

CHRIST THE KING LUTHERAN CHURCH

A member church of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA)

Church Phone - 210-658-2254 Website - www.ctk-uc.org



"Love Incarnate"
By Hannah Garrity

JANUARY 3, 2021, 9:00 AM 2ND SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS

Items to BRING from HOME: this bulletin, your Bible, bread & wine/grape juice for communion, LBW (green Lutheran Book of Worship hymnal - we suggest you leave this in your car)

WELCOME TO WORSHIP in this FUN and unique way of Drive-In Worship! It is a blessing to be gathered, even if it is differently than hoped!!

In order to love and serve our neighbors, we ask that **everyone remain in your vehicles and do not congregate outside of your car**. If you are further than 6 feet from the next person and want to roll your windows down, please use discretion and care FOR YOUR NEIGHBOR with how far you open the window and please wear a mask. Please care for one another in working together for this special Drive-In Worship. Thank you!

COMMUNION IS OPEN TO EVERYONE! We are part of a larger community with an open table and an open invitation to receive the gift of Holy Communion for all persons, of all ages, who believe in Jesus. Because of Covid precautions, distribution will happen individually in your cars. Please see an usher BEFORE worship to receive the elements. A gluten free option is available for those who prefer that option.

Prelude – ELW #297 “Jesus, What a Wonderful Child”

Opening Hymn - LBW #60 “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing” vs. 1, 3

Welcome & Announcements

Invocation

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

P: We gather together in the name in which we live, the name in which we baptize, in the name of the † Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. **C: Amen.**

Call to Worship

L: Divine Voice, in the beginning

C: It was you who spoke over the water and brought forth creation.

L: And then it was you who asked, “Cain, where is your brother?”

C: It was you who spoke to Elijah in a still, small voice.

L: And it was you who spoke,

C: through angels, to Mary and Joseph and the shepherds.

L: You have always been speaking -

C: in words, in memories, in songs and in dreams.

L: So today, as we prepare to worship you and to hear your word,

C: we ask that you would speak to us once again - as only you can -

L: so that we might speak this same good news to others.

C: We are listening and we are grateful. Let us dream and let us speak. Amen.

Confession and Forgiveness

P: God of today and tomorrow,

C: We know that your fingerprints are all over this world. And we know That those who dream cannot keep silent. So today we pray, Give us eyes to see you. Give us courage to trust you. And give us lips to speak of you in our midst. Gratefully we pray, Amen.

P: Beloved of God, hear this good news of peace and salvation: by God’s endless grace † your sins are forgiven, and you are free - free from all that holds you back and free to live courageously. Free to be one who dreams. With all who come to the manger, rejoice in this amazing gift of grace.

C: Amen.

THE GREETING

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you. (HONK your horns and wave to greet your neighbors.)

Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray ...

C: Almighty God, in the beautiful darkness of night you chose to come among us and live as one of us. You have filled all the earth with the love of your incarnate Word. By your grace empower us to reflect your love in all that we do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READINGS (See page 6 for complete texts.)

Jeremiah 31:7-14; Psalm 147:12-20; Ephesians 1:3-14

Gospel Announced

John 1:1-18

(Turn on flashers to honor the Gospel reading (in place of standing))

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John the 1st chapter.

C: **Glory to you, O Lord**

¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. ⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. ⁹The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. ¹⁰He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. ¹¹He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. ¹²But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, ¹³who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. ¹⁴And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. ¹⁵(John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") ¹⁶From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. ¹⁷The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. ¹⁸No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon - (HONK for Amen!)

Pastor Mike Widner

HYMN OF THE DAY - ELW #292 "Love Has Come"



1 Love has come— a light in the dark - ness! Love shines forth in the
2 Love is born! Come, share in the won - der. Love is God now a -
3 Love has come and nev - er will leave us! Love is life ev - er -



Beth - le - hem skies. See, all heav - en has come to pro - claim it;
sleep in the hay. See the glow in the eyes of his moth - er;
last - ing and free. Love is Je - sus with - in and a - mong us.



hear how their song of joy a - ris - es: Love! Love! Born un - to
what is the name her heart is say - ing? Love! Love! Love is the
Love is the peace our hearts are seek - ing. Love! Love! Love is the



you, a Sav - ior! Love! Love! Glo - ry to God on high.
name she whis - pers; Love! Love! Je - sus, Im - man - u - el.
gift of Christ - mas. Love! Love! Praise to you, God on high!

