

# The Light of Christ ANGELICAN CHURCH

*Connecting the Gospel of the Kingdom to Ordinary Lives*

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**The First Sunday in Lent**  
**Feb. 26, 2023 - 10 a.m.**



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## **Welcome to The Light of Christ Anglican Church (TLC).**

At TLC, we engage with what it means that God's Kingdom is not only a future promise but also a present reality within our world even now, ushered in by Christ.

This reality shapes our worship and life together. It speaks into the way we embrace community in our multi-ethnic and multi-generational context as one big family.

Worship is the core that brings all aspects of our identity together. In worship we celebrate the King who loves us and has redeemed us, and who invites us to join in His Redemptive story within the world.

## **A Note to Our Guests**

If you are visiting TLC for the first time, it is our hope that you would feel very welcome. Here are a few thoughts on how to make that happen.

- Everything you need to follow the service is in this bulletin, lyrics and liturgy are projected on the screen, the responses for you are in bold.
- Are you new to liturgy? Please do not be bothered. We are not about perfection. We are ordinary people gathered to worship.
- If you are comfortable doing so, we encourage you to let an usher know it's your first time. They can help make your experience smoother. For example, you may find it helpful if you sat next to a member who knows their way around here and can answer any questions for you.

## **Did You Bring Little Ones?**

At TLC, we value children. They are not tomorrow's church. They are one church with us. We strive to make their worship experience age appropriate.

**Infants through age 4** are welcome to check in any time at the nursery. There is childcare through the entire duration of the worship service. If you prefer to have your child with you during the service or part of it, that is also welcome.

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### **Sundays**

8 am, Early Service  
9 am, Discipleship Classes  
10 am, Late Service & Livestream

### **Wednesdays**

6:30 pm Youth Group

### **Mondays**

10 am, Wegener Women's Group  
(1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup>)

### **Thursdays**

5 pm, Ogawa Women's Group  
6 pm, Second Thursday Dinner

### **Tuesdays**

2 pm, Sorensen Women's Group  
(1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup>)  
6 pm, Vestry, (2<sup>nd</sup>)

### **Saturdays**

8 am, Men's Breakfast & Bible Study  
(2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>)

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# The Gathering

## Processional

Celebrant: Blessed be the Lord who forgives all our sins.

**People:** Whose mercy endures forever.

How lovely is your dwelling place, Lord Almighty!

**My heart and my flesh cry out for the living God.** (*Psalm 84:1,2b*)

*Pause*

Hear the commandments of God to his people: I am the Lord your God who brought you out of bondage. You shall have no other gods but me.

**Amen. Lord have mercy.**

You shall not make for yourself any idol.

**Amen. Lord have mercy.**

You shall not invoke with malice the Name of the Lord your God.

**Amen. Lord have mercy.**

Remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy.

**Amen. Lord have mercy.**

Honor your father and your mother.

**Amen. Lord have mercy.**

You shall not commit murder.

**Amen. Lord have mercy.**

You shall not commit adultery.

**Amen. Lord have mercy.**

You shall not steal.

**Amen. Lord have mercy.**

You shall not be a false witness.

**Amen. Lord have mercy.**

You shall not covet anything that belongs to your neighbor.

**Amen. Lord have mercy.**

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ said, "The first commandment is this: Hear, O Israel: The Lord your God is the only Lord. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this: Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these." (*Mark 12:29-31*)

## Confession and Absolution

Deacon: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence

**Lord God, we have sinned against you; we have done evil in your sight. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. Have mercy on us according to your love. Wash away our wrongdoing and cleanse us from our sin. Renew a right spirit within us and restore us to the joy of your salvation, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Celebrant:

With our hearts turned to God in repentance, with the knowledge of our sins laid bare before the cross of Jesus Christ, in the name of the living God, your sins are forgiven. Receive God's mercy, take hold of your forgiveness, forgive as you have been forgiven, and, in the power of the Holy Spirit, walk in the light of Christ.  
**Amen.**

## Worship Song

### The Collect

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Almighty God, whose blessed Son was led by the Spirit to be tempted by Satan: Come quickly to help us who are assaulted by many temptations; and, as you know the weaknesses of each of us, let each one find you mighty to save; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## The Word

### A Reading from the Revelation. (2:12-17)

<sup>12</sup>“To the angel of the church in Pergamum write: These are the words of him who has the sharp, double-edged sword. <sup>13</sup>I know where you live—where Satan has his throne. Yet you remain true to my name. You did not renounce your faith in me, not even in the days of Antipas, my faithful witness, who was put to death in your city—where Satan lives.

