

PASTOR'S CORNER

"Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."
- John 20:29b

Dear Siblings in Christ,

We find ourselves in the season of Easter. Yes, Easter is a season and not just one day. There are fifty days in the Easter season – ten more than Lent! During these fifty days of Easter, we can remember the women who proclaimed the resurrection to the disciples. We too are invited to share the good news of Jesus' resurrection with others.

God invites us to love our neighbor as ourselves, so this Easter I inivte you to consider how you can share that love with your actual neighbors. We can remember all the ways that God has so richly blessed our lives. As Christians we are invited to see ourselves as blessed – and then share that blessings with everyone that we encounter in our daily lives.

A part of the blessing we have received from God is our faith. We are blessed because we have not seen the actual resurrected Jesus, as Thomas and the other disciples did, and yet we have come to believe. What a blessing this is for us to never have encountered Jesus in the flesh and yet we still have faith and believe in him!

We are truly blessed to have our faith – and to continue growing in it. And because we are blessed, we want to pass along this blessing. How might you pass along the blessing of faith that you have experienced in your life?

One idea of how to share the blessing you have received is to share the story of how your faith has grown and developed. This can be a wonderful way to welcome someone new – to share your faith story with them.

I invite you to consider these questions as a starting point for thinking about your own faith story and the way you can testify about the blessings you experience because of your faith. Take a piece of paper and write out some answers to the following four questions:

- I'm a Lutheran because...
- My faith has changed by life by...
- I pray...
- My favorite church memory is...

I also challenge you to consider how you might include God or Jesus into your responses. Often when we share about our faith, we end up talking

about our church – how friendly it is, how the coffee hour is always tasty, and the music is great. That could potentially describe any kind of social club. What is it that makes CTK different? Jesus and God make our church, and our faith, different than a social club.

You can practice developing your faith story and find ways to share it with those that you encounter. Offer to pray for someone who is facing hardships – or actually pray with them right in the moment. Invite someone to come to worship – and tell them that your faith encourages you to love your neighbor and that you hope to see them this summer.

Peace, Pastor Rebecca



JOIN US

PLEASE JOIN US IN PERSON, WATCH US VIAL LIVESTREAM OR WATCH A RECORDING LATER AT CTKWBL.ONLINE.CHURCH. YOU CAN ACCESS THE BULLETIN BY CLICKING AT THE TOP OF THE LIVESTREAM PAGE.

MAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

MAY 4	MAY 11	MAY 18	MAY 25	
Third	Fourth	Fifth	Sixth	
Sunday of Easter	Sunday of Easter	Sunday of Easter	Sunday of Easter	
Acts 9:1-6	Acts 9:36-43	Acts 11:1-18	Acts 16:9-15	
Psalm 30	Psalm 23	Psalm 148	Psalm 67	
John 21:1-19	John 10:22-30	John13:31-35	John14:23-29	
Breakfast with Jesus	5		Jesus provides a vision of peace that is beyond human understanding	
9am Worship	9am Worship	9am Worship	9am Worship	
Organ / Communion	KHB / Communion	Organ / Communion	KHB / Communion	

THURSDAY

MAY 15

Women's Bible Study

May's Study
is titled:
"Receiving the Spirit's
flame: Spiritual gifts in
the life of the church"

9:30am in the library.

Immigration Today: Long Shadows of History and Origin Stories

What does our faith say about immigration? Join Pastor Rebecca and David Probst for an exploration of what the scripture says about immigration and an overview of immigration history.

World War II and the refugee crisis it created cast a long shadow affecting immigration in the United States today. The response of the world and later the United States to that crisis led to legal changes playing a large role in the flow of migrants to America. The Bill of Rights is part of America's origin story, and numerous provisions are at issue in court cases involving noncitizens in the US.

Join us in the library at 10:15 am on Sunday, May 4 and May 11.



	AV	ALTAR GUILD	LAM	READER	USHERS	COMMUNION	ACOLYTE
5.4	Craig / Joe	Kathy / Ann	Michael	Cyndi	Michele / Mike	Ann / Howard	TBD
5.11	Michael /Joe	Cathy / Stephanie	Julie	Polly	Scott / Howard	Sally / Peggy	N/A
5.18	Janelle/Michael	Lori / Lori	Cyndi	Ann	Michele / Mike	Julie / Peggy	TBD
5.25	Jason/Brianna	Karen / Becky	Lee	Peggy	Mike / Scott	Michael / Howard	N/A

Hospitality: Cyndi Frankel, Sharon Burback, Sandy Serier

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

DEVOTION

Fifty Days of Joy

Having celebrated another glorious Easter with my congregation, I must remind myself that Easter is not just one day, but is an entire season in the church year, lasting 50 days. Recently, I came across a lovely article in one of my *Living Lutheran* magazines, from the year after the pandemic eased, which spoke about the season of Easter:

