



CORNERSTONE

CHRIST THE KING LUTHERAN CHURCH
1505 S. FORD STREET, REDLANDS, CA 92373

(909) 793-5703

www.ctkredlands.org



MESSAGE FROM PASTOR SMITH

DECEMBER 2020

Dearly beloved of Christ the King,
The Lord be with you.

One of my very most favorite things to do is to conduct chapel for the preschool. It is a lively bunch. They learn the Apostles Creed, the Lord's Prayer and other parts of the liturgy. I love to see their eyes light up as we speak about God's work through His Son and all that He has done on our behalf. I have learned over the years what connects to their hearts and minds, how to speak in a way that they remember, what tickles their funny-bone, and how to leverage their sense of humor to teach the Gospel. This year has been simply fabulous.

Recently we had a chapel lesson that focused on the truth. It was an opportunity for me to hammer home what our Lord said about Himself, a biblical verse that we all treasure and ponder to our benefit. "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes unto the Father except through me" (John 14:6). For those of you who know me really well, you know that I don't just want to think about what our Lord has done historically but also to tether it to what He is doing now. To see and relish what our Lord is doing among us, in our contemporary era, takes Jesus out of a hermetically sealed historical box and puts Him smack dab in the middle of our present context. Christianity is very much alive NOW because the Lord Christ is among us to bring us all of His virtue, all of His love, all of His triumphant work.

So, during this chapel lesson we talked about truth, what it is. That's when I got to take this notion of "truth" out of the abstract and make it about Jesus, using that precious Bible verse. After reciting it a couple of times (repetition is the mother of learning), I asked if they wanted to play a game. Of course, the place erupted. Absolutely they wanted to play a game. That's when the lesson deepened. I needed someone to play the Holy Spirit. Whenever I need an assistant, the first question is "is it anyone's birthday today?" Up shoots a young whippersnapper's hand and all of a sudden, I've got myself a Holy Spirit. The birthday child (a boy on Wednesday and a young lass on Thursday) is brought forward and vested with a red surplice (left over from the old days when we had a children's choir). Red, for that is the color of Pentecost, the fire of God's Spirit, the blood of the martyrs, and the love which the Holy Spirit brings. Now, the game is afoot.

I took an index card and spelled "TRUTH" one letter at a time and had the children identify each letter and the sound it makes. After spelling "TRUTH" and having the kindergartners tell me what it spelled (they are so smart!) I told the gang that they all had to close their eyes, covering them with their hands so that there would be no question that they were playing according to the rules. I explained that I was going to hide the truth and no one in the whole church would know where it was... EXCEPT for the Holy Spirit. After it was well hidden, then they could open their eyes. The Holy Spirit would then select a young lad or a young lass, take them by the hand, and lead them to where the truth was to be found. Once it was found, the discoverer would hold the card high over his head, the preschool kids would applaud spontaneously, and we would recite the verse: "Jesus said: 'I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes unto the Father except through me.'" The first time, I hid the "Truth" labeled index card under the crucifix on the altar and the process worked brilliantly. I was feeling generous that morning so as an added bonus, after finding the truth, I reached in my wallet and gave the happy finder a dollar bill. The excitement level in the chapel grew when I did this – in a noticeable way – all very charming.

The child got to keep the index card and the dollar bill. Jaded me didn't think too much of these prizes at the time. The next round repeated much like the first: print out the word, have the children make the sound each letter calls for, have the kids close their eyes, hide the card, and then set the Holy Spirit loose to find a child and lead them to where the TRUTH was hidden. This time I pulled out the big Bible in lectern, set it on the floor and slipped the index card in the middle. The Holy Spirit did his job perfectly (He will guide you into all truth – John 16:13), the child lifted up what he had found, applause rained down, we recited the Lord's words, and the young lad received a dollar bill. It was a joyful day in chapel and that's pretty much where I left it.

