



# THE TRUMPET



A PUBLICATION OF

Christ the King Lutheran Church

1660 Birch Lake Avenue, White Bear Lake, Minnesota 55110

## *Pastor's Corner*

“Jesus said to Simon Peter, ‘Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?’ ‘Yes, Lord,’ he said, ‘you know that I love you.’ Jesus said, ‘Feed my lambs.’”

- John 21:15b

Dear Family of Christ,

During our Wednesday worship this Lent season we spent time exploring visio divina, which is Latin for divine seeing. We spent time looking at artwork, hearing scripture, going through a short guided meditation, hearing from the artist, and talking with a partner or group. The artwork came from our Lenten theme “Wandering Heart.” There is one last image for the second Sunday in April that I wanted to share for you to explore on your own or with a partner.

Begin by reading John 21:1-19. Then center yourself by taking a deep breath and relaxing your body. Allow your shoulders to lower away from your ears. Let your arms rest in your lap and put your feet on the floor. Feel the weight of your body held up by your chair. Spend this time in quiet. Open yourself up to God’s voice. ... Take a deep breath in and out. Continue breathing deeply as you read the image. Notice the visual qualities of what you see: colors, line, shape, form, space, and texture. ... Now, take a deeper look. What parts of the image are you drawn to? What parts of the image did you quickly brush by or overlook? ... Now use your imagination. Observe your own emotions. How does this image make you feel? ... How is the imagery cohesive with the scripture you read earlier? ...

Learn about the artwork from the artist Nicolette Peñaranda. “Feed My Sheep.” Inspired by John 21:1-19. Yarn and paper collage on canvas.



Feed My Sheep holds a special place in my heart as it is inspired by the text a dear friend of mine used for their ordination. This piece reminds me of their long and complicated journey that led them to the

(continued from Page 1)

priesthood, much like Peter. As a mixed media artist, I wanted to try something I've never done before—perhaps the silliest decision someone with a deadline could make.

This entire piece (with the exception of the three hearts) is made of yarn. For some reason, the feeling of a sheep's wool kept sticking out to me every time I read this text. We refer to Jesus as both el Cordero de Dios<sup>1</sup> and the shepherd. So why not lean into sheep imagery?

I thought the piece would be more vibrant for Easter in contrast to the pieces I created for Lent. This would really take viewers on a spiritual journey while studying Peter. This post-resurrection story concludes the wandering for Peter so the subject of this piece sits in front of the **Adinkra** symbol, **Nkyinkyim**<sup>2</sup>, for life's twisted journey. We have seen the ins and outs of his ministry as he accompanies Jesus, which brings us to this dialogue between the two. Peter is asked three times if he loves Jesus, which to all he replies in the affirmative. In this piece, the two of them are portrayed as sheep, Peter being at the right hand of Jesus. The sheep are branded with **Agyinduwura** at the center of their chests. They carry with them a symbol of loyalty and faithfulness. They are loyal to Jesus, faithful to the promise of salvation, and accepting of their duty to carry the Good News with them to the people of Christ. The face of each sheep is the symbol **Kokuromotie** to represent cooperation and harmony. Jesus asking Peter to feed his sheep demonstrates the faith that Jesus has in Peter to do this work. This value of cooperation is also present in the **Mpatapo**-shaped flowers in the field. They are symbols of peace, forgiveness, and reconciliation. Remember, Peter denied his relationship with Jesus several times before Jesus was executed. Above the sheep sits **Kojo Baiden**. God has traditionally been represented as the sun in various cultures, which brings us to this omnipresent symbol operating as such in this piece. And to the left we see **Akoma**, or hearts. While we interpret the heart as love, it is also a symbol for endurance and patience. Peter gets to this point by maintaining goodwill and faith in the message of Jesus. He stumbled through the journey and at times caused more harm than good, but Christ was also patient with him.

*Here's my heart. Here are the things I care about so deeply. And you—someone who makes mistakes, doesn't follow directions, and sometimes even betrays me—you are so loved and trusted enough to keep this good work going even after I'm gone.*

This is a message to all of us. It doesn't matter how poorly you may think of yourself or how others may view you. To Christ, you are beautifully and fearfully made. And Christ believes in you in spite of it all.

