



CHRIST THE KING

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

December 21, 2025

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT

PRELUDE

“O Come, All Ye Faithful”
Doug Pollock and Sam Stinchcomb

GOD INVITES US TO WORSHIP HIM

*CALL TO WORSHIP

John 3:16-17
Rev. Dave Lindberg

“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

*SONG

“The First Noel”

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Verse 1

The first Noel the angel did say
was to certain poor shepherds
in fields as they lay;
in fields where they,
lay keeping their sheep
on a cold winter’s night
that was so deep.

Refrain

Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel,
Born is the King of Israel.

Verse 2

They look-ed up, and saw a star

shining in the east beyond them far.

And to the earth,
it gave great light,
and so it continued
both day and night.

Refrain

Verse 3

Then let us all, with one accord
sing praises to our heav'nly Lord,
that hath made heav'n,
and earth of naught,
and with his blood
mankind hath bought.

Refrain

* Please stand if you are able.

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Apostles' Creed

People of God, what do you believe?

We believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. We believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended to heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy *catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

*That is, the true Christian church of all times and all places.

*SONG

“Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence”

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Verse 1

Let all mortal flesh keep silence,
and with fear and trembling stand;
ponder nothing earthly-minded,
for with blessing in his hand,
Christ our God to earth descendeth,
our full homage to demand.

Verse 2

King of kings, yet born of Mary,
as of old on earth he stood;
Lord of lords, in human vesture,
in the body and the blood,
he will give to all the faithful
his own self for heav'nly food.

Verse 3

Rank on rank the host of heaven
spreads its vanguard on the way,
as the Light of light descendeth
from the realms of endless day,
that the pow'rs of hell may vanish
as the darkness clears away.

Verse 4

At his feet the six-winged seraph;
cherubim, with sleepless eye,
veil their faces to the presence,
as with ceaseless voice they cry,
"Alleluia, alleluia,
alleluia, Lord Most High!"

GOD CLEANSSES US FROM OUR SIN

CONFESSION OF SIN

(from *The Book of Common Prayer*)

Almighty and most merciful Father, we have erred and strayed from your ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts. We have offended against your holy laws. We have left undone those things which we ought to have done, and we have done those things which we ought not to have done; and apart from your grace, there is no health in us.

O Lord, have mercy upon us. Spare all those who confess their faults. Restore all those who are penitent, according to your promises declared to all people in

Christ Jesus our Lord. And grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake, that we may now live a godly, righteous, and sober life, to the glory of your holy Name. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Romans 5:6-10

While we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. For one will scarcely die for a righteous person...but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God. For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life.

Leader: In Christ you are forgiven.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

SONG

(Collection of tithes, gifts and offerings)

“Away In A Manger (Cradle Song)”

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Verse 1

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
The little Lord Jesus
laid down His sweet head;
The stars in the heavens
looked down where He lay,
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

Verse 2

The cattle are lowing, the Baby awakes,
But little Lord Jesus,
no crying He makes.
I love Thee, Lord Jesus,

look down from the sky
And stay by my side
until morning is nigh.

Verse 3

Be near me, Lord Jesus;
I ask Thee to stay
Close by me forever and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children
in Thy tender care,
And fit us for heaven,
to live with Thee there.

*SCRIPTURE READING

Proverbs 6:1-19

Greg Gorman, Ruling Elder

My son, if you have put up security for your neighbor, have given your pledge for a stranger, ²if you are snared in the words of your mouth, caught in the words of your mouth, ³then do this, my son, and save yourself, for you have come into the hand of your neighbor: go, hasten, and plead urgently with your neighbor. ⁴Give your eyes no sleep and your eyelids no slumber; ⁵save yourself like a gazelle from the hand of the hunter, like a bird from the hand of the fowler.

⁶Go to the ant, O sluggard; consider her ways, and be wise. ⁷Without having any chief, officer, or ruler, ⁸she prepares her bread in summer and gathers her food in harvest. ⁹How long will you lie there, O sluggard? When will you arise from your sleep? ¹⁰A little sleep, a

little slumber, a little folding of the hands to rest, ¹¹and poverty will come upon you like a robber, and want like an armed man.

¹²A worthless person, a wicked man, goes about with crooked speech, ¹³winks with his eyes, signals with his feet, points with his finger, ¹⁴with perverted heart devises evil, continually sowing discord; ¹⁵therefore calamity will come upon him suddenly; in a moment he will be broken beyond healing.

¹⁶There are six things that the LORD hates, seven that are an abomination to him: ¹⁷haughty eyes, a lying tongue, and hands that shed innocent blood, ¹⁸a heart that devises wicked plans, feet that make haste to run to evil, ¹⁹a false witness who breathes out lies, and one who sows discord among brothers.

