



Symbols of Salvation
A Children's Christmas Service for All Ages
December 12, 2021
10:30 AM



Christ Lutheran Church
3509 SW Burlingame Rd.
Topeka, KS 66611
785-266-6263
www.christlms.org
Rev. Ben Micheel, Pastor
Amanda Adams, DCE
Chris Francik, TLS Principal



As we gather, please take time to fill out the fellowship pad located near the center aisle in your pew. If you have any prayer requests, feel free to use a prayer request card from the pew rack in front of you, and place it in the offering plate after the sermon. (For those joining us online, please contact the church office.) We will include these requests in our prayers during worship, and share them with our prayer chain (if desired).

Welcome and Opening Prayer

Processional Hymn:

379 O Come, All Ye Faithful

LSB 379 sts 1-3

(1)

O come, all ye faithful,
Joyful and triumphant!
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
Come and behold Him
Born the king of angels:

(2)

Highest, most holy,
Light of Light eternal,
Born of a virgin, a mortal He comes;
Son of the Father
Now in flesh appearing! *Refrain*

Refrain:

O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
Christ the Lord!

(3)

Sing, choirs of angels,
Sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God
In the highest: *Refrain*

Stand

Text: Public domain



The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

Invocation

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen.

Responsive Reading

- P** A Christmas tree and Christmas lights,
- C** **Beautiful symbols that point us to Jesus.**
- P** The lowly manger in Bethlehem town,
- C** **A humble symbol that points us to Jesus.**
- P** The angels and the bright star shining,
- C** **Powerful symbols that point us to Jesus.**
- P** As we gather in Your name, O Lord, to worship You,
- C** **Show us Jesus with Your symbols of salvation. Amen.**

Sit

The Christmas Meditation

Pastor Ben Micheel

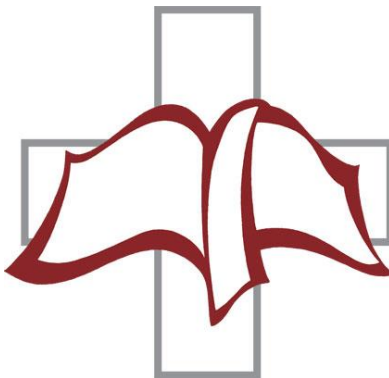
Offering

If you brought your gift, tithe, or offering with you today, you may place it in the offering plate as it passes. We also have multiple options for electronic giving. You can sign up for online giving at pushpay.com/pay/christlcms for a one-time or recurring gift. Direct links with more information are available on the church website (christlcms.org/giving).

For those joining us remotely, you may use the electronic giving methods listed above, or you may mail your offering to the church office (3509 SW Burlingame Rd, Topeka, KS 66611).



SCAN ME



The Message Presented by the Children

The Christmas Tree

Preschool-Kindergarten Children

Congregational Hymn:

384 Of the Father's Love Begotten

LSB 384 sts 1, 3

(1)
Of the Father's love begotten
Ere the worlds began to be,
He is Alpha and Omega,
He the source, the ending He,
Of the things that are, that have been,
And that future years shall see
Evermore and evermore.

(3)
This is He whom seers in old time
Chanted of with one accord,
Whom the voices of the prophets
Promised in their faithful word.
Now He shines, the long-expected;
Let creation praise its Lord
Evermore and evermore.

Text: Public domain

Children's Hymn:

392 God Loves Me Dearly

LSB 392

The Lights

Children

Congregational Hymn:

386 Now Sing We, Now Rejoice

LSB 386 sts 1, 4

(1)
Now sing we, now rejoice,
Now raise to heav'n our voice;
He from whom joy streameth
Poor in a manger lies;
Not so brightly beameth
The sun in yonder skies.
Thou my Savior art!
Thou my Savior art!

(4)
Oh, where shall joy be found?
Where but on heav'nly ground?
Where the angels singing
With all His saints unite,
Sweetest praises bringing
In heav'nly joy and light.
Oh, that we were there!
Oh, that we were there!

