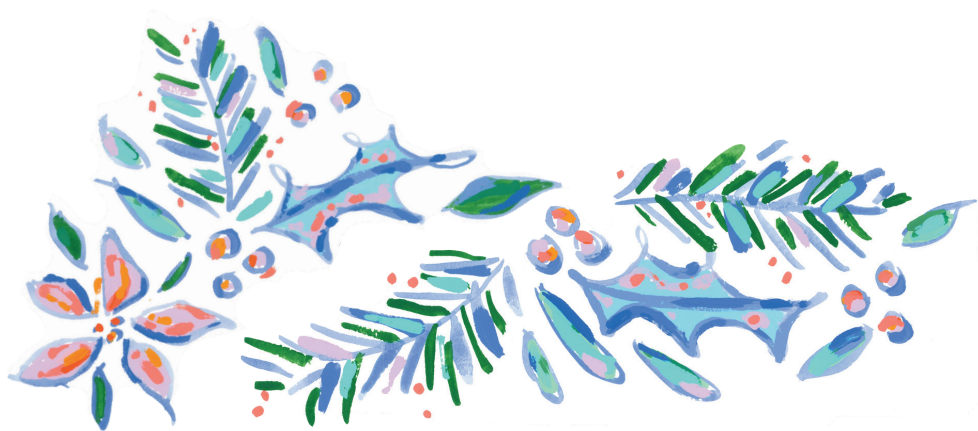




my soul
magnifies
the Lord



ORDER OF WORSHIP

NOVEMBER 30, 2025
THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

❖ CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Andrés Zelaya (9:00)
Rev. Clay Holland (10:30)

Minister: I will bless the LORD at all times; his praise shall
continually be on my lips.

**People: My soul makes its boast in the LORD; let the
humble hear and be glad.**

Minister: Magnify the LORD with me!

People: Let us exalt his name together!

❖ ADVENT HYMN

Pat Barrett, Graham Kendrick, Aaron Keyes, Chris Moerman, Eric Priest, and Ben Smith

In the darkness of our night
The Lord will come and shine his light
Give the blind new eyes to see
Throw off their chains and set them free

Chorus:

He will come, our Wonderous Counselor

He will come, our Mighty God

Prince of Peace, our King Eternal

He will come, our God with us

When the chosen time arrived
God sent his Son, the Sacrifice
Born a man, our sins to end
To die, to rise, and to ascend (*Ch*)

When the final trumpet sounds
And ev'ry foe is then cast down
Christ our Lord will take the throne
And reign forever with his own (*Ch*)

And he shall reign forever and ever (*4x*) (*Ch*)

❖ PRAYER OF ADORATION

You are the Sovereign One, O God, and rightly to be blessed. Your name shall ever be upon our lips. You have heard us and save us from trouble. You have enlightened us; our faces reflect your radiance. Aglow with the splendor of your promised redemption, we worship and adore you, ruler of nations. Amen.

Minister: Who is the Redeemer of God's people?

People: The only Redeemer of God's people is the Lord Jesus Christ, who, being the eternal Son of God, became man and so was, and continues to be, God and man in two distinct natures, and one person, forever.

❖ **CHRIST IS COMING**

Joachim Neander, John Ross McDuff

Christ is Coming! Let creation
From her groans and travail cease;
Let the glorious proclamation
Hope restore and faith increase:
Christ is coming! Christ is coming!
Come, thou blessed Prince of Peace.

Earth can now but tell the story
Of thy bitter cross and pain;
She shall yet behold thy glory,
When thou comest back to reign:
Christ is coming! Christ is Coming!
Let each heart repeat the strain.

Long thine exiles have been pinning,
Far from rest, and home, and thee;
But, in heavenly vestures shining,
They their loving Lord shall see:
Christ is coming! Christ is coming!
Haste the joyous jubilee.

With that blessed hope before us,
Let no harp remain unstrung;
Let the mighty advent chorus
Onward roll from tongue to tongue:
Christ is coming! Christ is Coming!
Come, Lord Jesus, quickly come!