Leader: The Word of the Lord
People: Thanks be to God.

PASTORAL PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

GOD FEEDS US FROM HIS WORD

*SERMON TEXT

James 3:13-18

¹³Who is wise and understanding among you? By his good conduct let him show his works in the meekness of wisdom. ¹⁴But if you have bitter jealousy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast and be false to the truth. ¹⁵This is not the wisdom that comes down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, demonic. ¹⁶For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there will be disorder and every vile practice. ¹⁷But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, impartial and sincere. ¹⁸And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace.

Leader: The Word of the Lord. / **People: Thanks be to God.**

GOD FEEDS US AT HIS TABLE

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

- ❖ *CTK welcomes all baptized believers who are communing members of gospel-believing churches to participate in the Supper.*
- ❖ *Gluten-free and nut-free bread is in a small box on the plate.*

SONG DURING COMMUNION

Instrumental

*SONG

“O Come, All Ye Faithful”

Verse 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!

Refrain

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

Verse 2

God of God, Light of Light,
lo, He abhors not the virgin's womb;
very God, begotten not created;

Refrain

Verse 3

Sing, choirs of angels; sing in exultation;
sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above!
Glory to God, all glory in the highest!

Refrain

Verse 4

Yea, Lord, we greet Thee,
born this happy morning;
Jesus, to Thee be all glory giv'n!
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing!

Refrain

GOD SENDS US WITH HIS BLESSING

*BENEDICTION

1 John 4:7-12

Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected in us.

*DOXOLOGY

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.

SERMON NOTES
“Divine vs. Diabolical Wisdom”
James 3:13-18

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Christmas Eve Lessons and Carols on Wednesday, December 24th at 5 pm here at the Old Gym.

CTK Kids will be leading “Joy to the World” on Sunday, December 28th during the worship service. Parents, please check for a practice video in your email inbox.

No Elementary or Adult Sunday School on December 28th or January 4th; Sunday School will resume on January 11th.

Men’s and Women’s Bible Studies which meet on Tuesdays and Thursdays will begin again in the new year. Stay tuned for up-coming studies in Joshua!

Bridges Safe House and Family Resource Center, a ministry in Cedar Hill, provides an excellent way to serve in our broader community. If you would like to learn more about ways to volunteer at the resource center, please check out the table near the welcome desk and/or reach out to Karla Pollock (pennypig_tx@msn.com) or Penny Embry (penny.embryple@gmail.com). The **December collection** is shampoo and conditioner.

CTK Financial Update Through November 30th

General Fund

Budget \$383,167

Contributions \$283,128

Expenses (\$358,709)

ABOUT CHRIST THE KING

Christ the King is a church community that seeks to LOVE GOD AND LOVE NEIGHBOR in our WORSHIP, RELATIONSHIPS, AND SERVICE in Midlothian and beyond!

OUR CORE BELIEFS

We believe that the Bible is God's word of self-revelation to the world in which all that we need for salvation and godly living in communion with the Triune God is revealed.

We believe that in love God created everything out of nothing by merely speaking, that he delights in his good creation, and that he rules and reigns over all things as one who is perfectly good, holy, and just.

We believe that God has always related to his people covenantally (relationally) through appointed representatives (e.g. Adam, Abraham, Moses, David, and Jesus).

We believe that all of salvation comes to us in Christ Jesus, who is the gospel, and that the greatest need of all people is communion with God in Jesus!

CTK Community Groups: Upcoming Meetings

Duncanville meets in the home of Calvin and Katie Pitts (contact: calvinedgarpitts@gmail.com). Stay tuned for their next meeting in January!

Cedar Hill meets tonight, December 21st from 4:00 to 6:00 pm in the home of Jim and Janet Gilchrist (contact: janet.gilchrist@sbcglobal.net).

Ovilla meets in the home of Nate and Amy Ford (contact: jonathanraikes@gmail.com). Stay tuned for their next meeting in January!

Midlothian meets in the home of Dave and Julie Lindberg (contact: dave@ctktexas.com). Stay tuned for their next meeting in January!

Community Groups are designed to foster our Love of God and Neighbor as we gather to eat and pray together. We hope you find a group that works for you.

ELDERS

Dave Lindberg, Pastor (dave@ctktexas.com)
Greg Gorman, Ruling Elder and Clerk of Session (greg@ctktexas.com)
Doug Pollock, Ruling Elder Emeritus

STAFF

Julie Lindberg, Music Director (julie@ctktexas.com)
Margaret Doria, Administrator (margaret@ctktexas.com)

Christ the King, PO Box 661, Midlothian, TX 76065, p: 972-379-8788