Text: Public domain



The Manger

Children

Congregational Hymn: 393 Infant Holy, Infant Lowly

LSB 393

(1)
Infant holy,
 Infant lowly,
For His bed a cattle stall;
 Oxen lowing,
 Little knowing
Christ the child is Lord of all.
 Swiftly winging,
 Angels singing,
 Bells are ringing,
 Tidings bringing:
Christ the child is Lord of all!
Christ the child is Lord of all!

(2)
Flocks were sleeping,
 Shepherds keeping
Vigil till the morning new
 Saw the glory,
 Heard the story,
Tidings of a Gospel true.
 Thus rejoicing,
 Free from sorrow,
 Praises voicing,
 Greet the morrow:
Christ the child was born for you!
Christ the child was born for you!

Text: Public domain

Children's Hymn: 364 Away in a Manger

LSB 364

The Angel

Children

Congregational Hymn: 368 Angels We Have Heard on High

LSB 368

(1)
Angels we have heard on high,
 Sweetly singing o'er the plains,
And the mountains in reply,
 Echoing their joyous strains.

Refrain

Gloria in excelsis Deo.
Gloria in excelsis Deo.

(2)
Shepherds, why this jubilee?
 Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be
 Which inspire your heav'nly song?
Refrain

(3)
Come to Bethlehem and see
 Him whose birth the angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee
 Christ the Lord, the newborn King.
Refrain

Text: Public domain

Congregational Hymn:
397 As with Gladness Men of Old

LSB 397 sts 1-2, 4

(1)
As with gladness men of old
Did the guiding star behold;
As with joy they hailed its light,
Leading onward, beaming bright;
So, most gracious Lord, may we
Evermore be led by Thee.

(4)
Holy Jesus, ev'ry day
Keep us in the narrow way;
And when earthly things are past,
Bring our ransomed souls at last
Where they need no star to guide,
Where no clouds Thy glory hide.

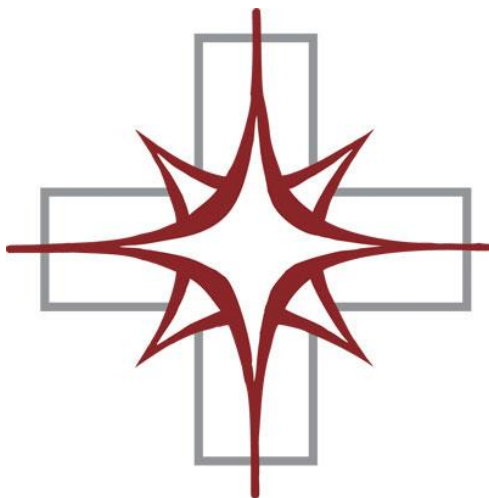
Text: Public domain

(2)
As with joyful steps they sped,
Savior, to Thy lowly bed,
There to bend the knee before
Thee, whom heav'n and earth adore;
So may we with willing feet
Ever seek Thy mercy seat.

Children's Hymn:
411 I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

LSB 411

Stand



Apostles' Creed

C I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life † everlasting. Amen.

Responsive Reading

P Let us now go in peace, Lord,
C Your promise has been fulfilled.
P Our eyes have seen Your salvation,
C Which You have prepared for all people.
P A light to reveal You to the nations,
C And the glory of Your people.

Prayer

P We pray:
C Father in heaven, thank You for sending Your Son for our salvation.
Give us eyes to see the symbols of Christmas that point us to the
Savior. Fill us with Your Spirit, so that we may joyfully proclaim the
Good News of Jesus' birth to all those around us. In His name, we
pray. Amen.

Benediction

P Joy to the world, the Savior has come! May the peace of the Father, the Son,
and the Holy Spirit be with you today and every day. Amen.

Sit

**Recessional Hymn:
387 Joy to the World**

LSB 387

(1)
Joy to the world, the Lord is come!
Let earth receive her King;
Let ev'ry heart prepare Him room
And heav'n and nature sing,
And heav'n and nature sing,
And heav'n, and heav'n and nature
sing.