PRAYER FOR CHRIST'S CHURCH AND THE WORLD

O COME, O COME, EMMANUEL

VENI EMMANUEL, Bob Kauffman and Steve Cook, Latin antiphons

O come, O come Emmanuel
And ransom captive Israel
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear

O come, O come thou Lord of might
Who to thy tribes on Sinai's height
In ancient time didst give the law
In cloud and majesty and awe

Chorus:

Rejoice, rejoice

Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

The Leggett Family

Leader: The Advent wreath helps us remember the miracle of God's becoming a man for our sake.

The wreath is a circle, causing us to remember the eternity of God's love for us and for all humanity.

It is decked with green boughs, causing us to remember the newness of life we have in Christ Jesus.

All: The first candle reminds us of the prophets' hope for God's salvation to come, as Isaiah prophesied:

**"The Lord himself will give you a sign:
Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,
and shall call his name Immanuel."**

Leader: So let us sing as we celebrate the coming of God to the world.

O COME, O COME, EMMANUEL

O come thou rod of Jesse free
Thine own from Satan's tyranny
From depths of hell thy people save
And give them vict'ry o'er the grave

O come thou dayspring from on high
And cheer us by thy drawing nigh
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night
and death's dark shadows put to flight

Chorus:

Rejoice, rejoice

Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel

✝ PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Lord God, our lives are filled with sin. We forget our neighbors' needs and do not love you above all else.

We need a Savior. Make our hearts ready for Jesus' coming.
Come, Savior of the world. Amen.

❖ WORDS OF ASSURANCE & PEACE OF GOD

2 Corinthians 4:6

Minister: God has caused to shine in our hearts,
the light that is knowledge of the glory of God
in the face of Jesus Christ.

People: Thanks be to God!

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

People: And also with you!

THE OFFERING

Joe Deegan, *guitar & vocals*

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 1:46-56
page 856

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

THE SERMON

Mary's Song
The Songs of Advent

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 Humble Access

I do not presume to come to this your table, O merciful Lord, trusting in my own goodness, but only in your righteousness credited to me. I am not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table. But you are the same Lord whose manner is always to show mercy. Grant me, therefore, O Lord, the grace to commune now with Christ by faith, that I may evermore live in him and he in me. Amen.

COME, THOU FOUNT OF EVERY BLESSING

NETTLETON, Robert Robinson and John Wyeth

Come thou fount of every blessing
Tune my heart to sing thy grace
Streams of mercy never ceasing
Call for songs of loudest praise
Teach me some melodious sonnet
Sung by flaming tongues above
Praise the mount, I'm fixed upon it
Mount of God's unchanging love

Here I raise my Ebenezer
Hither by thy help I'm come
And I hope by thy good pleasure
Safely to arrive at home
Jesus sought me when a stranger
Wandering from the fold of God
He to rescue me from danger
Interposed his precious blood

O to grace how great a debtor
Daily I'm constrained to be
Let that grace now, like a fetter
Bind my wandering heart to thee

Prone to wander, Lord I feel it
Prone to leave the God I love
Here's my heart, O take and seal it
Seal it for thy courts above (2x)

Here's my heart, O take and seal it
Seal it for thy courts above

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)*

❖ **BENEDICTION**

Minister: God the Father, who loved the world so much that he sent his only Son, give you grace to prepare for eternal life.

God the Son, who comes to us as Redeemer and Judge, reveal to you the path from darkness to light.

God the Holy Spirit, by whose working the virgin Mary conceived Christ, help you bear the fruits of holiness.

People: Come quickly, Lord Jesus. Amen.

