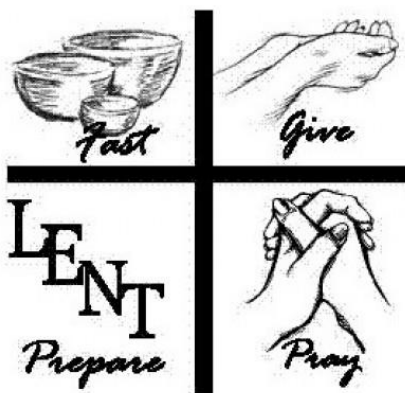


THE BROTHERS & SISTERS IN CHRIST OF
CHRIST THE KING LUTHERAN CHURCH
WELCOME YOU TO THE DIVINE SERVICE!

THE 2ND SUNDAY IN LENT
MARCH 16, 2025 - 8:00 A.M.



Christ the King Lutheran Church

A member of Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ (LCMC)

Declaring new life in Jesus Christ & encouraging all to take their next step of faith with Jesus!

205-988-5004 -- www.ctkbham.org

611 Riverchase Parkway West

Birmingham, Alabama 35244

***Our vision:** All people will know God personally through Jesus Christ.*

***Our mission:** Inward searching, outward seeking, forward together with Jesus Christ.*

Psalm 139:23--Search me, God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts.

Luke 19:10--For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost.

Matthew 4:19--"Come, follow Me," Jesus said, "and I will make you fishers of men."

The Second Sunday in Lent

March 16, 2025 - 8:00 a.m.

***All music used by permission, copyright info on file in Church Office.*

Welcome! We're glad you're here....

What are some ways that you can be involved, after today, with our congregation's Lenten focus?

1) After this service, pick up the following:

A) our book "Amazing Grace,"

B) our pocket crosses with scripture encouraging us to grow in our daily walk with God through Christ.

2) Invite or participate with your Elder and others in your area to team together to share Christ where you live.

3) In addition to anyone forming a Lenten group of your own using the book, "Amazing Grace," we are offering two options: a) Sunday School class in the Library and b) Wednesday evening 5:45 p.m. discussion group in the library.

4) Write a Lenten "Changed by Grace" devotion (info from pastor or the church office) for us to send to the congregation during Lent. We will email at least 1 devotion/day that is written by members of the congregation as they are received. Please get a devotion book in the narthex or go to the front page of our website, www.ctkbham.org.

5) Come to Wed. worship (11:45 a.m., 6:30 p.m.), centered on our Lenten theme, "Changed by Grace."

6) Come to Sunday worship, centering on the Lenten theme, "Changed by Grace."

7) Talk to God, Call on Him in whom we live and move and have our being, asking him to show you the people he wants you to bless each day with a Spirit-filled prayer, heart of compassion, word of encouragement, and invitation both to your home for fellowship and also to God's house to worship because God wants them to know and walk with God too!

8) LENT IS A TIME TO GROW IN CHRIST! GET INVOLVED! GROW THIS SPRING!

Sunday School Classes and Rooms (all classes meet at 9:20 a.m.):

"Amazing Grace" led by Pastor Chris & Ralph Hyatt, in the Library.

Oasis with Martha Green & Maizie Nelson, in the Luther Room foyer.

Children's Sunday Education - NURSERY IS available for infants & children 3 years of age during each worship service, and education time. Following are where everyone will meet:

Nursery (infant - 3 years old) ~ Main blg Nursery

4th - 5th grade ~ Disciple Room

3K & K ~ John Room

Jr. High ~ Jr High Room

1st - 3rd grade ~ Matthew & Mark Room

Sr. High ~ Youth Room

TODAY'S BIBLE READINGS NOTES: *Though we sometimes doubt and often resist God's desire to protect and save us, our God persists. In holy baptism, God's people have been called and gathered into a God-initiated relationship that will endure. Lent provides the church with a time and a tradition in which to seek God's face again. Lent provides another occasion to behold the God of our salvation in the face of the Blessed One who "comes in the name of the Lord."*

A SIMPLE LENTEN GREETING AND WELCOME:

Pastor: In Jesus's name, welcome.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

MARCH MEMORY VERSE:

"The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The LORD is the defense of my life; whom shall I dread?" - Psalm 27:1

OUR LENTEN CONFESSION of SIN (*adapted from Psalm 25:16-18*)

P: During the season of Lent we are called to return to the Lord with all our heart.