Affirmation of Faith

L: We believe in hope.

C: **We believe that to hope is to dream with our eyes wide open.**

L: We believe in peace.

C: We believe that peace is not found by accident. Prepare the way.

L: We believe in joy.

C: We believe that joy is angel choruses and gifts from the magi, as well as comforting food, big tables, open doors, candle light, fireside, singing cheerfully, and the body of Christ gathered as one.

L: We believe in love.

C: We believe that God loves us so much that God could not stay away. So God showed up as a child. We believe that *that* love is real, and we know that it changes us.

L: We believe in the power of dreams,

C: and we believe in passing the light, in showing up, in doing the work, in listening for angel choruses, and in learning from the youngest among us. We believe. Amen.

Passing the Peace

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you. (*Honk your horns and wave to greet your neighbors in Christ's peace!*)

Offering

An offering station is located near the parking lot exit (if you brought an offering). Otherwise, you can continue to donate by mailing your offerings in to the church office at 1129 Pat Booker Rd., Universal City, Texas 78148 or by signing up on the church website for online giving. We also offer "Text to Give" by dialing 844-973-2993. Instructions are on our website but are very easily followed. Enter phone number into text, enter text amount. A registration box message will appear asking how you want to send the donation and whether you want the amount recurring. If you have any questions, talk to Mariesa Robbins.

Offertory Prayer

P: Gracious God,

C: you came to us as one unknown, bringing joy and salvation to the earth. Nourish us at your banquet table, that with all who welcome your birth we may proclaim your peace, revealed in Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

Great Thanksgiving / Words of Institution (*no honks*)

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, we praise your name.

Lord's Prayer

Traditional English - 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.

Español - Padre nuestro que estás en los cielos, santificado sea tu Nombre, venga tu reino hágase tu voluntad en la tierra como en el cielo. Danos hoy el pan de cada día y perdona nuestras deudas como nosotros perdonamos nuestros deudores y no nos dejes caer en la tentación mas líbranos del mal. Porque tuyo es el reino, el poder y la gloria por los siglos de los siglos. Amen

Malagasy - Rainay izay any an-danitra, Hohamasinina anie ny anaranao. Ho tonga anie ny fanjakanao. Hatao anie ny sitraponao. Ny ety an-tany tahaka ny any an-danitra. Omeo anay anio izay hanina saha ho anay. Ary mamelà ny helokay. Tahaka ny namelany izay meloka taminay. Ary aza mitondra anay ho amin'ny fakam-panahy, fa manafaha anay amin'ny ratsy. Fa Anao ny fanjakana sy ny hery ary ny voninahitra mandrakizay. Amena.

Deutsche - Vater unser im Himmel, geheiligt werde dein Name; dein Reich komme; dein Wille geschehe, wie im Himmel so auf Erden. Unser tägliches Brot gib uns heute. Und vergib uns unsere Schuld, wie auch wir vergeben unsern Schuldigern; und führe uns nicht in Versuchung, sondern erlöse uns von dem Bösen. Denn dein ist das Reich und die Kraft und die Herrlichkeit in Ewigkeit. Amen.

Korean - 하늘에 계신 우리아버지 이름이 거룩히 여김을 받으시오며나라에 임하옵시며, 뜻이 하늘에서 이루어진 것같이 땅에서도 이루어지리이다 오늘날 우리에게 일용할 양식을 주옵시며 우리가 우리에게 죄진자를 사하여 준것같이 우리의 죄를 사하여 주옵시고 우리를 시험에 들게하지 마옵시고 다만 악에서 구하여 주옵소서 대개 나라와 영광이 아버지께 영원히 있사옵나이다. 아멘

Invitation to Communion

P: These are the gifts of God for the people of God. Come taste and see that the Lord is good. The Word is revealed in the manger, in simple bread and wine. Come meet Christ in this meal. Whoever you are, or wherever you are in your spiritual journey, you are welcome in this place. You are welcome at God's table. God keeps adding places to the table. Come to the banquet that has no end, where there is room for everyone!

Distribution

Each car and home will distribute their own elements saying:

The body of Christ given for you.

The blood of Christ shed for you.

Communion Hymn LBW #42 "Of the Father's Love Begotten"

Post Communion Blessing

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen.

Prayer after Communion

P: Let us pray, Gracious and abundant God, ...