"What's the next holiday?" my sons asked after this second year of pandemic Christmases. The festivals that dot our calendar have always been important, but recently that significance has been highlighted as bright spots illuminating an otherwise confusing reality in these years of strangeness. Calendars, both secular and sacred, aren't just for knowing what day it is, but also for helping us know how to behave. "Easter," I replied with much enthusiasm. My son looked at me a bit disappointed. "But that's only one day," he said, downcast. "It's not," I replied with confidence. "It's actually 50 days!" But I understood his assumption. In the larger landscape, Christmas lasts for weeks: holiday music starts in early

November and Christmas-themed movies air before the Halloween candy is consumed. Christmas itself is, at least liturgically and historically, 12 days long. To my son, Easter seems like only a day. But for something as unique and life-giving as resurrection, strides need to be taken to honor the totality of the season long past the secular celebrations of rabbits and eggs. Easter is a season, not a day."

<u>Pastor Tim Brown</u>, "Easter is a Season, not a Day" (<u>Living Lutheran</u>, <u>April 27</u>, 2022).

For me, Easter is the season of joy, pure joy in the reassurance of the Resurrection and Christ's promise to us – of God's triumph over death, for all our sins. Easter also provides for me a glimpse of the early church, especially the Acts of the Apostles and Paul's letters to various congregations, where the apostles and disciples themselves begin to witness to what they've been taught. As a seminarian, it is especially heartening for me. Indeed, the first students of Christ Jesus become the ambassadors of the Risen Lord. Thanks be to God!

Prayerfully in Christ, Michael Stepan

COMING SOON

YOUTH & FAMILY



Hello CTK families!

April went by so quickly and most of the month was Lent!

At the very end of March we met to play DnD on a Monday the youth had off. We had a lot of fun doing a one-shot campaign where we adventured through a forest to heal the tree of life.

Looking forward to May, we will have Youth Group on the 7th and the 21st. We will be doing a Bible Study and then a service project, details to follow. We look forward to seeing your youth there!

Hannah Grove

HOLY HAMMERS



Habitat The Holy Hammers 2025 build season is underway! CTK's

designated days aren't until June 4-5-6, but crews from other Holy Hammers congregations are already working at the site. We could still use some more help on June 4th-6th, can you give us a day, or two, or three? If so, you can go here to sign up: http://holyhammers.tchabitat.volunteerhub.com. Talk to Craig Carlson if you have any questions. Thanks!

2025 MISSION TRIP



Want to grow in faith, deepen relationships, and serve in Duluth? CTK is heading north to spend time at Amnicon Camp and serving in the Duluth/Superior communities. All ages are encouraged to join in the trip.

Date: Saturday, July 26 - Tuesday, July 29

Cost: Full trip: \$375

Two Days (Sat-Sun or Mon-Tues): \$175

As we are getting closer to July, we have updates about the schedule. There is the possibility of doing service on Saturday afternoon in Duluth on our way up to Amnicon. We will also meet with Sara, the Service Learning Camps Duluth coordinator, on Sunday to have an orientation to the Duluth region and learn more about why our service is needed in this community. Saturday and Sunday will also include time for team building and connection, outdoor relaxation, and meal preparations. Monday and Tuesday we will serve at a variety of organizations in the Duluth area, working at one site in the morning, breaking for lunch, and serving in the afternoon at a different site.

If you would like to help support the Mission Trip, we would welcome applications for a couple **Thrivent Action Grant** to help cover our food costs. If you are a Thrivent member and are interested in applying for a grant, let Pastor Rebecca know and she can walk you through the application process.

Participants should plan to meet in early June to discuss the trip and logistics. We should also have final numbers for payment by the end of July. If you are interested in attending, but didn't get in a deposit by the deadline, talk to Pastor Rebecca.

WOMEN'S MINISTRY



Annual Rummage Sale

Set up: May 26, 27, 28

Sale dates: May 29, 8am-7pm May 30, 8am-noon

Clean Up: Friday, May 30 – noon until 3pm

We need your clean, reusable donations. Please NO baby furniture, car seats or similar items. NO electronics.

Check Goodwill's list if questions regarding appropriate items. Leftover items will be distributed amongst Goodwill, Habitat Restore or Bridging. Donation dates will be posted in the midweek and bulletin later in May.





Holden Village Trip - 2026

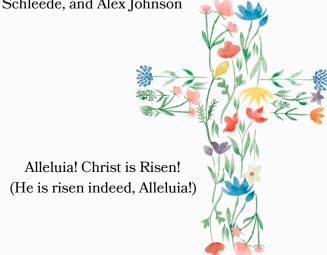
We are planning a CTK congregation trip to Holden Village in Washington State in 2026! If you're interested in learning more or have any questions about this potential adventure, please connect with or contact Craig or Cathy Carlson, Kristen Jackelen, Lori Fredericks, or Bonnie Jackelen. More information will be forthcoming over the next few months, but we wanted to give ample notice for you to think and pray about joining us for a life-changing opportunity. We'd love to hear from you and gauge interest as we start to make plans. Let us know if you'd like to be part of this exciting journey!