A week or so later, Christine Chernobieff, our school director, was up in Yucaipa at baseball practice for one of her sons (maybe it was a game, I'm not sure). And she hears one mom speaking to another mom about her son's preschool. The second mom said: "You mean that they are OPEN? That's wonderful!" And then the topic turned

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to chapel. Christine is listening to all this, very innocently but also very interestedly. That's when the first mom said that her son had helped in chapel and hadn't let the props out of his hands since. She said that she keeps these invaluable treasures in her purse for him at critical junctures – the TRUTH index card and the dollar bill. Upon hearing this, Christine had to ask for a picture to send me along with the story.

Couple of things – God's Word stays with us. Like the young lad who carries around his props, we carry God's Word with us, in our heart, mind, and soul. Another thought – the TRUTH is not very much en vogue in our society presently. So much misinformation. So much false propaganda. So much deception – the devil is working overtime for sure. But we have the TRUTH. The Lord Christ gives Himself to us and we, by way of the Holy Spirit's operation, have discovered what is true and lasting and good. The church is open, for all to hear the Gospel which brings us the treasure of Jesus' death and resurrection and the Holy Spirit deposits that treasure into our account. This Word of the Gospel is being sown in both church and

school and the reach of it, the ripples it produces, is way more than what we think. Do we hold onto the things we have discovered like this young lad does? To be sure, God is at work NOW. In a marvelous way, among us, God is at work NOW. God bless our wonderful school. God bless our wonderful church. To His holy Name be the glory forever and ever.

Peace be with you,

Pastor Smith



Helping the Homeless

In November, the LWML donated:

- * 144 rain-ponchos
- * 72 pairs of men's socks,
- * 72 pairs of women's socks,
- * 200 disposable masks,
- * 96 travel sized hand sanitizers with carabiners, and
- * 80 travel sized sanitizer wipes.



Lorrie Hinkleman, and her volunteers, handed out the rain-ponchos the day before the storms rolled in. What timing! The items were received with great cheer and appreciation.



Street Cleaning Confirmation Crew





What's Happening at CTK!



From the Preschool:

The Christmas Season is very exciting in preschool! So many fun projects, baking, parent gifts and Christmas cheer. However, unlike "other" preschools, at Christ the King all of this fun stuff is wrapped up in the reality of the Birth of Our Lord and Savior. That's a win, win for sure.

Thank you to all the folks who purchased See's candy we earned \$5,200 this year, I believe that is a record high.

In December our mission of the month is Toys for Tots. If you would like to share a new, unwrapped toy we are collecting toys in the office.

Many of you adopted a teacher for Christmas, thank you so much for loving on the teachers. They are always great, but boy have they risen to the call this past year.

Merry Christmas Blessings to you all!

Christine Chernobieff, M.Ed.

From the Treasurer:

The 2021 budget was passed unanimously in the November Voters Assembly. The budget includes a 2% raise for our staff. 😊

Bill Phillips

From the Board of Elders:

A SEASON OF GIFTS...

“And entering the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary and, falling down, made obeisance to him; and, opening their treasure caskets, they proffered him gifts: gold and frankincense and myrrh.” Mathew 2:11

A few days ago it was January 1 and now we are already in December. We have used up almost all of the gift of 2020. Members of the Board of Elders experienced a very special gift throughout 2020 — we were privileged to serve you and each other during very trying times. We are responsible for overseeing the spiritual life of the church and ensuring that worship is conducted in a reverent manner in accordance with established practice. Though each member of the Board serves the entire church, we have also each been assigned a part of the congregation to especially care for. Those groups are listed in the church directory. Please do not hesitate to call upon your Elder, or any Board member, if you need help. If we do not have an answer we will do our best to find someone who does. One of the most special gifts the elders have been given is the opportunity to care for our pastor. We offer him our counsel, our prayers and our fellowship in order to provide him with spiritual, emotional and physical support. Think about it: Our pastor is a man who has dedicated himself to serving God by serving His congregation. He is all in; he does not stint on his caring for us. He is indeed a gift to our congregation. And let us not forget our Deacon, Russ, a very special gift, especially to our teens and those who attend Saturday morning bible study.