Therefore, let us confess our sins and seek reconciliation with God and neighbor.

(*Silence for self-examination.*)

C: Merciful God, turn to me and be gracious to me, for I am lonely and afflicted. The troubles of my heart have multiplied; free me from my anguish. Look upon my affliction and my distress, and take away all my sins.

P: May God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.

C: Amen

♪ **THE HYMN OF PREPARATION: "Great Is Thy Faithfulness"** (WOV #771)

1. Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father; harvest, Sun, moon and stars in their courses
There is no shadow of turning with Thee; above Join with all nature in manifold witness
Thou changest not, Thy compassions, they fail To Thy great faithfulness, mercy and love.
not; As Thou hast been, Thou forever will be. (Refrain)

Refrain: Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness! Morning by morning new mercies I see. All I have needed Thy hand hath provided; Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

2. Summer and winter and springtime and

3. Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide; Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow, Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! (Refrain)

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.**

♪ **THE KYRIE:** "Kyrie eleison" is a response that has been passed down to us from the early Church. It is Greek for "Lord, have mercy." (page 78-79 in the front of the green book for music)

Leader: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Congregation: Lord, have mercy.

Leader: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Congregation: Lord, have mercy.

Leader: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Congregation: Lord, have mercy.

Leader: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

Congregation: Lord, have mercy.

Leader: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

Congregation: A-men

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY: God of the covenant, in the mystery of the cross you promise everlasting life to the world. Gather all peoples into your arms, and shelter us with your mercy, that we may rejoice in the life we share in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

CHILDREN'S TIME: Trust and follow Jesus. He gives you power, love, and self-control.

♪ **ANTHEM:** "Change My Heart, O God" Adult Choir by Eddie Espinosa

Change my heart, O God, make it ever true. Change my heart, O God, may I be like you. You are the potter, I am the clay. Mold me and make me, this is what I pray. Search me, O God, and know my heart today; try me, O Savior, know my thoughts I pray. Take all my will, my passion, self, and pride; I now

surrender, Lord, in me abide You are the potter, I am the clay. Mold me and make me, this is what I pray. Change my heart, O God, make it ever true. Change my heart, O God, may I be like you.

THE FIRST LESSON: Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18

The Introduction: *God promises a childless and doubting Abram that he will have a child, that his descendants will be as numerous as the stars, and that the land of Canaan will be their inheritance. Abram's trust in God is sealed with a covenant-making ceremony, a sign of God's promise.*

The Reading:

After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, saying, "Do not fear, Abram, I am a shield to you; Your reward shall be very great." ² Abram said, "O Lord GOD, what will You give me, since I am childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" ³ And Abram said, "Since You have given no offspring to me, one born in my house is my heir." ⁴ Then behold, the word of the LORD came to him, saying, "This man will not be your heir; but one who will come forth from your own body, he shall be your heir." ⁵ And He took him outside and said, "Now look toward the heavens, and count the stars, if you are able to count them." And He said to him, "So shall your descendants be." ⁶ Then he believed in the LORD; and He reckoned it to him as righteousness.

⁷ And He said to him, "I am the LORD who brought you out of Ur of the Chaldeans, to give you this land to possess it." ⁸ He said, "O Lord GOD, how may I know that I will

possess it?" ⁹ So He said to him, "Bring Me a three year old heifer, and a three year old female goat, and a three year old ram, and a turtledove, and a young pigeon." ¹⁰ Then he brought all these to Him and cut them in two, and laid each half opposite the other; but he did not cut the birds. ¹¹ The birds of prey came down upon the carcasses, and Abram drove them away.

¹² Now when the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram; and behold, terror and great darkness fell upon him.

¹⁷ It came about when the sun had set, that it was very dark, and behold, there appeared a smoking oven and a flaming torch which passed between these pieces. ¹⁸ On that day the Lord made a covenant with Abram, saying, "To your descendants I have given this land, From the river of Egypt as far as the great river, the river Euphrates."