(2)
Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!
Let men their songs employ,
While fields and floods, rocks, hills,
and plains
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

(3)
No more let sins and sorrows grow
Nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make His blessings flow
Far as the curse is found,
Far as the curse is found,
Far as, far as the curse is found.

(4)
He rules the world with truth and grace
And makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness
And wonders of His love,
And wonders of His love,
And wonders, wonders of His love.

Text: Public domain

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Written by Mary K. Laesch

Edited by Lisa A. Krenz

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-- Week at a Glance --

Sunday December 12th	8:00 am 9:15 am 10:30 am 11:45 am 3:00 pm	Worship Service w/ Communion Sunday School/Christmas Program Practice Children's Christmas Program Potluck New Pastor Installation at Prince of Peace
Monday December 13th		
Tuesday December 14th		
Wednesday December 15th	4:00 pm 5:30 pm 7:00 pm 7:30 pm	Confirmation Advent Meal Advent Midweek Worship Service Choir Practice
Thursday December 16th	2:00 pm 7:00 pm	Chair Aerobics Pastor's Bible Class
Friday December 17th	1:30 pm 6:00 pm	Young at Heart Middle/High School Youth (6 th -12 th grades) Christmas Party
Saturday December 18th	9:00 am 10:00 am	Breakfast with Santa Men's Bible Study (via Zoom)
Sunday December 19th	8:00 & 10:30 am 9:15 am	Worship Service w/ Communion Sunday School (adults & children)

Celebrating

Birthdays: Greg K. (12th); Justin K. (13th); Evelyn L., Lester L. (14th); Lynne D., Heather S., Carolyn S. (15th); Carolyn N. (18th); Teresa M., Darin S. (19th)

Baptism Birthdays: Brecken D., Marsha H. (13th); Brett H. (14th); Ron G., Jennifer G. (15th); Jan C., Maya M., Hailey P. (17th); Amber H., Ashley H., Paul R. (19th)

Anniversaries: (none this week)

-- Announcements --

Adult Sunday School Hour (9:15 am)

Journey through Genesis with Pastor Ben – Schemm Family Life Center (Gym)
God's Word for Today: Acts – Basement
A Walk Through the Bible (Women's Group) – Pastor's Office

Children/Youth Sunday School Hour (9:15 am)

Children (Pre-K through 6th grade) – Upstairs Education Wing
Youth (7th-12th grades) – Basement Youth Room

Pastor's Midweek Bible Study

The Epistles – Thursday at 7 PM – Basement
Our class is now Thursdays at 7 PM, but will NOT meet on the first week of each month.

Advent Midweek Worship & Advent Meals

Our final Midweek meal and service will be this Wednesday, Dec. 15th.
Enjoy a meal from 5:30 to 6:30 PM, and then come to the sanctuary for worship at 7 PM.

Christmas Eve Worship Services

Join us for Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship on Friday, December 24th – services are at 5 PM and 7 PM.

New Year's Eve Worship Service

Join us for worship and communion on Friday, December 31st at 7 PM.
During this service, we will be burning a copy of the loan paperwork for the Schemm Family Life Center, in celebration of completely paying off our building debt.

Children's Christmas Program

Our Children's Christmas Program will be TODAY at 10:30 AM, with a potluck to follow. All are invited to join us for both the program and the meal!

Youth Christmas Party

Our combined Middle & High School Youth (6th-12th grades) Christmas Party will be Friday, December 17th at 6 PM. Bring a wrapped gift (something fun but inexpensive -- \$5 max) for our "Five Below" gift swap! We will meet here at church for the party, and will go look at the zoo lights after.

Youth Activities

Jr. Youth (4th-5th grades) can meet here at church on Wednesday, Dec. 29th from 1 to 3 PM for some fun during Christmas Break! Middle/High School Youth (6th-12 grades) can meet here on the evening of the 29th at 6:30 PM and spend the night for a lock-in!