<sup>14</sup>Nevertheless, I have a few things against you: There are some among you who hold to the teaching of Balaam, who taught Balak to entice the Israelites to sin so that they ate food sacrificed to idols and committed sexual immorality. <sup>15</sup>Likewise, you also have those who hold to the teaching of the Nicolaitans. <sup>16</sup>Repent therefore! Otherwise, I will soon come to you and will fight against them with the sword of my mouth.

<sup>17</sup>Whoever has ears, let them hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To the one who is victorious, I will give some of the hidden manna. I will also give that person a white stone with a new name written on it, known only to the one who receives it.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

### A Psalm. (32:1-8) Read responsively by half verse.

<sup>1</sup> Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven, \*  
**and whose sin is put away!**

<sup>2</sup> Happy are they to whom the LORD imputes no guilt, \*  
**and in whose spirit there is no guile!**

<sup>3</sup> While I held my tongue, my bones withered away, \*  
**because of my groaning all day long.**

<sup>4</sup> For your hand was heavy upon me day and night; \*  
**my moisture was dried up as in the heat of summer.**

<sup>5</sup> Then I acknowledged my sin to you, \*  
**and did not conceal my guilt.**

<sup>6</sup> I said," I will confess my transgressions to the LORD." \*

**Then you forgave me the guilt of my sin.**

<sup>7</sup> Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in time of trouble; \*

**when the great waters overflow, they shall not reach them.**

<sup>8</sup> You are my hiding-place; you preserve me from trouble; \*

**you surround me with shouts of deliverance.**

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

### **The Gospel (Matthew 4.1-11)**

Deacon: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People: **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

<sup>1</sup> Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. <sup>2</sup> After fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry. <sup>3</sup> The tempter came to him and said, "If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to become bread."

<sup>4</sup> Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.'"

<sup>5</sup> Then the devil took him to the holy city and had him stand on the highest point of the temple. <sup>6</sup> "If you are the Son of God," he said, "throw yourself down. For it is written:

"He will command his angels concerning you, and they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone."

<sup>7</sup> Jesus answered him, "It is also written: 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'"

<sup>8</sup> Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor. <sup>9</sup> "All this I will give you," he said, "if you will bow down and worship me."

<sup>10</sup> Jesus said to him, "Away from me, Satan! For it is written: 'Worship the Lord your God and serve him only.'"

<sup>11</sup> Then the devil left him, and angels came and attended him.

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

## Children's Discipleship

*The children now proceed to their fellowship following the banner. They rejoin us during the Peace.*

Leader: Children of God  
People: **The Lord be with you as you worship.**  
Children: And also with you.

## Sermon

Rev. Donald Nwankwo

*The Karen move to the Kolini room to hear the message presented in their language.*

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## The Response

### Prayers of the People

Leader: We come to the cross. With confidence and trust let us pray to the Father.

We pray for the one holy, catholic and apostolic Church,  
that in faithful witness we may live in the light of Christ,  
And with courage preach the gospel to the ends of the earth  
**Amen. Lord, in your mercy, hear us.**

We pray for peace in our nation and the world that a spirit of respect and  
reconciliation may grow among nations, and that the peoples may give up war and  
seek peace  
**Amen. Lord, in your mercy, hear us.**

We pray for the poor, the persecuted, the sick, and all who suffer for refugees,  
prisoners, and all in danger; that they may be rescued, relieved and protected,  
**Amen. Lord, in your mercy, hear us.**

We pray for families; for mothers, fathers, and children, and for those who lead  
the single life. Keep, protect, encourage, and provide for each home.  
**Amen. Lord, in your mercy, hear us.**

We pray for those whom we have injured or offended, whether knowingly or  
unknowingly. Give us the grace to amend our lives, to be the church in truth,  
and to further your Kingdom on earth.  
**Amen. Lord, in your mercy, hear us.**

You may now raise individual petitions and thanksgivings in prayer.

Deacon:

God our Father, in your love and goodness you have taught us to come close to you in penitence with prayer, fasting and generosity; accept our Lenten discipline, and when we fall by our weakness, raise us up by your unfailing mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## The Peace

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

People: **And also with you.**

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## Announcements

### Offertory

### Doxology

### The Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.



## The Eucharist

Is the Father with us?

**He is.**

Is Christ among us?

**He is.**

Is the Spirit here?

**He is.**

This is our God.

**Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.**

We are his people.

