

# The Light of Christ ANGELICAN CHURCH

*Connecting the Gospel of the Kingdom to Ordinary Lives*

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**The Third Sunday in Lent**  
**March 12, 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

### **Mondays**

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

### **Tuesdays**

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

### **Wednesdays**

6 pm Solomon's Porch  
6:30 pm Youth Group

### **Thursdays**

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

### **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, you know that we have no power in ourselves to help ourselves: Keep us both outwardly in our bodies and inwardly in our souls, that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## The Word

### **A Reading from Revelation. (3:1-6)**

<sup>1</sup>“To the angel of the church in Sardis write: These are the words of him who holds the seven spirits of God and the seven stars. I know your deeds; you have a reputation of being alive, but you are dead. <sup>2</sup>Wake up! Strengthen what remains and is about to die, for I have found your deeds unfinished in the sight of my God. <sup>3</sup>Remember, therefore, what you have received and heard; hold it fast, and repent. But if you do not wake up, I will come like a thief, and you will not know at what time I will come to you.

<sup>4</sup>Yet you have a few people in Sardis who have not soiled their clothes. They will walk with me, dressed in white, for they are worthy. <sup>5</sup>The one who is victorious will, like them, be dressed in white. I will never blot out the name of that person from the book of life, but will acknowledge that name before my Father and his angels. <sup>6</sup>Whoever has ears, let them hear what the Spirit says to the churches.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

### **A Psalm. (95) Read responsively by whole verse.**

<sup>1</sup> Come, let us sing to the LORD; \*  
let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.

<sup>2</sup> **Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving \*  
and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.**

<sup>3</sup> For the LORD is a great God, \*  
and a great King above all gods.

<sup>4</sup> **In his hand are the caverns of the earth, \*  
and the heights of the hills are his also.**

<sup>5</sup> The sea is his, for he made it, \*  
and his hands have molded the dry land.

<sup>6</sup> **Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, \*  
and kneel before the LORD our Maker.**

<sup>7</sup> For he is our God,  
and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand. \*  
Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!

**<sup>8</sup> Harden not your hearts,  
as your forebears did in the wilderness, \*  
at Meribah, and on that day at Massah,  
when they tempted me.**

<sup>9</sup>They put me to the test, \*  
though they had seen my works.

**<sup>10</sup> Forty years long I detested that generation and said, \*  
"This people are wayward in their hearts;  
they do not know my ways."**

<sup>11</sup> So I swore in my wrath, \*  
"They shall not enter into my rest."

**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 5:1-12)**

Deacon: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.  
People: **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

<sup>1</sup> Now when Jesus saw the crowds, he went up on a mountainside and sat down. His disciples came to him, <sup>2</sup> and he began to teach them. He said:

<sup>3</sup> "Blessed are the poor in spirit,  
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

<sup>4</sup> Blessed are those who mourn,  
for they will be comforted.

<sup>5</sup> Blessed are the meek,  
for they will inherit the earth.

<sup>6</sup> Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,  
for they will be filled.

<sup>7</sup> Blessed are the merciful,  
for they will be shown mercy.

<sup>8</sup> Blessed are the pure in heart,  
for they will see God.

<sup>9</sup> Blessed are the peacemakers,  
for they will be called children of God.

<sup>10</sup> Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness,  
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

<sup>11</sup> “Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. <sup>12</sup> Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

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

**Dr. James Wagstaff**

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

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## The Response

### Prayers of the People

With confidence and trust let us pray to the Father.

We pray for the church of Jesus Christ on earth  
that in faithful witness it may proclaim the Good News  
to a broken, weary, and divided world.

**Amen. In your mercy hear us.**

We pray for our children in this place  
that they may reject the lies of the enemy  
and find their identity in your love for them.

**Amen. In your mercy hear us.**

We pray for peace in our land and the world  
that a spirit of respect and reconciliation may grow  
and that nations may work together in peace.

**Amen. In your mercy hear us.**

We pray for the sick, the poor, the refugees  
and all who suffer and face various dangers  
that they may be healed, relieved, and protected.

**Amen. In your mercy hear us.**

We pray for our brothers and sisters in Christ around the world  
who are in distress, need, or face persecution  
that you may bring them comfort, help, and deliverance.

**Amen. 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 and faith. May the wounded hands of the crucified Jesus bring his healing touch to our lives. May the shoulders of the risen Jesus, once scourged by soldiers, take our heavy burdens from us. May the feet of the risen Christ, once nailed to the cross, walk alongside us in our pilgrimage. And may the presence of the risen Jesus, fill our hearts with peace and joy. **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.**

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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## 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**

**Seder Meal, April 5<sup>th</sup> – Time to TBD**

**Maundy Thursday - April 6 – 7 pm**

**Good Friday, April 7 – 7 pm**

**Easter Sunday, April 9**

Sunrise Service, 6 am

Easter Service, 10 am

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