C: we give you thanks that you have once again fed us in this bread and cup wherein you give us life forever. Through this mystery, send us forth to proclaim your promise to a world in need, through the same Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

(HONK horns and FLASH lights)

Blessing

P: Now remember, wherever it is that you go and whatever it is that you do this week, as you go, may you have the strength to dream wild dreams of justice, and peace, and joy that overflows. May you have the humanity to listen to the dreams of others. May you have the confidence to trust that the God who heard the cries of the Israelites in Egypt hears your dreams as well. And may you have the conviction to return to this space, for our best dreams are those we dream together. In the name of Almighty God, who sent the Holy Spirit to Mary, proclaimed joy through the angels, sent the shepherds with good news, and led the magi by a star, bless you ✠ through the Word made flesh. Amen.

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Christ is born for you.

C: Thanks be to God! (HONK horns and FLASH lights)

Sending Hymn LBW #50 "Angels, From the Realms of Glory"

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OUR VISION STATEMENT: Welcoming all, Leading to faith, Shepherding for life, Serving neighbors near and far, *In all we do — growing disciples for Christ.*

SCRIPTURE READINGS

The First Reading

Jeremiah 31:7-14

⁷Thus says the LORD: Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob, and raise shouts for the chief of the nations; proclaim, give praise, and say, "Save, O LORD, your people, the remnant of Israel." ⁸See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north, and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth, among them the blind and the lame, those with child and those in labor, together; a great company, they shall return here. ⁹With weeping they shall come, and with consolations I will lead them back, I will let them walk by brooks of water, in a straight path in which they shall not stumble; for I have become a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my firstborn. ¹⁰Hear the word of the LORD, O nations, and declare it in the coastlands far away; say, "He who scattered Israel will gather him, and will keep him as a shepherd a flock." ¹¹For the LORD has ransomed Jacob, and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him. ¹²They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion, and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the LORD, over the grain, the wine, and the oil, and over the young of the flock and the herd; their life shall become like a watered garden, and they shall never languish again. ¹³Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance, and the young men and the old shall be merry. I will turn their mourning into joy, I will comfort them, and give them gladness for sorrow. ¹⁴I will give the priests their fill of fatness, and my people shall be satisfied with my bounty, says the LORD

Psalm 147:12-20

¹²Worship the LORD, O Jerusalem; praise your God, O Zion, ¹³who has strengthened the bars of your gates and has blessed your children within you. ¹⁴God has established peace on your borders and satisfies you with the finest wheat. ¹⁵God sends out a command to the earth, a word that runs very swiftly. ¹⁶God gives snow like wool, scattering frost like ashes. ¹⁷God scatters hail like bread crumbs. Who can stand against God's cold? ¹⁸The LORD sends forth the word and melts them; the wind blows, and the waters flow. ¹⁹God declares the word to Jacob, statutes and judgments to Israel. ²⁰The LORD has not done so to any other nation; they do not know God's judgments. Hallelujah!

The Second Reading

Ephesians 1:3-14

³Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, ⁴just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. ⁵He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, ⁶to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. ⁷In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace ⁸that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight ⁹he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, ¹⁰as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. ¹¹In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, ¹²so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. ¹³In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; ¹⁴this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

WE REMEMBER IN PRAYER:

Those with Health Concerns:

Glen Anderson
David Bartley
Gene Bielke
Sherry Bielke
Fran Bitney
Aina Blake
Darlene Christiansen
Carol DeNoble

Shirley DuBois
Dick Dunsmore
Annette Gohlke
Hazel Knipp
Bill Laxton
Barbara Maddox
Judy McCort
Barbara Meurin

DJ Schultz
Kent Schultz
Philip Seaman
Michelle Serry
Carol Underdahl
Marion Weishaar

Those in Care Facilities:

Anna Harman

Fred Hermann

Friends and Family of CTK:

Roy Alvarado
Ava Anderson
Jenny Barnes
Fran Bezold
Jerry Blakely
Mel Borgfeld
Robbie Callan
Deannine Carlson
Veronica Carlson
Jacque Donaldson
Joe Dougherty
Lauren Doyle
Larry Dunn
Mary Callan-Garcia
Becky Hagens
Mary Henderson
Terry Hepworth
Ted Herrera
David Hitchcock
Ronald Jensen
Pedro Jimenez