(Lector: "This is the word of the Lord!" then, all, "Thanks be to God!")

♪ **THE PSALM: Psalm 27** *(Congregation has verses in bold)*

Introduction: *In the day of trouble, God will give me shelter.*

The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom then ' shall I fear?*

The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I ' be afraid?

**²When evildoers close in against me to de- ' vour my flesh,*
they, my foes and my enemies, will stum- ' ble and fall.**

³ Though an army encamp against me, my heart ' will not fear.*

Though war rise up against me, my trust will ' not be shaken.

⁴One thing I ask of the LORD; one ' thing I seek;*

that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life; to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to seek God ' in the temple.

⁵ For in the day of trouble God will ' give me shelter,*
hide me in the hidden places of the sanctuary, and raise me high up- ' on a rock.

⁶ Even now my head is lifted up above my enemies ' who surround me.*

**Therefore I will offer sacrifice in the sanctuary, sacrifices of rejoicing; I will sing and make
music ' to the LORD.**

⁷ Hear my voice, O LORD, ' when I call;*
have mercy on me and ' answer me.

⁸ My heart speaks your message - ' "Seek my face."*

Your face, O LORD, ' I will seek.

⁹ Hide not your face from me, turn not away from your ser- ' vant in anger.*

Cast me not away - you have been my helper; forsake me not, O God of ' my salvation.

¹⁰ Though my father and my moth- ' er forsake me,*

the LORD will ' take me in.

¹¹ Teach me your ' way, O LORD;*

lead me on a level path, because of ' my oppressors.

¹² Subject me not to the will ' of my foes,*

for they rise up against me, false witnesses ' breathing violence.

¹³ This I believe - that I will see the goodness ' of the LORD*

in the land ' of the living!

¹⁴ Wait for the LORD ' and be strong.*

Take heart and wait ' for the LORD!

♪ **THE LENTEN VERSE:**

(page 83 in the green book for music)

Return to the Lord, your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.

THE HOLY GOSPEL: Luke 13:31-35

The Introduction: *Neither Herod's plotting nor Jerusalem's resistance to maternal love will deter Jesus from his sacrificial mission.*

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 13th chapter.

(sung) **C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

The Gospel:

³¹ Just at that time some Pharisees approached, saying to Him, "Go away, leave here, for Herod wants to kill You." ³² And He said to them, "Go and tell that fox, 'Behold, I cast out demons and perform cures today and tomorrow, and the third day I [a]reach My goal.' ³³ Nevertheless I must journey on today and tomorrow and the next day; for it cannot be that a prophet would perish outside of Jerusalem. ³⁴ O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the

city that kills the prophets and stones those sent to her! How often I wanted to gather your children together, just as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you would not have it! ³⁵ Behold, your house is left to you desolate; and I say to you, you will not see Me until the time comes when you say, 'Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!'"

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

(sung) **C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

THE PASTORAL PRAYER and SERMON:*Lenten Theme: Changed by Grace**Lenten Question: How does Father God transform us through His Word and Spirit?**Today: "God's promises are stronger than our doubts"*

♪ HYMN of the DAY: "In the Morning When I Rise" (WOV #777)

1. In the morning when I rise, In the morning
when I rise, In the morning when I rise, Give
me Jesus

*Chorus: Give me Jesus, Give me Jesus, You can
have all the rest, Give me Jesus.*

2. Dark midnight was my cry, Dark midnight
was my cry, Dark midnight was my cry,
Give me Jesus. (Refrain)

3. Just about the break of day, Just about the
break of day, Just about the break of day, Give
me Jesus. (Refrain)

4. O, when I come to die, O, when I come to
die, O, when I come to die, Give me Jesus.
(Refrain)

5. And when I want to sing, And when I want
to sing, And when I want to sing, Give me
Jesus. (Refrain)

THE NICENE CREED

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.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH:

After each petition, the leader says, "Lord, in your mercy" and all respond, "Hear our prayer."

SHARING CHRIST'S PEACE:

Greetings celebrate God bringing us peace together with Himself through Christ.

