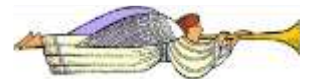




THE TRUMPET



A PUBLICATION OF

Christ the King Lutheran Church

1660 Birch Lake Avenue, White Bear Lake, Minnesota 55110

Pastor's Corner

"Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted." – Matthew 5:4

Dear Beloved in Christ,

We will mark All Saints Day on November 5 in worship as a day to remember those who have died over the last year and all those who have died before us. In our culture, it is unusual to acknowledge death so clearly. So often we even avoid using the word death or died, preferring to soften our language and say lost or passed. But as we reach All Saints Day this year, we can take some time to remember those who have died before us. To know that our lives were changed because of their love and care for us and the way that we offered our love and care back.

All Saints Day can be one of the times that might feel like a "thin space." "Thin space" is a term from Celtic Christianity that describes places where earth and heaven meet; holy spaces and places. We might experience this at church or while on retreat or at a retreat center. Often this time of year in our geographic location can feel like a thin space. The days are shorter, the darkness is greater, and our connection to the great cloud of witnesses that surrounds us feels more present.

As we experience these thin spaces, grief may also be present as the death of a loved one continues to ripple in our lives. I remember the first time I had a family member die when I was an elementary-aged student. My grandmother, who I called Mummu (Finnish for grandmother), died unexpectedly in a car accident a week before Christmas. I loved my Mummu and was heart-broken that I no longer had her cheery warmth and enthusiastic hugs to greet

me when we visited my grandparents in Michigan. While many years have gone by since Mummu died and my grief has lifted, I am still sad that she was only present in my life for eight years. But as we mark All Saints Day, I remember her good cheer, love for me and her grandchildren, and her faith. These are qualities that I try to emulate in my life thanks to her witness.

All Saints Day is one day on the calendar when we remember the saints that surround us. These may be ordinary saints – grandparents, parents, siblings, friends, co-workers, teachers – or saints of history like St. Francis, St. Peter, Martin Luther King Jr., Mother Theresa, or Dorothy Day. However, why should we limit our remembering the saints to just one day? We are reminded that we are surrounded by a great cloud of witnesses each and every day. So why limit it to just one day of remembering these saints?

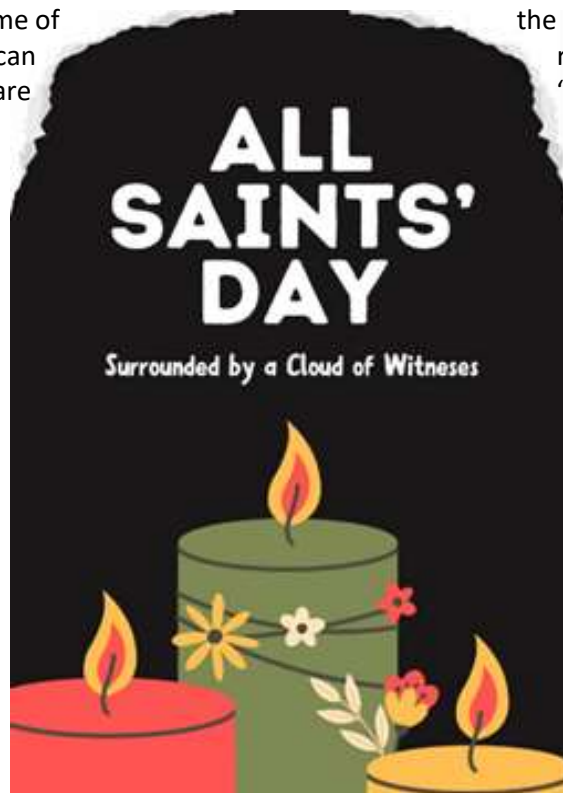
One of my colleagues, the Reverend Laura Stephens-Reed publishes a calendar of prompts for the month of November. She encourages reflecting on the way our lives are shaped by the many people who have joined in the cloud of witnesses, whether we knew them or not. She offers prompts for reflecting and giving thanks for

the witness of the saints. A few that resonated with me include:

"Reminded you how to see the world as a child," "Took you somewhere life changing," and "Pointed out your gifts." You can look at the full list of prompts online here: <https://laurastephensreed.substack.com/p/resource-rejoicing-in-gods-saints>

As we move into the thin space of All Saints Day, let us remember the great cloud of witnesses we are surrounded by. Let their witness encourage and embolden us. We give thanks for their care and love in our lives.

Peace,
Pastor Rebecca



NOVEMBER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

JOIN US

Please join us in person, watch us live via livestream or watch a recording later at ctkwbl.online.church. You can access the Bulletin by clicking at the top of the livestream page.

SUNDAYS

NOVEMBER 5
ALL SAINTS SUNDAY

*Revelation 7:9-17
Psalm 34:1-10, 22
Matthew 5:1-12*

Jesus shares the Beatitudes as a way to bless those who would not normally be considered blessed.

