is 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.

Community of Hope Training begins in January — Is God Calling You to be a Lay Chaplain?

Do you want to deepen your relationship with God? Do you want to acquire the skills needed to handle different life situations in your every day journey? Do you want to be comfortable extending God’s love to your family, friends, and neighbors?

Then, the Community of Hope may be for you! In addition to providing training to equip laypersons to serve in pastoral care ministry as Lay Chaplains, the Community of Hope offers a journey into wholeness through spiritual growth opportunities in a community shaped by prayer and Benedictine spirituality.

At Christ the King Lutheran Church, we have trained 119 Community of Hope Lay Chaplains (both members of our congregation and from many other congregations) who live out their call to be “holy listeners” in many different settings: in their families, their workplaces, their neighborhoods, hospitals, nursing homes, hospice, and within the congregation. You are invited to consider becoming a part of our Community of Hope.

Classes will be held on Monday evenings, January 27 through April 6. Class size is limited. Registration deadline is January 10. For more information or to receive an application, contact Beverly Davis at beverlydavis@ctkelc.org or 713-400-0517.

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:

Jennifer Dyer	Trey Bourne
Daniel Zorn	Robert Hoover
Bill Marks	Richard Stuff
Matthew Boles	Eldon Thomas

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

Monday, December 16

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

Tuesday, December 17

8:15 a.m. Morning Prayer, 3rd floor
6:00 p.m. Scriptural Reasoning, offsite

Wednesday, December 18

8:15 a.m. Morning Prayer, 3rd floor
10:00 a.m. SEARCH Coffee Hour, offsite
6:15 p.m. Brass Choir, 001
7:30 p.m. Church Choir, 001
7:30 p.m. Chorus, 011

Thursday, December 19

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

Friday, December 20

8:15 a.m. Morning Prayer, nave
9:00 a.m. Prayer Shawl Ministry, 3rd floor
12:15 p.m. Advent organ meditation, nave

Saturday, December 21

1:00 p.m. Yoga, parish hall
6:00 p.m. Contemplative Worship/
Longest Night, nave
6:00 p.m. Sr High Coffee Hour, offsite

Sunday, December 22

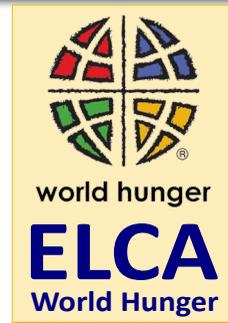
8:30 a.m. Worship, ELW 5
9:45 a.m. Sunday Forum, parish hall
9:45 a.m. Sunday School
10:50 a.m. Worship, ELW 5

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.



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.