-- Announcements --

Stewardship Month

It is time once again to prayerfully consider your stewardship promise for the coming year. Please note that there is NO LONGER a Debt Retirement fund listed. (And if you have set up a recurring gift to that fund on PushPay, you will need to update your account settings.) Promise forms are in your bulletin, and are also available at the back of the sanctuary and on our website. Please submit pledges by Dec. 19th.

Advent Devotions

FREE Advent Devotions from Lutheran Hour Ministries are available at the back of the sanctuary (regular and large print). Or download for e-reader from our website.

Thrivent Cards

Do you have unused Thrivent Action Teams? Don't let them expire at the end of the year! Contact Amanda Adams if you need ideas – we have a list of projects that could use funding. Thank you for living generously!

Prince of Peace – Installation TODAY

Christ members are invited to the installation service of Pastor Kevin DeHope at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church (3625 SW Wanamaker) on Sunday, December 12th at 3 PM. We rejoice with their congregation and welcome Pastor DeHope, his wife Alicia, and their two children to Topeka.

Portals of Prayer

Our LWML group is no longer collecting used Portals of Prayer. So when you pick up your new copy at the end of this month, please do not bring your old ones here to church anymore. If you would like it to get reused, feel free to pass it along to a friend or colleague, or drop it in a “Little Free Library” in your neighborhood. Thanks!

Building Usage

Just a reminder – to reserve a room or the gym here at church for a personal event (family gathering, exercise class, athletic practice, meeting, etc.), current building usage paperwork **MUST** be *ON FILE* in the church office and *APPROVED* by church staff before that space will be saved for you on the calendar. Thank you!

Mask Information

Face masks are still optional throughout the church building. Disposable masks are available at all church entrances for those who would like one. Children's size masks are located by the main entrance. Reusable cloth masks are available by the church office. For more information regarding masking, please visit www.cdc.gov.

-- Announcements --

Pray for our Soldiers

Pick up a toy soldier from the back of the sanctuary to remind you to pray for our veterans and active troops!

Remembered in our Prayers

Charlie P., Alice M., Luke H., Julie J., Don L., Jerry M., Jean B. (sister Pauline C.'s sister), Judy (Colleen B.'s neighbor), Noel (Colleen B.'s brother), Kathy (Brenda Z.'s sister-in-law), Shirley (Frank J.'s grandmother), Melanie (Sharon L.'s daughter), Ella (Marsha S.'s granddaughter), Jeanette W., Lisa (Judy K.'s sister), Randy (Carol J.'s son), Madison L., Steve (Rachel M.'s father), Vikki N., Matt N., Lynn M., Virginia C., Leonard (brother of Jeanette B.), Phil B., the McReynold's (friends of Phil B.), JoAnn (friend of Nancy P.), Evelyn (mother of Sandy S.), Marjean P., Ted M., Adam (Jamie H.'s son), Carolyn S., Caleb (Dana N.'s nephew), Abigail (Pastor's niece), Dave C., Justin (Donna B.'s nephew), Robert P., Principal Francik and family as he prayerfully considers a call to another school, and others named in your heart. Pray for the Topeka Rescue Mission, Chelsea Irwin and missionaries around the world. We pray especially for those around the world being persecuted for their faith in the one, true God and the suffering they endure. Please continue to pray for Pastor Ben, DCE Amanda, our staff and their families as they do our Lord's work here at Christ Lutheran. We pray for the staff and students of Topeka Lutheran School and the Center for Young Children. We also pray for those who serve in the armed forces, first responders, and for our country and government. Prayers of thanksgiving for our Lord and Savior and the new life we have in Him.

Pray WITHOUT
CEASING

Breakfast with Santa

Saturday, Dec. 18th -- 9 AM to 11 AM

Christ Lutheran Church -- 3509 SW Burlingame Rd (Topeka)

A FREE EVENT FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY!