9 am Worship
Organ / Communion

NOVEMBER 12
24th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

*Amos 5:18-24
Psalm 70
Matthew 25:1-13*

Jesus tells a parable about his second coming, emphasizing the need for readiness at all times.

9 am Worship
KHB

NOVEMBER 19
25th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

*Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18
Psalm 90:1-8, 12
Matthew 25:14-30*

Jesus tells a parable about his second coming, indicating that we need to make good use of the gifts God has given us.

9 am Worship
Organ / Communion

NOVEMBER 26
CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY

*Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24
Psalm 95: 1-7a
Matthew 25:31-46*

Jesus compares himself to a king who moves among his subjects to see how he is treated: what is done for the least of those who belong to his family is truly done for him.

9 am Worship
KHB

THURSDAYS

NOVEMBER 9

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

9:00 am

Please join us for a Bible Study from "Gather" magazine.

No need to prepare ahead of time. We will have materials ready for you to use during class!

Recognizing Elida Olson's 40 Years of Cherub Choir Ministry **Sunday, November 19**

We will be blessing Elida Olson's retirement from directing the Cherub Choir after 40 years of joyful song on Sunday, November 19. All alumni of the Cherub Choir are invited to join in singing together in worship and recognizing the caring ministry Elida (Mrs. O) led. We will celebrate with a special coffee hour. We are grateful for her ministry nurturing our CTK children to give glory to God in song and the inspiring legacy she leaves for so many.



November

WORSHIP LEADERS

AV	Altar Guild	LAM	Reader	Ushers	Communion	Acolyte
11.5 Jason / Julia	Ann/Kathy/Sharon	Janet	Sterling	Howard / Mike	Polly / Bea	Alex
11.12 Janelle / Craig	Cathy / Stephanie	Cyndi	Cyndi	Ann / Peggy	—	—
11.19 Janelle / Mike	Lori / Lori	Lee	Sterling	Michele / Mike	Sally / Howard	Jack
11.26 Mike / Joe	Karen / Becky	Sally	Polly	Michele / Ann	—	—

Hospitality: Sheila & Jim Kent, Wayne & Kathy Langstraat, Mike & Sandy Nollan

If you are faced with a conflict, please attempt to trade with one another and let the office know. Thank you!

Please help us decorate the Altar for the Advent season!

Red, white, and pink poinsettias are now available for order at a cost of **\$12 for a 6-inch pot**. Plant colors may be substituted based on availability.

Poinsettias will be on the Altar on **December 3, 2023**.

Please see the kiosk in the Narthex for an order form.

All orders/payments should be placed in the locked box next to the office door. Alternatively, please e-mail or phone the church office to place an order and mail your payment to the church office. In your e-mail or voice message please provide:

- 1) Color selection
- 2) Quantity
- 3) Name of person or persons giving the plant
- 4) Message you would like placed in the bulletin

Checks should be made out to "**Christ the King Altar Guild**".

Orders must be received by Thursday, November 9.



UPDATES

ADMIN & FINANCE

September Financial Report

Envelope and online offerings monthly comparison:

9/01/2023 through 9/30/2023 = \$27,080

9/01/2022 through 9/30/2022 = \$25,873

Envelope and online offerings Year-To-Date comparison:

1/01/2023 through 9/30/2023 = \$182,088

1/01/2022 through 9/30/2022 = \$173,835

Expenses Year-To-Date:

1/01/2023 through 9/30/2023 = \$193,717

1/01/2022 through 9/30/2022 = \$181,521

Cash account balances as of September 30:

North Star Bank:

Checking = \$6,425

Savings = \$18,100

Memorial Savings = \$35,176

Online Giving = \$505.

CD = \$40,000

Mission Investment Fund demand account = \$51,168

The amount of temporarily restricted funds, including memorials, is \$115,462 and are not available to be used for day-to-day operational expenses. The mortgage balance as of September 30 = \$132,478.



STEWARDSHIP



CTK has a long history of living “Like Trees Planted by Streams of Water.” With your help, we can do even more to bear fruit in the world and provide streams of water to nourish our congregation and our community.

November 19 will be our Giving Sunday when we’ll celebrate and reflect on all the ways that being “Planted Like Trees by Water” has shaped our community – as well as all the ways we seek to be more generous in our lives and work together to bear fruit for ministry. Our goal is to increase the number of Estimate of Giving Cards we receive for this year by 15%. Last year we received 39 cards. Our goal is to increase the number received to 45, allowing us to wisely steward the resources you so generously share with CTK.

Through your help, the roots on our tree can grow deeper and we can continue bearing fruit in due season. Thank you for your continued support of our mission and ministry as we seek to live as the trees planted by streams of water, flourishing in faith and in our community.

MISSIONS

Masisiwe Student Scholarship Fund Tops \$7,000!

Thanks to the generosity of our Christ the King family we surpassed our goal. The Masisiwe children will be so grateful to be able to continue their schooling and follow their dreams. You have planted seeds for their future and the whole village benefits! Asante Sana Everyone!

GIVING STATEMENTS

Your Giving Statements are ready for you to pick up. They are on the table in the Narthex. Take yours home and save us time and postage. Thank you for your faithful support of Christ the King.