After reading the artist's statement, you can finish up by considering some of the questions that were brought up in the meditation. What emotions do you feel? What draws you into the art? Is it cohesive with the scripture? What did reading what the artist have to say do to you?

I truly enjoyed getting to try out a new spiritual practice this Lent and seeing all those gathered on Wednesday evenings discuss art and scripture. Lent is a great time to try out a new spiritual practice, so I hope this was a good experience for all who were present.

May we consider all the ways that we are fed as God's sheep this Easter season and all the ways that we feed Jesus' sheep ourselves. For all that say they love Jesus, just like Peter, are also called to feed Jesus' sheep too. There are so many ways to feed Jesus' sheep: through prayer, sharing our faith through teaching and conversation, participating in Bible studies or faith practices, serving our wider communities, or sharing about our faith and why we love Jesus with our neighbors. Let us give Jesus our heart and know that Jesus loves us so very, very much, despite all our flaws and foibles. And because of that love, we are empowered to share Jesus' love with others and keep Jesus' love alive in our communities.

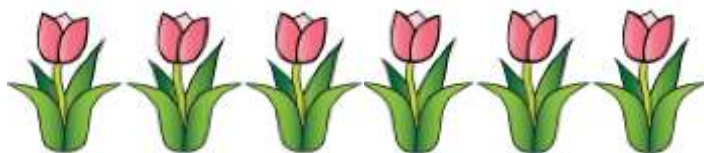
Blessings as we enter into Eastertide and spring!

Peace,  
Pastor Rebecca

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<sup>1</sup>Spanish for "Lamb of God"

<sup>2</sup>You can learn more about this symbol and all the other italicized symbols at: [adinkrasymbols.org](http://adinkrasymbols.org)





# MARCH WORSHIP SCHEDULE

# JOIN US

*Please join us in person, watch us live via livestream or watch a recording later at [ctkwbl.online.church](http://ctkwbl.online.church). You can access the Bulletin by clicking at the top of the livestream page.*

## SUNDAYS

<p>APRIL 7</p> <p>SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER</p> <p><i>Acts 4:32-35</i> <i>Psalm 133</i> <i>John 21:1-19</i></p> <p>Wandering Heart: Here's My Heart</p> <p><b>9 am Worship</b> Organ / Communion</p>	<p>APRIL 14</p> <p>THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER</p> <p><i>Acts 3:12-19</i> <i>Psalm 4</i> <i>Luke 21:36b-48</i></p> <p>We who once were dead.</p> <p><b>9 am Worship</b> KHB / Communion</p>	<p>APRIL 21</p> <p>FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER</p> <p><i>Acts 4:5-12</i> <i>Psalm 23</i> <i>John 10:11-18</i></p> <p>Have no fear little flock.</p> <p><b>9 am Worship</b> Organ / Communion</p>	<p>APRIL 28</p> <p>FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER</p> <p><i>Acts 8:26-40</i> <i>Psalm 22:25-31</i> <i>John 15:1-8</i></p> <p>O blessed spring.</p> <p><b>9 am Worship</b> KHB / Communion</p>
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## DEVOTION

### Living Our Baptisms

Recently while browsing the ELCA.org website, I came across a brief but powerful article entitled *Faith Practices – Living Our Baptism*. I'd like to share just an excerpt with you:

The Affirmation of Baptism ... provides five faith practices to integrate into our daily life. Receive each as a gift from God.

#### *Affirmation of Baptism*

Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in holy baptism:

**live** among God's faithful people;

**hear** the word of God and share in the Lord's Supper;

**proclaim** the good news of God in Christ through word and deed;

**serve** all people following the example of Jesus; and

**strive** for justice and peace in all the earth?"

Response: We do, and ask God to help and guide us. [Amen.]

It struck me as a great reminder and a great prayer!