You can find more information about Holden Village at their website, https://www.holdenvillage.org/.



A big thank you to all who made our Holy Week and Easter worship extra special, including:

- The Altar Guild for decorating the sanctuary and entry way: Ann Jonell, Kathy Felix, Cathy Carlson, Karen Eian, Becky Thompson, Stephanie Clapper, Lori Fredricks, and Lori Wills
- All our fabulous musicians: the Kings House Band, Kings Brass, Joyful Noise Bells, and the Kings Choir
- Fools for Christ for participating in our Good Friday worship
- Bea Jones, Abby Olson, and Jill Anderson for their work preparing the sanctuary for Good Friday and Easter worship
- All who helped with the Easter pancake breakfast, especially Stephanie Clapper and Erica Johnson and the members of the Discipleship and Fellowship team
- And all the worship participants during Holy Week, especially the youth who extinguished candles on Good Friday: John Murray, Jack Sullivan, Brianna Clapper, Elise Schleede, Lily Schleede, and Alex Johnson



UPDATES

CHURCH COUNCIL

Council Corner

Greetings! The council continues reading Faithful Innovation: Following God into a Hopeful Future. At our April meeting we discussed Chapter One. This months discussion focused on church and the Age of Association vs the Age of Authenticity and why people went to church in the past and why some spiritual seekers of today may not join a church community.

At our retreat on March 30th where we explored our values for the past, present and future of Christ the King. We looked at the themes from the One-to-One conversations conducted with congregation. We then focused our energy on exercises that would lead us in defining our values based on those themes.

Thank you for some very generous donations towards the sound system updates. To date we have received nearly \$8,000. A sound balancing and training still needs to be completed.

Based on some feedback from our insurance carrier Church Mutual. We have some additional tree trimming to do this summer. We have contracted with Budget Tree to complete this work. After much research the Property Team found that is possible to retrofit the lighting in the sanctuary to LED lamps without changing the light fixtures. Due to the expense of switching to LED this is likely something we will raise with the congregation at the next Annual meeting.

The CTK Council always welcomes feedback and input from congregation members. Please feel free to share your thoughts with me or any other Council members. We are also always looking for leaders to serve at CTK in a variety of capacities. If you feel called to serve at CTK, please let any Council member know.

In Christ's service, Michele Murray

ADMIN & FINANCE

Envelope and online offerings monthly comparison:

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01/01/25 through 3/31/25 = \$59,510 01/01/24 through 3/31/24 = \$71,923

Expenses Year-To-Date:

01/01/25 through 3/31/25 = \$73,671 01/01/24 through 3/31/24 = \$65,648

Cash account balances as of March 31, 2025

North Star Bank:

Checking = \$11,380

Savings = \$56,717

Memorial Savings = \$24,880

ELCA Mission Investment Fund = \$58,335

Endowment Fund = \$92,193

Mortgage Balance = \$106,878

LIVESTREAMING

As you may know, we have been having trouble livestreaming our services on Sundays. If you are interested in watching the recording of the Easter 2025 service, it is now on YouTube. It is located here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?

v=bCR15mA01eM









SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3
	Office	Hours				7am Bread Ministry
	Office Hours Monday - Thursday					KHB 9am
	9am-	-3pm				11am Ladies
				7pm Property Team		Luncheon
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Worship 9am			,			7am
Sunday School						Bread Ministry
10:15			Ob =:= 7===			KHB 9am
Today 10:15	6:30pm		Choir 7pm 7-8:30pm			
10.10	WMA		Youth Group			
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Worship 9am Immigration						7am Bread Ministry
Today 10:15				Women's Bible Study		KHB 9am
Happy			Choir 7pm	9:30am		
Mouners Days		7pm Admin Team	7-8:30pm Confirmation			
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Worship 9am				1		7am Bread Ministry
End of Year Sunday School				Trumpet Deadline		KHB 9am
Celebration 10:15			Choir 7pm			
		7pm	7-8:30pm			
25	26	Church Council	Youth Group	29	30	31
Worship 9am	_ * * * .	Z /	20	Z 7	30	7am
·	* * *	, (,		Rummage Sale 8am-7pm	Rummage Sale 8am-noon	Bread Ministry
	MEMORIAL DAY			οαιτι-/μιτι	Oaiii-110011	KHB 9am
		Family Shelter	Choir 7pm			
		Meal 4:30pm	7-8:30pm Confirmation			