ANNOUNCEMENTS



Worship for the Weary

December 17, 4pm

Join us for "Worship for the Weary" a service that will provide space for prayer, reflection, and remembrance amidst the hustle and bustle of December. You are invited to this service to draw close to God and find space for quiet and healing.



CTK will again have a Giving Tree with ornaments to support ELCA

Good Gifts. Select the gift you'd like to give to grow the church, fight hunger, and transform lives and write a check to CTK with "ELCA Good Gifts" in the memo. Ornaments can be taken from the tree to put your Christmas tree or to share with someone you are giving the gift in honor of. We'll also have \$10 ornaments to support a meal at Shobi's Table, a pay-as-you-can mobile café in St. Paul. Shobi's Table is a part of our Saint Paul Area Synod and works to create community where everyone has access to real nutritious food, no matter what they are able to pay. Take an ornament and write a check to CTK with "Shobi's Table" in the memo. You can then share your ornament with someone to give a gift in honor of them or bring it home to put on your Christmas tree. Also, please consider bringing a non-perishable food item and place it in the grocery cart. We will get your donations to the White Bear Area Food Shelf by Christmas.



CTK Christmas Program

The Discipleship Team is coordinating an intergenerational Christmas Program this year entitled *A Very Special Child*. Everyone interested is invited to participate! No acting experience is necessary!! We have speaking and non-speaking roles available.

COSTUMES:

Sunday, December 10 - during Sunday School

REHEARSAL:

Saturday, December 16 from 9-11 a.m.

PROGRAM:

Sunday, December 17 - during worship

Please contact Erica Johnson at <u>EricaSJohnson78@gmail.com</u> if you would like to participate. If you can't attend costume fitting or Saturday rehearsal, you can still participate. Just let Erica know!

Birch Lake Elementary Holiday Store

Volunteers are needed at their annual Holiday Store, Friday, December 15th. There are 3 shifts available. See Elida at church or use this sign up link: signup genius link Anyone interested in helping must do a background check prior to December 15th. Information on how to complete that is on the same link. If you need help with this you can call the main office at Birch Lake Elementary at 651-653-2779.

For pastoral care or other needs please contact the Pastor or the church office at 651-429-4828.



Pastor Rebecca Sullivan
Music Leader Lyn Campbell
LAM Michele Murray
Reader Cyndi Frankel
Ushers Howard Juni, Scott Tradup
AV Janelle VanSloun, Joe Moore
Altar Guild Ann Jonelle, Kathy Felix,
Sharon Scott
Hospitality Jim Mile Wallace, Joan
Macheledt, Terry & Peggy Keohen

GATHERING "The Word Who Sang the Light into Creation," ACS #973 KHB
"Prepare Ye the Way," by T. Walker

CALL TO WORSHIP

CANDLE LIGHTING

*CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

*OPENING HYMN "O Come All Ye Faithful/Sing to the King," ELW #283 Screen

Arr. by KHB

*GREETING Screen

*PRAYER OF THE DAY Screen

Leader: Let us pray.

All: ... Holy God, We know that you are near, inviting us into your Word, into relationship, and deeper into joy. Do not let us pass you by. Do not allow distraction or doubt to get the best of us. Give us the wisdom to turn and run your way. With hope and gratitude we pray, Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC "Comfort, Comfort Ye My People," by J. Martin King's Choir

LESSON Isaiah 40:1-11, *p 581 NRSV*

PSALM Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13, p 473 NRSV (read responsively) Screen

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION "Emmanuel," by B. McGee Screen

*GOSPEL Luke 1:24-45, p 831 NRSV

CHILDREN / YOUTH TIME Pastor Rebecca

SERMON Pastor Rebecca

^{*}Please stand as you are able.

*HYMN OF THE DAY "I Can Celebrate," by A. Strickland Screen

APOSTLE'S CREED Screen

*PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

With hope and expectation, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all who await God's day of restoration.

A brief silence.

After each petition:

Leader: ... Merciful God,

All: hear our prayer.

Leader: Listen to these and all our prayers, O God of hosts, and restore us with

your great and everlasting mercy.

All: Amen.

*PEACE

OFFERING "Mary Did You Know?" by M. Lowry, B. Greene

*OFFERTORY "Lord of All Good," by B. B. Tradup Screen

*OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

Blessed are you, O God, source of every gift of your creation. By these gifts and with our lives, help us to serve one another and all in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

*THE LORD'S PRAYER Screen

ANNOUNCEMENTS

*BLESSING "I Can Celebrate You," Screen

(sung to the tune of "In the Bleak Midwinter")

*SENDING "Joyful, Joyful," by B. Herms, H. VanDyke, M. Hall Screen

*SENDING OUT

POSTLUDE "Jesu Joy of Man's Desiring," by J.S. Bach KHB

Thank you for worshiping with us today!

Please join us for coffee in the Fellowship Hall immediately following the service. Sunday School is available for Pre-K - Grade 5 at the same time in the Education Wing.

CTK PRAYER CONCERNS:

PRAISE & THANKSGIVING:

For the continued support of CTK's mission and ministry as we seek to bear fruit in the world.

For all preparing for Advent and Christmas.

For the worship, music and arts team as they faithfully prepare worship and song to praise God.

THOSE GRIEVING:

KHB

For all grieving the death of loved ones.

THOSE EXPERIENCING CANCER:

For Ron Nelson, starting cancer treatment.

For Laurie, (Peggy Keohen's friend) in her ongoing cancer battle.

For Mike Jones, receiving treatment for kidney cancer.

For Lee Boyce, cancer treatment.

For Barb, (Jan Hamstead's friend) continued prayers for recovery.

For Paul Wagener, treatment for stage 3 melanoma.

Gary Kloos (friend of Julie Ramer) multiple tumors, aggressive cancer.

Oliver, 12-year-old nephew of Julie (friend of Elida Olson), diagnosed with leukemia.

Robert Crane (nephew of Sandy Serier) receiving treatment.

OTHER HEALTH ISSUES:

For Sterling Hintz, prayers for healing and strength.

For Joel Miner, brother of Sharon Johnson, prayers for healing.

For Justin (Peggy & Terry Keohn's son) as he continues in his recovery.

For Dennis Felix, prayers for healing.

For Alana, (Sue Kohler's granddaughter) prayers for strength as her disease progresses.

For Corrine Erlandson's sister Janice, for peace and pain relief.

Camden Astrup (great nephew of Beth & Scott Tradup) receiving the treatment he needs.

GLOBAL CONCERNS:

For peace between Israel and Palestine. Prayers for all impacted by war between these nations.

For Armenians facing genocide in Artsakh.

For our partner congregation in Masisiwe, Tanzania.

MILITARY CONCERNS:

For all serving and especially LCpl Marine Wyatt Reeves, (Elida's grandson).

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^{*}Please remember to contact the church office to keep the continuing prayer list current. Prayers listed in the bulletin will also appear on the website within the bulletin.