

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 – 10:40 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 2nd Sunday in Lent

***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 yrs old) ~ Main bldg Nursery

3K & K ~ John Room

1st - 3rd grade ~ Matthew & Mark Room

4th - 5th grade ~ Disciple Room

Jr. High ~ Jr High 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:

CALL TO WORSHIP & 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

“At the Cross (Love Ran Red)”

Verse 1 There's a place where mercy reigns and never dies,
There's a place where streams of grace flow deep and wide;
Where all the love I've ever found comes like a flood, Comes flowing down.

Chorus 1 At the cross, at the cross, I surrender my life. I'm in awe of You, I'm in awe of You.
Where Your love ran red, and my sin washed white.
I owe all to You, I owe all to You, Jesus.

Verse 2 There's a place where sin and shame are powerless,
Where my heart has peace with God and forgiveness;
Where all the love I've ever found comes like a flood, Comes flowing down.

Chorus 2 At the cross, at the cross, I surrender my life. I'm in awe of You, I'm in awe of You.
Where Your love ran red, and my sin washed white.
I owe all to You, I owe all to You.

Bridge Here my hope is found, here on holy ground; Here I bow down, here I bow down.
Here arms open wide, here You saved my life; Here I bow down, here I bow.

Chorus 2 At the cross, at the cross, I surrender my life. I'm in awe of You, I'm in awe of You.
Where Your love ran red, and my sin washed white.
I owe all to You, I owe all to You.

Chorus 1 At the cross, at the cross, I surrender my life. I'm in awe of You, I'm in awe of You.
Where Your love ran red, and my sin washed white.
I owe all to You, I owe all to You, Jesus.

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.” *(The congregation sings this refrain before and after verses)*
Ky-ri-e e-le-i-son, Chri-ste e-le-i-son, Ky-ri-e e-le-i-son

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.

♪ PRAISE TEAM ANTHEM: "It Is Well"

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 the 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 devour my flesh, they, my foes and my enemies, will stumble 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 upon 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 servant 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 mother 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!

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

♪ THE GOSPEL VERSE: “Open the Eyes of My Heart, Lord”

Chorus (2x) Open the eyes of my heart, Lord, Open the eyes of my heart;

I want to see You, I want to see You.

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.*

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!’”

(Lector: This is the word of the Lord. Congregation: Thanks be to God!)

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 your doubts"

"You Alone Can Rescue"

Verse 1 (2x) Who, O Lord, could save themselves, their own soul could heal?

Our shame was deeper than the sea. Your grace is deeper still.

Chorus You alone can rescue, You alone can save. You alone can lift us from the grave.

You came down to find us, led us out of death.

To You alone belongs the highest praise.

Verse 2 You, O Lord, have made a way. The great divide, You heal.

For when our hearts were far away, Your love went further still.

Yes, Your love goes further still.

Chorus 2 You alone can rescue, You alone can save. You alone can lift us from the grave.

You came down to find us, led us out of death.

To You alone belongs the highest praise. To You alone belongs the highest praise.

To You alone belongs the highest praise.

Bridge We lift up our eyes, lift up our eyes. You're the giver of life.

We lift up our eyes, lift up our eyes. You're the giver of life.

We lift up our eyes, lift up our eyes. You're the giver of life.

We lift up our eyes, lift up our eyes. You're the giver of life.

Chorus 2 You alone can rescue, You alone can save. You alone can lift us from the grave.

You came down to find us, led us out of death.

To You alone belongs the highest praise. To You alone belongs the highest praise.

To You alone belongs the highest praise.

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:

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.

♪ **PRAISE TEAM OFFERTORY: "Lord, I Need You"**

Chorus Lord, I need You, oh, I need You. Ev'ry hour I need You. My one defense, my righteousness. Oh, God, how I need You.

Tag My one defense, my righteousness. Oh, God, how I need You.

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: *(sung by all)*

- Verse 1 Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Thy Name. Thy Kingdom come,
Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
- Chorus 1 For Thine is the Kingdom, Thine is the power, and the glory forever,
Forever, amen. (Amen)
- Verse 2 Give us, Lord, give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us,
Forgive us, Lord, forgive us of our debts. (Chorus 1)
- Verse 3 Lead us, from temptation, lead us from temptation.
But, deliver us, deliver us from evil to Thy salvation. (Chorus 2)
- Chorus 2 For Thine is the Kingdom, Thine is the power, and the glory forever, amen.
Thine is the kingdom, Thine is the power, and the glory forever,
Forever, amen.
-

HOLY COMMUNION

THE BLESSING, PRAYER AND BENEDICTION:

“White Flag”

- Verse 1 The battle rages on as storm and tempest roar.
We cannot win this fight inside our rebel hearts.
We're laying down our weapons now.
- Chorus We raise our white flag: we surrender all to You, All for You.
We raise our white flag: the war is over! Love has come; Your love has won!
- Verse 2 Here on this holy ground, You made a way for peace.
Laying Your body down, You took our rightful place.
This freedom song is marching on.
- Chorus We raise our white flag: we surrender all to You, All for You.
We raise our white flag: the war is over! Love has come; Your love has won!
- Bridge We lift the cross, lift it high, lift it high. We lift the cross, lift it high lift it high.
We lift the cross, lift it high lift it high. We lift the cross, lift it high lift it high.
- Chorus (2x) We raise our white flag: we surrender all to You, All for You.
We raise our white flag: the war is over! Love has come; Your love has won!
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THE DISMISSAL: P: In the strength of Christ, let's go in peace; and serve the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

♪ Praise Team Postlude: “White Flag”- Reprise”

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