**We are redeemed.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

It is right and our delight to give you thanks and praise, great Father, living God, supreme over the world, Creator, Provider, Savior and Giver. From a wandering nomad you created your family; for a burdened people you raised up a leader; for a confused nation you chose a king; for a rebellious crowd you sent your prophets. In these last days you have sent us your Son, your perfect image, bringing your kingdom, revealing your will, dying, rising, reigning, and remaking your people for yourself. Through him you have poured out your Holy Spirit, filling us with light and life.

Therefore with angels, archangels, faithful ancestors, and all in heaven, we proclaim your great and glorious name, forever praising you and singing:

### Sanctus

Almighty God, owner of all things, we thank you for giving up your only Son to die on the cross for us who owe you everything. Pour your refreshing Spirit on us as we remember him in the way he commanded, through these gifts of your creation. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son.

On the same night that he was betrayed he took bread and gave you thanks; he broke it and gave it to his disciples saying, "Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

**Amen. His body was broken for us.**

In the same way, after supper he took the cup and gave thanks; he gave it to them, saying, “Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.”

**Amen. His blood was shed for us.**

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith.

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

Heavenly Father, hear us as we celebrate this covenant with joy and await the coming of our brother, Jesus Christ. He died in our place, making a full atonement for the sins of the whole world, the perfect sacrifice, once and for all. You accepted his offering by raising him from death, and granting him great honor at your right hand on high.

**Amen, Jesus is Lord.**

As our Savior, Jesus, taught us, so we pray:

**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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

This is the feast of victory.

**The lamb who was slain has begun his reign.**

### **Breaking of the Bread**

Every time we eat this bread and drink this cup,

**We proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.**

Christ is alive forever.

**We are because he is.**

We are one body.

**We share one bread.**

Draw near with faith.

**Christ is the host and we are his guests.**

*(We have gluten-wheat-yeast-dairy-egg-soy-nut-and-corn free communion wafers available for anyone who needs it. Please let the Clergy serving communion know if you would prefer to receive these.)*

*(All baptized Christians are welcome to take communion. The ushers will direct the people down the center aisle. After receiving bread, please take a cup from the tray, then dispose of your cup in the basket.)*

## **Communion Songs**

*(Prayer Ministers are available to pray with you during communion. If you would like to pray with a minister, please come to the alcove on the left-hand side of the sanctuary (when facing the altar).)*

## **Post Communion Prayer**

Celebrant: Let us pray,

**God of our pilgrimage, you have given your only Son to be for us both a sacrifice for sin and also an example of the life of your Kingdom. You have fed us indeed with the bread of heaven. Refresh and sustain us as we now go forward on our journey, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## **The Sending**

Celebrant: All our problems

**People: We send to the cross of Christ.**

Celebrant: All our difficulties

**People: We send to the cross of Christ.**

Celebrant: All the devil's works

**People: We send to the cross of Christ.**

Celebrant: All our hopes

**People: We set on the risen Christ.**

Celebrant: Almighty God who has called you is faithful. Go into the world with joy, forgive generously, love extravagantly, live abundantly. And the blessing of God, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be upon you now and for ever. **Amen.**

## **The Recessional**

Celebrant: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

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## Announcements

**No Street Parking at TLC:** It is now illegal to park on the street in front of TLC. Your car will be towed.

**ProPresenter Training next Sunday, 3/5 following the late service.**  
Please let Jeanie know you are attending.

**Community Ministry – February**  
Canned Fruit, Corn, & Tomato products

### **Stewardship**

Thank you for your faithful stewardship at TLC. Your generosity and participation among God's people enable us to accomplish Kingdom goals together. May the Lord continue to bless TLC.

Offering – \$ 5,542.19  
Budget – \$ 8,622.00

### Holy Week Services

**Palm Sunday - April 2 – Liturgy of the Palms – 9:30 am**

**Palm Sunday Service – 10 am**

**Mon – Wed, April 3 - 5 – Noon Eucharist**

**Maundy Thursday - April 6 – 7 pm**

**Good Friday, April 7 – 7 pm**

**Easter Sunrise Service, April 9 – 6 am**

**Easter Service – April 9 – 10 am**

### **Giving to TLC**

There are multiple ways available to send your offerings to the church.

- Through Zelle which acts like a bank transfer. Please use our admin's email, [jeanie@tlcdenver.org](mailto:jeanie@tlcdenver.org), when you set it up.
- Through our secure, easy-to-use online page at [www.onrealm.org/TheLightChrist/Give](http://www.onrealm.org/TheLightChrist/Give)
- By texting TLCgiving to 73256. (standard text message and data rates may apply)
- By mailing a check to the church.