- **Enjoy a pancake breakfast and fun activities at your table.**
- **We'll call your number* when it's time to see Santa so you don't have to stand in line all morning.**
- **Don't forget to bring your camera for a photo!**

***No ticket numbers
will be dispersed
after 10:45 AM.**





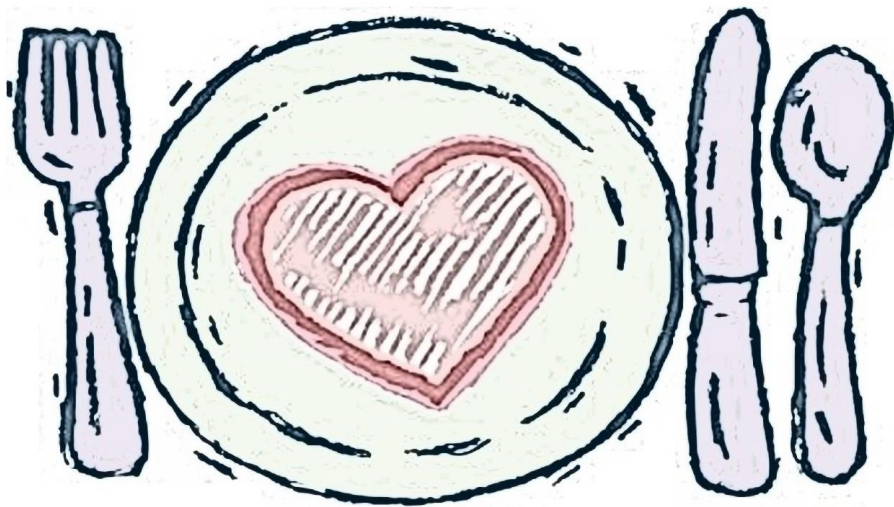
**ADVENT MIDWEEK
WORSHIP SERVICES**

DEC. 1ST, 8TH, 15TH -- 7 PM

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

3509 SW BURLINGAME RD -- TOPEKA

Advent Meals



Join us on Wednesdays from 5:30 to 6:30 pm
before Advent Midweek worship services.

Dec. 1st -- Chicken Noodle Soup, Chili, Cinnamon Rolls

Dec. 8th -- Lasagna, Green Beans, Cookies

Dec. 15th -- Pizza, Salad, Brownies

(Gluten-Free options will be available all three evenings.)

A free will offering will benefit Christ Youth.

Thank you for your support!

The Coming of Jesus Enables Us to Rejoice

The Third Sunday in Advent has traditionally been called by the Latin word *Gaudete*, meaning “Rejoice!” For as you are called to repentance, so also are you urged to rejoice in the coming of the Lord, Jesus Christ. By His own cross, He has accomplished salvation for you; *“he has cleared away your enemies,” “taken away the judgments against you”* and come to reign in your midst. Indeed, He rejoices over you with gladness and song (Zeph. 3:15–17)! Therefore, even from prison St. Paul encourages us to *“rejoice in the Lord always,”* knowing that the peace of God will guard and keep us in Christ Jesus (Phil. 4:4, 7). We find an example and encouragement in the case of John the Baptist. As he languishes in prison, he calls upon Jesus and is strengthened by the Word of the Gospel that he receives. The same good news is preached to you, by which all things are made new and even *“the dead are raised up”* (Luke 7:22). Do not be offended by the cross, therefore, but let your life be one of prayer and thanksgiving (Luke 7:23; Phil. 4:6).

Worship Attendance – Sunday, December 5th

8:00 AM -- 73

10:30 AM -- 92

Stewardship Corner

<i>Budgeted Weekly Needs:</i>	\$ 7,878
<i>Offerings Received – Week of 12/5</i>	\$ 16,464

<i>Budgeted Needs (Jan - Nov 2021)</i>	\$375,562
<i>Offerings Received (Jan - Nov 2021)</i>	\$356,228

Philippians 4:5-6 – “The Lord is at hand; do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.” Wouldn’t you like to be free from worry and anxiety? Isn’t it worry and anxiety that often keep us from living the generous life God has called us to? St. Paul contrasts anxiety with prayer, supplication, and thanksgiving in making our requests known to God. In other words, when you are tempted to anxiety and worry, pray to the Lord with a thankful heart and pour out your supplications before Him.