❖ **ADVENT HYMN**

Pat Barrett, Graham Kendrick, Aaron Keyes, Chris Moerman, Eric Priest, and Ben Smith

He will come, our Wonderful Counselor
He will come, our Mighty God
Prince of Peace, our King Eternal
He will come, our God with us

Worship Leaders

Emily Cagle	<i>vocals</i>
Stacey Croft	<i>sermon</i>
Joe Deegan	<i>guitar & vocals</i>
Conrad Guthrie	<i>bass</i>
Michelle Hays	<i>violin</i>
Travis Henthorn	<i>drums</i>
Clay Holland	<i>liturgy</i>
Scott Mochon	<i>guitar</i>
Steven Wiggs	<i>cello</i>
Jenny Yang	<i>piano</i>
Andrés Zelaya	<i>liturgy</i>

Audio/Visual Team

Phil Betti	<i>video director</i>
Ozzie Fong	<i>camera</i>
Kyunghee Kim	<i>projections</i>
Alex Rollo	<i>Spanish translation</i>
Namath Naif	<i>technical director</i>
Alex Rollo	<i>camera</i>

*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 A300, 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

All are welcome! No registration necessary. Classes meet on the 3rd floor.

CTK 101

Join us for CTK 101 an introduction to the core beliefs that shape our life together as a church. In this class, we'll explore key theological themes—such as Scripture, justification, and the nature of the church—that help us better understand what it means to follow Jesus. Our hope is to encourage and equip you to worship God, grow in his grace, and serve his kingdom with confidence and joy.

Upcoming Events

12/3	Deck the Halls	9:30 - 11:00 am	Christ the King
12/3	Women's Christmas Dinner	7:00 - 9:00 pm	The Great Hall
12/5	Building Toward the Promise Day of Prayer and Fasting		
12/7	The Traveling Table	12:30 - 2:00 pm	1148 Silber Road
12/7	Student Ministry Sunday Night Live	5:30 - 7:00 pm	Redeemer Room
12/7	Young Adults Christmas Party	7:00 - 9:00 pm	250 Vanderpool
12/8	Children's Ministry Christmas Party	9:30 - 11:30 am	The Great Hall
12/10	Advent Lament Service	7:00 - 8:00 pm	The Sanctuary
12/13	Men's Service Day	8:30 - 11:30 am	4901 Sherman
12/14	Advent Song Night	5:00 - 6:00 pm	The Sanctuary
12/24	Christmas Eve Services	2:30, 4:00, 5:30 & 10:00 pm	The Sanctuary



Christmas Poinsettias



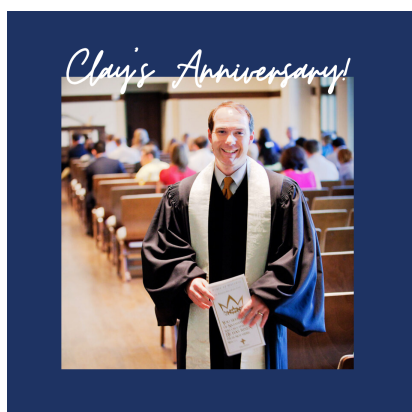
Help fill our Sanctuary with the beauty of Christmas! Each poinsettia is a meaningful way to honor or remember someone special this Advent season. The names of donors and honorees will be listed in the Christmas Eve Order of Worship. To be included, please submit your dedication by December 14.



Women's Christmas Dinner

December 3, 7:00 pm, Christ the King

Join us for a joyful evening as we celebrate the hope of Christmas together. Enjoy festive carols, a delicious meal, and an encouraging message to help prepare our hearts for the season. Invite a friend or neighbor to be part of this wonderful night of community and cheer! Register at christtheking.com/women.



Celebrating 25 Years of Ministry!

December 7

This fall marks 25 years of ministry for Clay Holland at Christ the King! Clay has faithfully served our church with grace, patience, and joy—caring deeply for children, students, adults, and staff throughout the years. Join us for breakfast tacos in the Great Hall between services as we honor Clay and give thanks for his ministry.



Young Adults Christmas Party

December 7, 7:00 - 9:00 pm, 250 Vanderpool

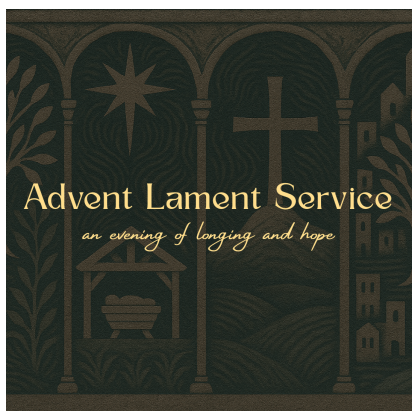
Find your best tacky sweater and bring some friends to join us for all the food, fun, and festivities of our Young Adults Christmas Party!



