

Romans 8



ORDER OF WORSHIP

APRIL 26, 2026
THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

❖ CALL TO WORSHIP

Minister: All who thirst, come to the water and drink deeply of these living streams. Come, all who are weary; come, all who yearn for forgiveness.

People: **Our gracious God beckons and blesses us. Let us give praise for new life in Christ.**

❖ IMMORTAL, INVISIBLE, GOD ONLY WISE

Walter Chalmers Smith

Immortal, invisible God only wise
In light inaccessible, hid from our eyes
Most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days
Almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise

Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light
Nor wanting nor wasting thou rulest in might
Thy justice, like mountains, high soaring above
Thy clouds, which are fountains, of goodness and love

All life come through you Lord to both great and small
In all life you live Lord the true life of all
We blossom and flourish but quickly grow frail
We wither and perish but you never fail

Great Father of glory, pure Father of light
Thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight
All praise we would render; O help us to see
Tis only the splendor of light hideth thee

❖ PRAYER OF ADORATION

We, your people, rejoice in your unfailing love and the beauty of your matchless character. We delight to think of you, to increasingly order our lives around you, and to make you the object of our highest affections. Be pleased today to unfold afresh the glorious mysteries of your gospel.

Work in us that we may genuinely bow our hearts before you, Jesus, who upon the cross won for us the freedom that is ours today. We adore you, our glorious King and together exalt your magnificent name. Amen.

❖ **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

Colossians 1:15-20

Minister: Who is Jesus and why did he come?

All: He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities — all things were created through him and for him. And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.

❖ **GOD WITH US**

David Ingram and Leslie Jordan

You've come to bring peace, to be love
To be nearer to us
And you've come to bring life, to be Light
To shine brighter in us
O Emmanuel, God with us

Chorus:

*Our Deliverer, you are Savior
In your presence we find our strength
Over everything our Redemption, God with us
You are God with us*

You've come to be hope to this world
For your honor and name
And you've come to take sin, to bear shame
And to conquer the grave
O Emmanuel, God with us (*Ch*)

You are here, you are holy
We are standing in your glory (3x)
You are here, you are holy
We are standing in your glory Lord

*Our Deliverer, you are Savior;
In your presence we find our strength
Over everything our Redemption, God with us (Repeat)
You are God with us (3x)*

PRAYER FOR CHRIST'S CHURCH AND THE WORLD

SPIRIT OF THE LIVING GOD

Audrey Assad and Henry Hallum Tweeny

O Spirit of the living God
Thou Light and Fire divine
Descend upon thy Church once more
And make it truly thine
Fill it with love and joy and power
With righteousness and peace
Till Christ shall dwell in human hearts
And sin and sorrow cease

Blow wind of God, with wisdom blow
Until our minds are free
From mists of error, clouds of doubt
Which blind our eyes to thee
Burn winged Fire, inspire our lips
With flaming love and zeal
To preach to all thy great good news
God's glorious commonweal

So shall we know the power of Christ
Who came this world to save
So shall we rise with him to life
Which soars beyond the grave
And earth shall win true holiness
Which makes thy children whole
Till perfected by thee we reach
Creation's glorious goal

+ PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Almighty God, in raising Jesus from the grave, you shattered the power of sin and death. We confess that we remain captive to doubt and fear, bound by the ways that lead to death. We waste your gifts, wander from your ways, and forget your love. We overlook our neighbor, and are constantly fixated on ourselves.

Forgive us, God of mercy. Help us to trust your power to change our lives and make us new, that we may know the joy of abundant life given in Jesus Christ, the risen Lord. Amen.

❖ WORDS OF ASSURANCE & PEACE OF GOD

from Romans 8

Minister: How great is the love the Father has lavished on us,
that we should be called children of God!

People: Thanks be to God!

Minister: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And also with you!

SCRIPTURE READING

Romans 8:12-17; Galatians 4:1-7
pages 944 and 974

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

THE SERMON

“Sons and Daughters”
Romans 8

Rev. Stacey Croft

CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

Communion is an opportunity for all of us to seek the Lord. It is an occasion for baptized Christians to be strengthened by our Savior. All who trust alone in Christ as Savior and Lord, are members in good standing of a church that embraces the gospel, live at peace with their neighbor, and seek strength to live more faithfully are welcome to come forward to partake. If you are not a Christian, have not been admitted to the Lord’s table, or choose not to partake you are welcome to come forward with your arms crossed in front of your body to receive a blessing.

Minister: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Minister: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

Minister: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING & WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Minister: Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

All: Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Minister: Christ, our Passover, has been sacrificed for us.

People: **Therefore, let us keep the feast.**

Minister: The gifts of God for the people of God.

Come and feed on him in your hearts

by faith with thanksgiving.

During communion, wine and grape juice are served.