And then there is the gift of you — all that you bring to Christ The King Lutheran Church. Just by attending worship services you have given us, your neighbor, the gift of your time and fellowship. It really matters. It really strengthens the Church, the body of Christ. Whenever you are in the service it makes it more complete. Whenever you are absent, you are missed and we are diminished by your absence.

So, let us be thankful for the gift of each other, the gift of our neighbors, whom we get to serve and the gift of all that happens to us. Because God has made clear His love for us, we know that nothing can harm us: We have the gift of Christ our Savior.

Everything you have, everything you are, everything that happens to you is a gift. It may be that the one question you will have to answer at the judgement is “What did you do with what I gave you?”

For the Christian it is always Christmas and never winter.



Christ the King – Missions

We at Christ the King support numerous missions locally and around the world.



November 2020 Mission Support	
Good Shepherd Lutheran Church	\$350.00
Concordia Theological Seminary	\$200.00
Lutherans for Life	\$200.00
Pregnancy & Family Resource Center	\$200.00
Siberian Lutheran Mission Society	\$200.00
The Blessing Center, Redlands	\$200.00
LCMS World Mission	\$250.00
Total Cash Contributions	\$,1600.00

CTK October 2020 Treasurer's Report



	Oct 2020	Jan - Oct 2020
Ordinary Income/Expense		
Income		
400.00 GENERAL OFFERINGS	27,500.41	271,713.45
420.00 OTHER OPERATING INCOME	1,452.00	15,411.00
430.00 INTEREST INCOME	7.73	1,330.93
440.00 FUNDRAISING INCOME	97.00	4,457.00
Total Income	<u>29,057.14</u>	<u>292,912.38</u>
Expense		
500.00 ACTIVITIES	748.64	4,974.28
510.00 PROFESSIONAL FEES	0.00	100.00
520.00 ADMINISTRATION	3,263.45	25,505.00
530.00 MAINTENANCE	848.75	17,602.80
540.00 MISSIONS	1,600.00	16,000.00
550.00 SALARIES AND WAGES	12,947.11	129,858.68
560.00 PAYROLL EXPENSES/ BENEFITS	4,187.69	42,397.91
570.00 PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT	1,860.38	16,843.73
580.00 WORSHIP	123.69	2,953.25
Total Expense	<u>25,579.71</u>	<u>256,235.65</u>
Net Income	<u>3,477.43</u>	<u>36,676.73</u>

2020 ADVENT THEME

✦ PAST ✦ PRESENT ✦ FUTURE

God created time. “There was evening and there was morning, the first day” (Genesis 1:5). The Almighty is eternal and yet He created something which has a profound effect upon us. Time is a reality which surrounds us, a reality in which we exist and within which God Himself operates. Time and its passing are more than just the robotic elapse of moments – here for a brief “hello” followed by a cold and wretched “goodbye.” God uses time. God uses time to our advantage. That last statement is both profound and delightful. God uses time to our advantage by virtue of one supremely marvelous act: God entered time.

The Author and Craftsman of the structure of seconds and minutes and days, and weeks, and years entered the domain of the temporal by becoming as us, by being made man. The great “I AM” took up residence in the womb of the Virgin. Eternity brought His life into the domain of time and dwelled among us. The Son of God sanctified time by invading it, by being subject to it, by acting within it, by vesting it with His presence, by operating through it in order to bless us, save us, lay claim to us and bring us through it to our heavenly home. Time, for a Christian, is not empty. Time, for a Christian, contains the wonder of Christ’s once-for-all holy work.

Heraclitus, an ancient Greek philosopher, said: “You can never step into the same river twice.” His point, whether you accept it or not, is that the water, which

is in essence the river itself, is always moving and is never repeated. Time, whether you see it or not, has content; divine content. Time is a river that brings us Christ and His work. The time-river of Christ is always flowing over us and it is gloriously repetitive. Our moments and our days are lived within the construct that Christ Himself occupies. The Lord and His life have impacted the past, the present, and the future. The pivotal movement of this grace-laden occupation of time was when God became Man – what we call the “incarnation.”