Children's Christmas Party

December 8, 9:30 - 11:30 am, The Great Hall

Parents and children 5 and under are invited to our annual Christmas Party! There will be bounce houses, snacks, activities, and a service project with Little Lights Houston. Friends are welcome, and no registration is needed!



Advent Lament Service

December 10, 7:00 - 8:00 pm, Christ the King

For many, this season and time of year brings both joy and sorrow. This will be an evening of prayer and reflection, with a homily and communion, as we bring our griefs and longings honestly before the Lord and to find comfort in the hope of his return. All are welcome.



Advent Song Night

December 14, 5:00 pm, Christ the King

Join us for our annual Advent Song Night! This is a festive gathering for all ages. We'll sing together as a church family, learn some of the stories behind your favorite Christmas songs, and have a short lesson for the kids.



Christmas Eve

Celebrate the joy of Christmas with us! Invite your friends and family to our Christmas Eve services at 2:30, 4:00, 5:30, and 10:00 pm.

Childcare will be available for infants through PreK at the 2:30 and 4:00 pm services.

We will worship with candlelight at 4:00, 5:30, and 10:00 pm

Building Toward the Promise

Sign up for a Campaign Conversation

The Building Toward the Promise campaign isn't just about buildings —it's about relationships. That's why we want to meet with every person in our church family for a one-on-one visit. These conversations will give you a chance to hear the vision, celebrate what God is doing, ask questions, and pray together.



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	Pastor, Adult Ministry
Clay Holland	Pastor, Family Ministry
Alex Martinez	Pastor, Latino Ministry
John Trapp	Senior Pastor
Andrés Zelaya	Pastor of the Latino Initiative & Church Plant Resident

Ministry Budget Update

2025 Ministry Budget	\$	6,488,151
Received as of 11/16	\$	5,047,682
Variance	\$	(1,440,469)

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.



SERVING THROUGHOUT THE *Holidays*

Christ the King partners with local ministries and organizations who strengthen our community and share the gospel. For a list of all our Mission Partners and upcoming serving opportunities, scan the QR code to visit our website, christtheking.com/serve-the-city.



Agape Development

- Donate gifts for their annual Christmas Store which allows parents to purchase gifts for their children at a reduced price. Volunteer to help at the store on December 11, 6-8pm.

Cornerstone After-School Ministry

- Volunteer as an early dismissal field trip chaperone: Friday, December 19, 12-3pm.

East Spring Branch Food Pantry

- Help with food distribution throughout the holiday season.

Freedom Church Alliance

- GoBags Needed! Gather a group and fill bags for women, men, or children with basic essentials.
- Help with adding ministry cards, and praying over every bag.
- Digital Outreach Opportunity (ladies only) - volunteer training session on December 3, 1-3pm.

Houston Welcome Refugees

- Volunteer for their Christmas party - assist with set up on Friday, December 5, 10-4pm, or help at stations during the party on Saturday, December 6, 12:30-5:00pm. Various shifts available.

Memorial Assistance Ministry

- Assist with organizing, sorting and pricing new donations.
- Donate Christmas items to their Christmas Share Program.
- Write notes of encouragement to the MAM graduates.

Mission to the World

- Pray daily for our Global Mission Partners around the world. For a list of partners contact kim.dolibois@christtheking.com.

Prestige Learning Institute

- December 14, 1-4pm - Christmas Tree Farm Family Friendly Outreach Event - provides opportunities for family-to-family connection that can lead to spiritual conversations.

Star of Hope

- Serve breakfast, lunch or dinner at the Women and Family Campus or Men's Development Center—days and times vary.
- Create Hope Bags for the new residents.
- Write notes of encouragement for the residents during this season.

The Source

- Adopt a family for Christmas
- Donate diapers, wipes, and other baby items