Grape juice, in a purple cup, is available upon request.

All communion bread is gluten-free.

Please let an usher know if it is difficult for you to come forward.

Prayer of Seeking Truth

Lord Jesus, you claim to be the way, the truth and the life. If what you claim is true, please guide me, teach me, and open to me the reality of who you are. Grant that I might be undaunted by the cost of following you as I consider the reasons for doing so. Give me an understanding of you that is coherent, convincing, and that leads to the life that you promise. Amen.

Prayer of Belief

Lord Jesus, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever before believed, but through you, I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared to hope. I thank you for paying my debt, bearing my punishment on the cross and offering forgiveness and new life. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sins and receive you as my Savior. Amen.

BUILDING TOWARD THE PROMISE

Joe Deegan, John Trapp

Oh, the promise throughout the ages
Wonder from the heavens above
Jesus builds his holy temple
Through his Spirit, sent in love

Refrain:

*Christ our King, the risen savior
Seated at the father's right hand
Build your church as you have promised
For your children from every land*

Christ, the temple of your body
Spirit-risen on that third day
Cornerstone by man rejected
Ours, the rock, that will not decay (*Ref*)

Hail the risen branch of Jesse
David's son yet David's Lord
Sends his spirit as he promised
Faithful always to his word (*Ref*)

Oh the promise throughout the ages
Sealed by blood, delivered by grace
For ourselves and for our children
For his people far away (*Ref*)

ISAIAH 43 (I AM THE LORD)

Billy Sprague

When you pass through the waters I will be with you
And the waves, they will not overcome you
Do not fear for I have redeemed you
I have called you by name, you are mine

Chorus:

*For I am the Lord your God (I am the Lord your God)
For I am the Lord your God
I am the Holy One of Israel, your Savior (Repeat)
I am the Lord (Do not fear) (4x)*

When you walk through the fire, you'll not be burned
And the flames, they will not consume you
Do not fear for I have redeemed you
I have called you by name, you are mine

Chorus:

*For I am the Lord your God (I am the Lord your God)
For I am the Lord your God
I am the Holy One of Israel, your Savior (Repeat)
I am the Lord (Do not fear) (4x)
I am the Lord*

❖ BENEDICTION

Minister: May the blessing of the Holy Trinity, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

People: **Thanks be to God. Amen.**

❖ DOXOLOGY

OLD HUNDREDDTH, Louis Bourgeois's Genevan Psalter, Thomas Ken

Praise God from whom all blessings flow

Praise him all creatures here below

Praise him above ye heavenly host

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost

Amen

Worship Leaders

Tim Brown	<i>piano</i>
Sam Cornelius	<i>guitar</i>
Stacey Croft	<i>sermon</i>
Joe Deegan	<i>guitar & vocals</i>
Conrad Guthrie	<i>bass</i>
Travis Henthorn	<i>drums</i>
Clay Holland	<i>liturgy</i>
Natalie Mann	<i>violin</i>
Alex Martinez	<i>liturgy</i>
Katie Reyes	<i>vocals</i>
Steven Wiggs	<i>cello</i>

Audio/Visual Team

Samuel Hunniford	<i>camera</i>
Kyunghee Kim	<i>projections</i>
Madelyn Landis	<i>camera</i>
Ryan Landis	<i>video director</i>
Namath Naif	<i>technical director</i>
Alex Rollo	<i>Spanish translation</i>
Clara Whites	<i>camera</i>

CCLI# 1268735

Welcome! We are so glad you are with us today.
For a full list of upcoming events,
please visit christtheking.com.

Sunday Morning at Christ the King

9:00 am

Worship Service

Nursery Care

8 weeks - PreK

Children's Worship

K-2nd grade

Children will be dismissed from
the worship service.

Adult Sunday Morning Class

(Room A301, 3rd Floor)

Young Adult Sunday Morning Class

(The Redeemer Room, 3rd Floor)

10:30 am

Worship Service

Nursery Care

8 weeks - 1 year

Sunday School

2 - 4 years old (1st floor)

K - 3rd grade (2nd floor)

Code 45 - 4th & 5th grade

(Through the Great Hall,
and up the stairs)

Student Ministry

Sunday Mornings

6th - 12th grade

(3rd floor)

Adult Sunday Morning Class

(The Redeemer Room, 3rd Floor)

Adult Sunday Morning Classes

Theology 101

Our Sunday Morning Classes are exploring foundational theological and cultural questions for our church. You'll hear teaching from our pastors on a range of topics rooted in Scripture and relevant to everyday life. Join us as we grow together in understanding and faith.