COMING SOON

All Saints Sunday

November 5, 2023



You are invited to bring a picture of your deceased loved ones to display on Sunday, November 5, or submit names to the church office for inclusion in the bulletin. Please let the office know by the end of day Wednesday, November 1.



Good Stewards Together: Intergenerational Sunday School

Did you enjoy *Journey Together* this summer? The fun and learning continues this fall at CTK. Join us once a month during the Sunday School hour to learn and have fun together. We'll gather in the Sunday School room at 10:15 am.

Sunday, November 5: Stories of Stewardship

God calls each of us to be a steward in our life of faith.



***The Chosen* Viewing & Discussion**

The Chosen is the first multi-season TV series about the life of Christ, as witnessed through the eyes of those he impacted. *The Chosen* has grown to become the largest crowdfunded TV series of all time.

We'll gather in the Library once a month to watch an episode and discuss it after worship. We'll also decide if we'd prefer to watch the show together as a group, or watch it before meeting on our own.

Sunday, November 19 "Shabbat"

Season 1, Episode 2



Worship Assistant Training

Sunday, November 19, after worship

Interested in becoming a Lay Assisting Minister (LAM) or an acolyte, but not sure what is required? Join Pastor Rebecca for an overview of responsibilities and practice in the sanctuary on **November 19** after worship. We will begin with acolyte training for any youth interested followed by LAM training. You'll learn what is required of these worship roles and how you can share your gifts in worship in a meaningful way. Anyone can serve as an acolyte or LAM!

FELLOWSHIP



Festive Fellowship

Saturday, December 2, 6:00 pm

Mark your calendars for Festive Fellowship! We will be gathering for scrumptious appetizers and delicious desserts in the Fellowship Hall starting at 6:00 pm. (As last year, we will not be going to individual homes for dinner.) Please sign up on the poster in the Narthex to indicate what you would like to bring. We hope to see you there!

When one thinks about it, everything we have, including the air in our lungs—with that breath you just took—came as a pure gift from God. Indeed, *what is truly ours* in a very real sense, save for our unique love of God and neighbor since everything has come to us from God’s generosity? As Christians, we are encouraged to be similarly generous, especially with our gifts in ministry and our means. We’re encouraged to think of others.

Jesus sent the disciples out to spread the Good News. “By your works they’ll know you’re from me,” Jesus said (my paraphrase). How was he able to say it with such certainty, aside from being God? It’s because he set the example—*thee* Example—with his life and his death. But he didn’t send the disciples out blindly; he equipped them, just as we’ve been equipped to serve, to be gracious and generous—through our good works, using our God-given gifts to serve each other and our neighbors.

We live in continually developing and sometimes challenging times, but I encourage you to see them as opportunities. Remember especially the poor in spirit, those challenged by illness, poverty, addiction, depression, exploitation, war, indeed, all those in need—in need’s countless forms. In the recent words of Presiding Bishop Eaton, this is “God’s Love Made Real.”

Let our prayer be that the Holy Spirit helps us shine as disciples, and that we continue to encourage one another, with our gifts of caring, talent, and means - through Jesus Christ, Our Lord. Amen.

Prayerfully in Christ,
Michael Stepan



DEVOTION

Abundant Generosity

When I was in college, I attended a multi-day retreat where the leader started the day’s morning reflection with a thought-provoking question: “What does it mean to give until it hurts?” After a brief silence, he said, “I’ll give you the best example: Christ on the Cross.” Aside from several immediate gasps and sighs, you could have heard a pin drop in that sanctuary. I was stunned. In an instant, I was presented with profound understanding regarding John’s gospel at 3:16: “For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.” Suffice to say that we worship an abundantly generous God.

NOVEMBER 2023



Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

			1	2	3	4
	Regular Office Hours: Monday - Thursday 9:00 am - 3:00pm		Bells 6:30pm King's Choir 7:45pm	Property 7P		Bread Ministry 7am KHB 9am 
5 Worship 9am Intergenerational Sunday School 10:15-11:00am	6	7  Poinsettia Orders Due	8 Confirmation 7:00-8:30pm Bells 6:30pm King's Choir 7:45pm	9  Women's Bible Study 9am	10	11 Bread Ministry 7am KHB 9am
12 Worship 9am Sunday School 10:15-11:00am	13	14 Admin Team 7P	15 Bells 6:30pm King's Choir 7:45pm	16  Trumpet Deadline	17	18 Bread Ministry 7am KHB 9am
19 Worship 9am Sunday School 10:15-11:00am Worship Leader Training 10:15-11:00 The Chosen 10:15-11:00am	20	21 Church Council 7P	22 Confirmation 7:00-8:30pm Bells 6:30pm King's Choir 7:45pm	23 HAPPY THANKSGIVING DAY  Office Closed	24	25 Bread Ministry 7am KHB 9am
26 Worship 9am Sunday School 10:15-11:00am	27	28  Family Shelter Meal 5-6:45pm	29 Bells 6:30pm King's Choir 7:45pm	30		

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