

**Fifth Sunday in Lent**  
**March 17, 2024 • 10:00 AM**



Christ the King Lutheran Church  
499 Plaza Drive  
Vestal, NY 13850  
607-729-2688  
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[www.ctkvestal.org](http://www.ctkvestal.org)

**Hearts Loved By God**  
**Hands To Serve All**  
**Through Jesus Christ**



## **WELCOME TO CHRIST THE KING LUTHERAN CHURCH**

We welcome you to worship with us! We hope you will experience the grace and peace of God's love present with you. For more information, please contact us by email or phone, or by visiting our Facebook page, or at our website, [www.ckvestal.org](http://www.ckvestal.org).

### **ABOUT OUR WORSHIP SERVICE**

#### ***ORDER OF WORSHIP***

The Worship Service this morning follows the pattern of Gather-Word-Meal-Sending. It will include the distribution of communion.

#### ***OFFERINGS***

You may present your offering to God for the work of God through Christ the King Lutheran Church online via our website at [www.ckvestal.org](http://www.ckvestal.org) and clicking the "Give Now" button, by leaving it at the church, or by mail.

### **ABOUT CHRIST THE KING LUTHERAN CHURCH**

**Christ the King is a Reconciling in Christ congregation.** We are called by Christ to care for, love, understand, and listen to each other. All are welcome, regardless of race, age, gender and gender identities, marital status, physical and mental abilities, sexual orientations, national origin, or economic status. We celebrate together our unity as God's people, committed to being a radically loving and welcoming community of faith, centered in the Good News of Jesus Christ. Empowered by the Holy Spirit, Christ the King is a place for all to discover and develop their God-given gifts and share them with the world.

**If you desire Pastoral Care or have a Pastoral Emergency,** please contact the Church Office at 607-729-2688 and leave a message. Your message will be automatically forwarded. Our team of caring ministers will respond to your call.

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## GATHERING

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+ *Please stand as you are able*

### **Prelude**

### **Welcome**

#### **+ Confession and Forgiveness**

Leader: Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God,  
who writes the law on our hearts,  
who draws all people together through Jesus.

**All: Amen.**

Leader: Held in God's mercy, let us confess our sin  
in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Leader: Holy God,

**All: we confess that we are caught in snares of sin  
and cannot break free.  
We hoard resources while our neighbors  
are hungry and cold.  
We speak in ways that silence others.  
We are silent when we should speak up.  
We keep score in our hearts.  
We let hurts grow into hatred.  
For all these things and for sins only you know,  
forgive us, Lord.  
Amen.**

Leader: Here is a flood of grace:  
Out of love for the whole world,  
God draws near to us,  
breaks every snare of sin,  
washes away our wrongs,  
and restores the promise of life through † Jesus Christ.

**All: Amen.**

- 1 Give to our God immortal praise!  
Mercy and truth are all his ways.  
Wonders of grace to God belong;  
repeat his mercies in your song.
- 2 God sent his Son with pow'r to save  
from guilt and darkness and the grave.  
Wonders of grace to God belong;  
repeat his mercies in your song.
- 3 Give to the Lord of lords renown;  
the King of kings with glory crown.  
His mercies ever shall endure  
when lords and kings are known no more!

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748

+ **Greeting**

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

**All: And also with you.**

+ **Prayer of the Day (in unison)**

**O God, with steadfast love you draw us to yourself, and in mercy you receive our prayers. Strengthen us to bring forth the fruits of the Spirit, that through life and death we may live 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.**

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**WORD**

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**First Reading**

Jeremiah 31:31-34

**Reading of the Psalm (responsively)**

Psalm 51:1-12

- <sup>1</sup>Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love;  
in your great compassion blot out my offenses.
- <sup>2</sup>**Wash me through and through from my wickedness,  
and cleanse me from my sin.**
- <sup>3</sup>For I know my offenses,  
and my sin is ever before me.
- <sup>4</sup>**Against you only have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight;  
so you are justified when you speak and right in your judgment.**

<sup>5</sup>Indeed, I was born steeped in wickedness,  
a sinner from my mother's womb.

<sup>6</sup>**Indeed, you delight in truth deep within me,  
and would have me know wisdom deep within.**

<sup>7</sup>Remove my sins with hyssop, and I shall be clean;  
wash me, and I shall be purer than snow.

<sup>8</sup>**Let me hear joy and gladness;  
that the body you have broken may rejoice.**

<sup>9</sup>Hide your face from my sins,  
and blot out all my wickedness.

<sup>10</sup>**Create in me a clean heart, O God,  
and renew a right spirit within me.**

<sup>11</sup>Cast me not away from your presence,  
and take not your Holy Spirit from me.

<sup>12</sup>**Restore to me the joy of your salvation  
and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.**

## **Second Reading**

Hebrews 5:5-10

### **+ Gospel Acclamation**

**Unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. (John 12:24)**

### **+ Gospel Reading**

John 12:20-33

Leader: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, chapter 12, verses 20 through 33.

**All: Glory to you, O Lord.**

*After the reading:*

Leader: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

## **Sermon**

Judy Mica Guerin

- 1   Amazing grace! how sweet the sound  
     that saved a wretch like me!  
     I once was lost, but now am found;  
     was blind, but now I see.
- 2   'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,  
     and grace my fears relieved;  
     how precious did that grace appear  
     the hour I first believed!
- 3   Through many dangers, toils, and snares  
     I have already come;  
     'tis grace has brought me safe thus far,  
     and grace will lead me home.
- 4   The Lord has promised good to me;  
     his word my hope secures;  
     he will my shield and portion be  
     as long as life endures.
- 5   When we've been there ten thousand years,  
     bright shining as the sun,  
     we've no less days to sing God's praise  
     than when we'd first begun.