Upcoming Events

5/1	Building Toward the Promise Day of Prayer & Fasting		
5/3	60+ Brunch	12:00 - 2:00 pm	Room A300
5/3	The Traveling Table	12:30 - 2:00 pm	1148 Silber
5/6	Women's Prayer Retreat	9:30 - 11:00 am	The Great Hall
5/9	Brunch Para Damas	10:00 am - 12:00 pm	El Gran Salón
5/17	Preview Sunday for 3rd & 5th Grade		
5/17	Student Ministry Family Trivia Night	5:00 - 7:00 pm	The Great Hall



The Capital Campaign

You've probably been hearing a lot about our capital campaign—and for good reason! We're hoping to meet with every household in the church as we step together into what God has ahead for Christ the King. If you're curious and want to learn more, visit christtheking.com/capital-campaign. We're excited about what's ahead, and we'd love for you to be part of it.



Volunteer Opportunity

May 2, 8:00 am - 12:00 pm, Christ the King

Christ the King will host MAM's Summer Class Registration, and we're looking for volunteers to help create a warm and welcoming first impression for every student who walks through our doors. As a volunteer, you'll sign up for a 2 hour shift to greet students, help them feel at ease, and guide them to classrooms throughout the building. It's a simple but meaningful way to extend hospitality and care to our neighbors as they take an important next step.



60+ Brunch

May 3, 12:00 - 2:00 pm, Room A300

If you are 60 years or over, we're saving you a seat! Join us for brunch after church as we gather around the table for good food, great conversation, and deeper connection in our church family.

THE TRAVELING TABLE



The Traveling Table

May 3, 12:30 pm, 1148 Silber Road

Join The Traveling Table as we build relationships with our neighbors at Bellrock at Memorial, just across the street from Christ the King. On select Sunday afternoons, we gather to share a meal and spend time in conversation with residents. Come be part of this simple and meaningful way to love our neighbors. All ages are welcome! Let us know you're coming at christtheking.com/serve-the-city.

CTK WOMEN

Prayer Retreat

MAY 6 @ 9:30 AM

Women's Prayer Retreat

May 6, 9:30 - 11:00 am

Join us as we gather for a time of prayer. You'll receive a simple guide to lead you through Scripture, hymns, and personal reflection. Come and rest in the Lord as we spend this unhurried time together in prayer.



Brunch Para Damas

9 de mayo, 10:00 am - 12:00 pm, El Gran Salón

Te invitamos a un espacio de conexión, ánimo y comunidad con otras mujeres. Este evento es para festejar no solo a las madres pero a todas las damas. ¡Invita a tus amigas, vecinas y familiares! Disfrutaremos de: música, un mensaje bíblico práctico, delicioso brunch y premios. También contaremos con cuidado de niños. Regístrese en christtheking.com/latino-ministry.



Student Ministry Trivia Night

May 17, 5:00 - 7:00 pm, The Great Hall

Student Ministry families, join us for a fun night of trivia, dinner, and fun! Parents, don't worry if you can't make it—send your students anyway, and we'll make sure they're part of a great team. Sign up today at christtheking.com/students.

CTK CHILDREN



JUNE 15-19

Vacation Bible School

June 15-19

Registration for Vacation Bible School is open! VBS is one of the most joyful weeks of the summer—a time filled with music, teaching, games, and meaningful connection as children grow in their understanding of God's love. We can't wait to welcome your children for a week that is both fun and deeply formative! Register today at christtheking.com/children.

Care at Christ the King

Congregational Prayers

Can we pray for you? Let us know at christtheking.com/care or contact catherine.duffin@christtheking.com.

Deacons at Christ the King

The deacons come alongside our church body to assist with needs like encouragement and prayer, budgeting and financial coaching, and helping widows and elderly. If you have a need, or know of a need, please email them at deacons@christtheking.com.

The Barnabas Center

We are honored to help you find healing, understanding, and hope in your life and current circumstances through Christ-centered professional counseling. Please visit our website at barnabascenterhou.com for more information and to connect with a counselor.

Pastors at Christ the King

Our staff is excited to come alongside you as you grow in your worship of Christ and your love and care for one another. Please contact any of us with questions or needs.

You can find contact information for all of our staff and pastors at christtheking.com/staff.

Stacey Croft
Clay Holland
Alex Martinez
John Trapp
Andrés Zelaya

Pastor, Adult Ministry
Pastor, Family Ministry
Pastor, Latino Ministry
Senior Pastor
Pastor of the Latino Initiative & Church Plant Resident

Ministry Budget Update

2026 Ministry Budget	\$	7,888,564
Budgeted through 4/19	\$	2,381,453
Received as of 4/19	\$	1,543,335
Variance	\$	(838,118)

Giving to Christ the King

It is by your consistent generosity that we are able to support our Mission Partners in Houston and around the world and continue life changing ministry here at Christ the King. You can give today by placing checks or cash in the offering plate as it comes by. And you can always give at christtheking.com/giving.