Corinne Johnson
Betty Ann Jones
Lendell Jones
Dave & Ann Keeler
Carolyn Sue Kelly
Judy Kerlick
Steve Kerns
Debbie Kittridge
Gene Kraemer
Pastor Marcia Kline
Ed Leigh
Ed Leszynski
Mike Lueker
Howie Marbach
Malinda McClellan
Johnny Mendoza
Claudia Molina
Diedre Morin
Marilyn Muehlstein
Steve Nordin
Donna Pichelmann

Elizabeth Poe
Nancy Rajanen
Barbara Real
Joan Roberts
Donna Scheel
Julie Schmidt
Ray Schmidt
Mark Schroeder
Randy Smith II
Don Stout
Robert Theis
Noemy Torres
Glenn Uecker
Wil & Becky Voges
Kurt Weinelt
James Weishaar
Keith Whitaker
Shannon Wright
Doug Young
Jennifer Zahradnick

**JANUARY 3, 2021
SECOND SUNDAY
AFTER CHRISTMAS**



Jesus enters our world full of grace and truth.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

These passages are related to the Lectionary texts for this Sunday.

Sunday	John 1:1-18	The Word became flesh
Monday	Jeremiah 31:7-14	Israel will return to its own land
Tuesday	Ephesians 1:3-14	Spiritual blessings in Christ
Wednesday	Matthew 2:1-12	The visit of the wise men
Thursday	Colossians 1:15-23	The person and work of Christ
Friday	Genesis 1:1-4	God creates light
Saturday	Psalms 147:12-20	Sing and praise the Lord
Sunday	Mark 1:4-11	The baptism of Jesus

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

*And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.
John 1:14 (NRSV)*

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Almighty and merciful God, we thank you for blessing us in Christ with every spiritual blessing.
Amen. (Ephesians 1:3)

Mealtimes Prayer:

Dear God, you who give us food to eat and Jesus to meet, thank you for your abundant love that comes to us from above. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May God shine the light of Christ, full of grace and truth, on you now and always.



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JANUARY 3, 2021

HYMN OF THE WEEK

*Angels from the
Realms of Glory*



taking **+**
faith
home

WEEKLY MILESTONES

Take a moment to tell or think about a recent mountain high and/or valley low in your life.

CARING CONVERSATIONS



Discuss in your home, small group, or use for personal reflections:

- What are some of your memories of the Christmas season this past year?
- In what ways can you focus on Jesus' birth during the 12 days of Christmas?
- Is it important to you that Jesus, God the Son, became human? Why or why not?

DEVOTIONS



Read: John 1:1-18.

The Gospel of John does not have a birth story like Matthew or Luke. In a sense, this is John's birth story, but instead of talking about Mary, Joseph, and Bethlehem, John speaks about what Jesus' birth means for us: light for the world; the Word of God becomes human in Jesus Christ; through the Word that is Jesus, we are given grace and truth; we are given grace upon grace; all that God intends for us is shown to us through God's only Son, Jesus. John places all of this in the context of the creation story. In the Genesis creation story, God speaks and light, sky, dry land, and all of creation happens. In John 1 this speaking God is portrayed as the Word that has now taken on human form in Jesus. Through Jesus the Word now reveals something, God's grace and truth intended for all that God has made. It is a promise of abundance that lavishes God's goodness on earth through Jesus. This Jesus, the Word become flesh, will turn water into wine (John 2:1-11) and later in his ministry state that he brings the abundant life (John 10:10), all of which flows out of John's opening statement about the Word that becomes flesh and is full of grace and truth. How do you experience God's grace and truth in daily life?

Pray: God of grace and truth, we thank you for giving us your Son, Jesus Christ, the Word that became human and speaks to us and gives us your abundant love and mercy. Amen.

SERVICE



All the Scripture readings this week speak of God's abundant love showered on God's people. We live in a world where not all people have enough to eat or have adequate shelter. How can you take action steps to be the hands, feet, and voice of God's love to others this week?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS



During Advent and the Christmas season, we light candles to symbolize the light of God coming into the world through the birth of Jesus. Place a candle as a centerpiece on your dinner table this week. Before each meal, as you light the candle:

Say: Jesus Christ is the light of the world. The light no darkness can overcome.



In addition to *Taking Faith Home*, celebrate milestones in your daily life as an effective faith formation tool. Go to: www.milestonesministry.org