MINUTE for MISSION: Speaker on Lenten Theme (*Changed by Grace*) & Book (*Amazing Grace*)
(Today, Elizabeth Cooper)

& GIVING THANKS to God with His tithes (*first 10% income*) & our offerings (*beyond 10%*).

Our Mercy Ministry basket today supports Red Barn

Prayer requests can be written on prayer cards and turned in here and/or sent to office@ctkbham.org.

*Offerings are appreciated: plates are at the back of the sanctuary or give at www.ctkbham.org, or mail a check to:
Christ the King Lutheran Church, 611 Riverchase Parkway West, Birmingham, AL 35244.*

♪ **THE OFFERTORY VERSE:** Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of blessing. Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life. Gather the hopes and dreams of all; unite them with the prayers we offer now. Grace our table with your presence, and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.

THE OFFERING OF PRAYER: P: Let us pray. Merciful Father,
C: we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us – our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**CELEBRATING & SHARING
CHRIST'S PROMISED PRESENCE IN HOLY COMMUNION**

♪ **THE LORD'S PRAYER:** 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

♪ **COMMUNION HYMN:** *(page 92 green book for music)*
Lamb of God you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

DISTRIBUTION OF THE SACRAMENT: *All who are baptized and believe that Christ is truly present as he promised are invited to Commune. Pastor will speak a blessing in Christ for children who have not received First Communion instruction and all others who ARE NOT baptized.*

♪ **At Distribution:** Congregation sings both 1) # 660 in WOV &
2) # 778 in WOV, *blue book*

THE BLESSING, PRAYER, AND BENEDICTION

♪ **HYMN to the WORLD: "Blessed Assurance"** (WOV # 699)

1. Blessed assurance: Jesus is mine! Oh, what a foretaste of glory divine! Heir of salvation, purchase of God, born of his Spirit, washed in his blood.
2. Perfect submission; perfect delight, visions of rapture now burst on my sight; angels descending bring from above echoes of mercy, whispers of love. [*Refrain*]
- Refrain: This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long; this is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long.*
3. Perfect submission: all is at rest, I in my Savior am happy and blest; watching and waiting, looking above, filled with his goodness, lost in his love. [*Refrain*]
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THE DISMISSAL:

Pastor: Go in peace and serve the Lord. **All:** **Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE: "Nothing But the Blood"

What can wash away my sin? Nothing but the blood of --- Jesus. What can make me whole again? Nothing but the blood of --- Jesus. O, precious is the flow that makes me white as snow. No other fount I know, nothing but the blood of --- Jesus. Nothing but the blood of --- Jesus. Nothing but the blood of --- Jesus.

The eternal candle is sponsored by David & Jo Walter.

If you'd like to sponsor altar flowers or candle, please sign up outside the library door or contact the church office.

THE SCRIPTURE TO CONSIDER FOR NEXT SUNDAY'S (3/23) WORSHIP:

Isaiah 55:1-9; Psalm 63:1-8; Luke 13:1-9

THE SCRIPTURE TO CONSIDER FOR THIS WEDNESDAY'S (3/19) WORSHIP:

Psalm 95

God's Path for Growth as a Disciple/Follower of Jesus:

- 1) *Save the Lost* – Luke 19:10
- 2) *Pastor the Saved* – Acts 2:41-47
- 3) *Equip the Pastored* – Ephesians 4:11-16
 - a. prayer
 - b. evangelism
 - c. discipleship
 - d. team
- 4) *Send the Equipped* – Matthew 28:18-20

Disciplemaker's Prayer

from Deut. 6:1-9; Mark 3:13-14; 12:30-31; Matt. 28:18-20; John 17:20; Acts 1:8; 1 Cor. 4:16-17

Heavenly Father, Thank you for giving me a disciplemaking way of life in Christ Jesus. **As I go through every part of this day, help me to love you and love the people who cross my path -- starting with my family.** Don't let me miss the adventures you are sending my way to live or the exciting opportunities to speak the Good News about Jesus today. Draw my heart to you and to specific people you want me to pull close for Jesus-like disciplemaking friendships. By your Word and Spirit, transform me into a follower of Jesus who loves you, loves people, and makes disciples who make more disciples, ad infinitum. In Jesus' name, Amen.