This Advent we will assert the warmth of Christ’s presence within the structure of time and how that presence brings us the sweetest, the richest of gifts. Our lives as Christians are multi-faceted. The truth and substance of our faith inspires, provides direction, and breathes into us hope and joy and peace. Advent provides the necessary tonic for our souls. Now is precisely the time for our faith to take wing. The world is so confused. We are not. We are preparing to celebrate aright the most astounding event the world has ever known – the Birth of the Son of God. We prepare for Christmas by moving through Advent on our way to the sublime manger of the Infant King. Seeing the impact of the Incarnation on the past, the present, and the future will not only prepare us to celebrate Christmas with true joy but will enlarge our hearts. Advent lovingly calls to you – prepare the way, the Lord approaches.



December 2nd
**THE INCARNATION
AND THE PAST**

December 9th
**THE INCARNATION
AND THE PRESENT**

December 16th
**THE INCARNATION
AND THE FUTURE**

Please join us for food and fellowship preceding the Advent Vespers Services Soup/Salad Dinner @ 6:00P.M.

CHRIST THE KING CHURCH EVENTS OF CHRISTMAS EVE & CHRISTMAS DAY

CHRISTMAS EVE AT 7:00PM
THE FEAST OF THE NATIVITY

- ✦ The Procession of Light
- ✦ Solemn High Divine Service
- ✦ Holy Communion
- ✦ Candlelight Ceremony



CHRISTMAS DAY AT 9:00AM
**THE DIVINE SERVICE FOR THE FESTIVAL OF
THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD**

**REJOICE
Christ Is Born**

CTK December 2018 Events



CHRISTMAS CAROLING

Friday, December 18th AT 6:00PM

Everyone's invited!!

We will meet at CTK to van pool to our Christmas caroling destinations to sing in front of the homes for some of our shut-ins around Redlands. Afterwards, we all go back to CTK for pizza, Christmas cookies and hot cocoa.

Sign Up in the Narthex



WEDNESDAY MORNINGS

NO bible study in December.
(Resuming in January 2021.)

Join us Wednesday evenings at 7pm for Vespers.

Bible Study Saturday Mornings
 **@ 8:30a.m. - 10a.m.**
 With Deacon Russ in the Church Office
 Please note: No class on December 22th



Lutheran Women's Missionary League Dates to Remember:

- December 8 at 11:30am is the CTK Ladies Luncheon at the Tartan. Please RSVP to Alise Smith for more information.
- Dec. 13, 5pm-8pm is our annual Wassail party at Pastor and Alise Smith's home. Bring a hearty appetizer, and if you want, a white elephant gift. Sign up on the poster in the church overflow.
- January 10 is our next salad luncheon, program and business meeting.
- February 6 is Bingo Night

 Remember to bring mites on any Sunday, or any time your mite boxes are full, and put them in the mites' bucket in the back of the church. Thank you.

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year



Anniversaries



12/04 Clifford & Patricia Dawley
 12/08 Richard & Brittany Reading
 12/18 Russ & Bukola Gross
 12/21 John & Lorrie Hinkleman Sr.
 12/27 Joseph & Erica Vasquez
 12/28 Mike & Lee Alhorn

Birthdays

12/02 Joyce Cox	12/10 Steve Wolff
12/04 Thomas Crowley	12/11 John Hinkleman Sr.
12/07 Bernice David	12/12 Lorenzo Perez
12/07 Deloris Koller	12/13 Richard Reading
12/07 Kelli Townsend	12/14 Linda Whittier
12/09 Shelly Wilson	12/24 William Arnold
12/10 Jack Currier	12/27 Curtis Barlows



If your special date did not appear or is incorrect, please contact Cindy Currier at the church office 909-793-5703.