Text: John Newton, 1725-1807, alt., sts. 1-4; anonymous, st. 5

+ **The Apostles Creed (in unison)**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.  
I believe in Jesus Christ,  
God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## Prayers of the People

*During the prayers, worshippers are invited to lift up prayers for the people, places and situations for which we are thankful or are in need of prayer.*

We will pray following the petition bidding style:

*Each petition concludes, "God of grace..."  
to which the congregation responds, "...hear our prayer."*

### + The Peace

*In an act of unity, blessing, and reconciliation, we greet one another with the Peace of Christ. (Matthew 5:23-24).*

Leader: Be kind to one another, and tenderhearted forgiving one another,  
as God in Christ has forgiven you. The Peace of the Risen Christ be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

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## MEAL

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### Our Offerings are Gathered

*Our worship is complete when we bring all of our resources to receive God's blessing and fulfill God's purpose. In joyous gratitude, we bring more than money; we bring ourselves, our time and our talent as an offering to God. Please take a moment to offer yourself anew to God. You are also invited to present an offering to God for the work of God's mission through Christ the King by giving online at [www.ctkvestal.org](http://www.ctkvestal.org) and clicking the "Give Now" button, by leaving your offering at church, or by mail. For those present in the sanctuary, you may leave your offering in the offering plate as you exit the sanctuary.*

### Offertory

*As the Grains of Wheat*

**ELW No. 465**

#### *Refrain*

As the grains of wheat once scattered on the hill  
were gathered into one to become our bread;  
so may all your people from all the ends of earth  
be gathered into one in you.

- 1 As this cup of blessing is shared within our midst,  
may we share the presence of your love. *Refrain*
- 2 Let this be a foretaste of all that is to come  
when all creation shares this feast with you. *Refrain*

Text: Didache, 2nd cent.; Marty Haugen, b. 1950

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### **Offering Prayer (in unison)**

Jesus, you are the bread of life  
and the host of this meal.  
Bless these gifts that we have gathered  
that all people may know your goodness.  
Feed us not only with this holy food  
but with hunger for justice and peace.  
We pray this in your name.  
Amen.

### **The Great Thanksgiving**

Leader: The Lord be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

**All: We lift them up to the Lord.**

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**All: It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

*The thanksgiving continues with the proper preface... "and join their unending hymn."*

**All: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna In the highest.**

### **Eucharistic Prayer**

Leader: ...as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**All: Christ has died.  
Christ is risen.  
Christ will come again.**

Leader: ...Grace our table with your presence.

**All: Come, Holy Spirit.**

Leader: ...burning with justice, peace, and love.

**All: Come, Holy Spirit.**

Leader: ...now and forever.

**All: Amen.**



## **The Words of Institution**

### **The Lord's Prayer (in unison)**

**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.  
Forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
Lead us not into temptation  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

## **Invitation to Communion**

### **Distribution of Communion**

*We go to the table to encounter the body and blood of the living Christ in bread and wine, through which faith is nourished and sins are forgiven. Please proceed to the altar through the center aisle where you will receive a piece of bread from a worship leader. Then proceed to one of the chalice bearers and dip your bread in the wine (silver chalice) or grape juice (glass chalice).*

## **Communion Hymn**

*Eat This Bread*

**ELW No. 472**

"Eat this bread, drink this cup,  
come to me and never be hungry.  
Eat this bread, drink this cup,  
trust in me and you will not thirst."

Text: Taizé Community

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## **Communion**

### **+ Prayer after Communion (in unison)**

**Generous God,  
at this table we have tasted your immeasurable grace.  
As grains of wheat are gathered into one bread,  
now make us one loaf to feed the world;  
in the name of Jesus, the Bread of life.  
Amen.**

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## SENDING

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### + Sending Hymn

*Just a Closer Walk with Thee*

**ELW No. 697**

#### *Refrain*

Just a closer walk with thee,  
grant it, Jesus, is my plea;  
daily walking close to thee,  
let it be, dear Lord, let it be.

- 1 I am weak but thou art strong:  
Jesus, keep me from all wrong;  
I'll be satisfied as long  
as I walk, let me walk close to thee. *Refrain*
- 2 Through this world of toil and snares,  
if I falter, Lord, who cares?  
Who with me my burden shares?  
None but thee, dear Lord, none but thee. *Refrain*
- 3 When my feeble life is o'er,  
time for me will be no more;  
guide me gently, safely o'er  
to thy kingdom shore, to thy shore. *Refrain*

Text: North American traditional

### **Announcements**

#### **+ Blessing**

Leader: Beloved,  
we are God's own people,  
holy, washed, renewed.  
God bless you and keep you,  
shower you with mercy,  
fill you with courage,  
and give you peace.

**All: Amen.**

### **Postlude**

**Looking Ahead:**

Saturday, March 23	Men's Group at 9:00 AM
Sunday, March 24	<i>Palm Sunday</i> No Service at CTK
Sunday, March 31	<i>Easter Sunday</i> No Service at CTK
Sunday, March 17	Worship Service with Communion at 10:00 AM

**Christ the King Lutheran Church Staff and Leadership**

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[www.ctkvestal.org](http://www.ctkvestal.org)

**Transitional Pastor:** Rev. Jeff Bohan

**Church Administrator:** Marsha Pulz

**Sexton:** Gary Robertson

**Leadership Team**

Co-Presidents: David Banner and Len Lindenmuth

Secretary: Rich Lindstrom

Treasurer: Tammy Gow

Kathy Leonard, John Lurenz

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