Prayerfully in Christ,  
Michael Stepan

## THURSDAY

APRIL 18

**WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY**

9:00 am

*Please join us for Scripture and Nature: Teachers of Faith—Food a Bible Study from "Gather" magazine.*

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

# April

## Worship Leaders

	AV	Altar Guild	LAM	Reader	Ushers	Communion	Acolyte
4.7	Joe / Craig	Karen / Becky	Cyndi	Polly	Mike / Ann	—	—
4.14	Craig / Jason	Connie / Peggy	Trip	Ann	Scott / Howard	Sally / Mike	—
4.21	Joe / Mike	Ann	Lee	Sterling	Mike / Peggy	Wayne/Howard	Jack
4.28	Mike / Jason	Cathy / Stephanie	Michele	Mike	Jack / Trip	Sally / Peggy	—

**Hospitality:** Sue Kohler, Craig & Cathy Carlson, Howard & Billie Juni

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



### Confirmation Updates



Thank you to our Confirmation mentors – Kathy Felix, Erica Johnson, Howard Juni, Elida Olson, Jason Clapper, and Bea Jones -- for their work with the Confirmation students during Lent.

Confirmation will be resuming our biweekly Wednesday classes in April from 7-8:30 pm. We'll be focusing on the Apostle's Creed as we wrap up our Catechism year. The classes left for the end of the year include:

- April 10** – Apostles Creed: Article One
- April 24 – Apostles Creed: Article Two
- May 8 – Apostles Creed: Article Three

Mark your calendars for our end of the year review and games on May 22! We'll meet starting at 6:30 pm for a pizza dinner followed by games and fun! All high school and middle school youth are invited to participate.

### Holy Communion Exploration for All Ages



*Communion is the gift of Jesus in bread and wine – all are welcome at God's table!*

All are welcome to join in an exploration of Holy Communion using Daniel Erlander's book *A Place for You*. Children who are not yet receiving Holy Communion, their family, and anyone who wants to spend time exploring Jesus' invitation to his special meal are invited to join in the class. If you are interested in joining the class, talk to Pastor Rebecca to receive a copy of *A Place for You* to look over before April 14.

We'll meet on Wednesday, April 17 from 6:30-8 pm and Sunday, October 21 from 11 am – 1:30 pm (lunch provided).

Those who will be receiving Holy Communion for the first time will determine a Sunday in May at our meetings.

# COMING SOON

## FELLOWSHIP



### Bingo night is coming soon!

Mark **Saturday, April 13 at 6:30 pm** on your calendar for a fun night of bingo, prizes, popcorn and fellowship. All ages welcome! Please watch for a sign-up sheet in the Narthex.

## WOMEN'S MINISTRY



### Spring Luncheon

Saturday, April 27th at 11am  
**"Unstyle Style Show"**

Please wear something you purchased at a rummage sale, garage sale or a thrift/ consignment store.

### Rummage Sale Setup & Sale

May 27-31



Watch for signup  
and more information to follow.

## FAITH & FAMILY



### Good Stewards Together: Intergenerational Sunday School

**April 14: Faith, Fellowship, and Fun**

At church, we are called to be good stewards of our relationship with others. We'll gather in the back of Fellowship Hall at 10:15am.



### *The Chosen* Viewing & Discussion

We'll continue to gather in the Library to watch an episode and discuss it after worship.

**Sunday, April 21**  
*"I Am He"*

### Lutheran Social Service of MN 2024 Benefit for Youth

## Reaching Further

Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota (LSS) invites you to join us at the 2024 Benefit for Youth as we celebrate all the ways that together, we are Reaching Further to support youth and families.

CTK would like to organize a group to attend together. Talk to Pastor Rebecca if interested.

**Tuesday, May 7, 2024**

5:30 Check-In & Dinner, 6:30 pm Program  
Tickets: \$25

### Christ In Our Home Devotionals

The April / May / June edition are available on a tray on the table near the NE entrance to the church.

# UPDATES

## CHURCH COUNCIL

### Council Corner

What is our mission? That is one of the questions council discussed at our March retreat. We explored the basis for our current mission statement:

#### ***Connect, Teach, Keep***

This mission statement was developed approximately 15 years ago. Each of the words in our mission statement are meant to apply to 4 levels of relationship. Some examples are listed below.