CTK December 2020 Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29	30	1	2	3	4	5
<p>8:00 AM Divine Service</p> <p>9:15 AM Bible Study</p> <p>10:30 AM Divine Service</p> <p>11:30 AM Confirmation Class</p> <p> Remember to bring your Mites</p>			<p>6:00 PM Soup Supper</p> <p>7:00 PM Advent Service</p> <p>8:00 PM Choir Practice</p>			<p>Bible Study </p> <p>8:30 AM Bible Study with Deacon Russ</p>
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
<p>8:00 AM Divine Service</p> <p>9:15 AM Bible Study</p> <p>10:30 AM Divine Service</p> <p>11:30 AM Confirmation Class</p> <p> Remember to bring your Mites</p>		<p> Lutheran Women in Mission</p> <p>11:30AM CTK Ladies Christmas Luncheon</p>	<p>6:00 PM Soup Supper</p> <p>7:00 PM Advent Service</p> <p>8:00 PM Choir Practice</p>			<p>Bible Study </p> <p>8:30 AM Bible Study with Deacon Russ</p>
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
<p>8:00 AM Divine Service</p> <p>9:15 AM Bible Study</p> <p>10:30 AM Divine Service</p> <p>11:30 AM Confirmation Class</p> <p> Remember to bring your Mites</p> <p>5:00PM Wassail Party</p>			<p>6:00 PM Soup Supper</p> <p>7:00 PM Advent Service</p> <p>8:00 PM Choir Practice</p>		<p></p> <p>6:00PM Christmas Caroling</p>	<p>10:00 AM Elders Meeting</p>
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
<p>8:00 AM Divine Service</p> <p>9:15 AM Bible Study</p> <p>10:30 AM Divine Service</p> <p>11:30 AM Confirmation Class</p> <p> Remember to bring your Mites</p>				<p></p> <p>7:00 PM Christmas Eve Candlelight Service</p>	<p></p> <p>9:00 AM Christmas Day Service</p>	
27	28	29	30	31	1	2
<p>8:00 AM Divine Service</p> <p>9:15 AM Bible Study</p> <p>10:30 AM Divine Service</p> <p> Remember to bring your Mites</p>						<p>8:30 AM Bible Study with Deacon Russ</p>

Rejoice in the Glory of Christmas and Have a Blessed New Year




 Christ the King Lutheran Church
 1505 S. Ford Street
 Redlands, CA 92378

Servants for December 2020

DATE	TIME	ACOLYTES		DATE	FLOWERS	
Dec 6	8:00am	Ethan Haarala & Dustin Hogue		Dec 6	Don & Bernice David	
	10:30am	Samuel Lombardo & William Lombardo		Dec 13	Pat & Amy Edwards	
Dec 13	8:00am	Gabriela Vasquez & Emma Hinkleman		Dec 20	Tom & Donna Crowley	
	10:30am	Brooke Cleary & Emma Hansen		Dec 27	Poinsettias	
Dec 20	10:30am	Hayden Hinkleman & Aiden DeCent		DATE	FINANCE	
Dec 24	7:00pm	Jilian Belli & Ava Belli		Dec 6 & 13	Robert Arnold & Steve Aimar	
Dec 27	8:00am	Jilian Belli & Ava Belli		Dec 20 & 27	Mary Coppenger & Steve Aimar	
	10:30am	Dominick Vasquez & Christian Vasquez				
DATE	TIME	USHERS	DATE	ALTAR	DATE	ELDERS
Dec 6	8:00am	Loren Scott	Dec 6	Anna Bush	Dec 6	David Alder
	10:30am	Steve Aimar	Dec 13	Nicole Creavy	Dec 13	Tom Crowley
Dec 13 & 20	8:00am	David Alder	Dec 20	Tammy Hathaway	Dec 20	To Be Determined
	10:30am	Mike Bush	Dec 24	Anna Bush	Dec 24	Don David
Dec 27	8:00am	Hayden Ramsey	Dec 27	Nicole Creavy	Dec 25	Vic Haynes
	10:30am	Dwayne Mugiishi			Dec 27	Roger Loewecke