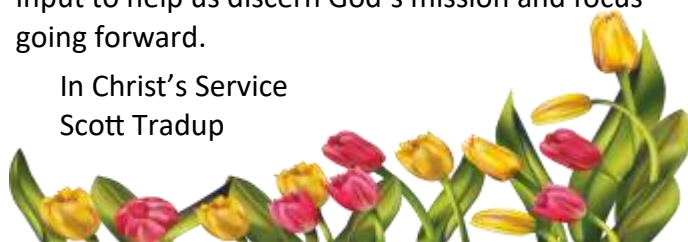
- Within self
  - Connect – Know your soul, prayer
  - Teach – Bible study, small groups
  - Keep – Nourishing soul through bible study, prayer
- Between self and CTK the congregation
  - Connect – Volunteering at church
  - Teach – Bible study, small groups, Sunday School, VBS
  - Keep – Nourishing each other through small groups, prayer, service
- Between self and CTK the Son
  - Connect – build and nurture relationship with Jesus
  - Teach – Bible study, prayer
  - Keep – Nourishing soul through bible study, prayer
- Between self and the entire communion of saints
  - Connect – Volunteering, supporting local & global missions
  - Teach – Evangelism in the WBL community
  - Keep – Nourishing the community through volunteering, supporting local & global missions

The council spent some time reviewing work by the 2023 council in discerning our purpose based on

our ministries. A diagram was developed with the purpose at the center surrounded by the “proof points” used to develop the purpose. So, what is our purpose, “Christ the King spreads God’s grace”. And what are the proof points, Prayer, Music, Worship, Education, Women’s Ministry, Global Outreach, Hunger Ministries and Local Outreach. Each proof point had several examples of ministries supporting it. Council plans on sharing this diagram with the congregation later in the year.

The council decided to spend more time studying our mission and to include the congregation in the discussions. To that end, council is planning on having conversations with congregation members. Please strongly consider participating in the conversations and provide your input to help us discern God’s mission and focus going forward.

In Christ’s Service  
Scott Tradup



## ADMIN & FINANCE

### March Financial Report

#### **Envelope and online offerings monthly comparison:**

02/01/23 through 02/28/23 = \$31,441

02/01/24 through 02/29/24 = \$38,240

#### **Expenses Year-To-Date:**

02/01/23 through 02/28/23 = \$40,428

02/01/24 through 02/29/24 = \$44,345

#### **Cash account balances as of February 29:**

North Star Bank:

Checking = \$33,064

Savings = \$1,011

Memorial Savings = \$33,442

CD = \$41,015

ELCA Mission Investment Fund = \$52,426

Mortgage Balance = \$125,532






Endowment Fund = \$90,000



# APRIL 2024



Sun      Mon      Tue      Wed      Thu      Fri      Sat

	1  Mission Trip deposit due	2	3 Bells 6:30pm <b>King's Choir</b> 7:45pm	4 Property 7P	5	6 Bread Ministry 7am KHB 9am
7 Worship 9am Sunday School 10:15am	8 WMA 6:30P	9 Admin 7P	10 Bells 6:30pm <b>King's Choir</b> 7:45pm Confirmation 7:00-8:30pm	11	12	13 Bread Ministry 7am KHB 9am  6:30pm
14 Worship 9am Intergenerational Sunday School 10:15-11:00am	15	16 Church Council 7P	17 Bells 6:30pm <b>King's Choir</b> 7:45pm First Communion 6:30-8:00pm	18  <b>Women's Bible</b> Study 9am	19	20 Bread Ministry 7am KHB 9am
21 Worship 9am Sunday School 10:15am The Chosen 10:15-11:00am First Communion 11am-1:30pm	22  Trumpet Deadline	23  Family Shelter Meal 4:30-6:15pm	24 Bells 6:30pm <b>King's Choir</b> 7:45pm Confirmation 7:00-8:30pm	25	26	27 Bread Ministry 7am KHB 9am
28 Worship 9am Sunday School 10:15am	29	30		<div style="background-color: #ADD8E6; padding: 10px; border: 1px solid black;">Regular Office Hours: Monday - Thursday 9:00 am - 3:00pm</div>		

## Christ the King Lutheran Church

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