

The Light of Christ ANGELICAN CHURCH

Connecting the Gospel of the Kingdom to Ordinary Lives

**The Fourth Sunday in Lent
March 19, 2023 - 10 a.m.**



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.

Sundays

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

Mondays

10 am, Wegener Women's Group
(1st & 3rd)

Tuesdays

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

Wednesdays

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
(2nd and 4th)

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.

Gracious Father, whose blessed Son Jesus Christ came down from heaven to be the true bread which gives life to the world: Evermore give us this bread, that he may live in us, and we in him; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Word

A Reading from Revelation. (3:7-13)

⁷“To the angel of the church in Philadelphia write: These are the words of him who is holy and true, who holds the key of David. What he opens no one can shut, and what he shuts no one can open. ⁸I know your deeds. See, I have placed before you an open door that no one can shut. I know that you have little strength, yet you have kept my word and have not denied my name. ⁹I will make those who are of the synagogue of Satan, who claim to be Jews though they are not, but are liars—I will make them come and fall down at your feet and acknowledge that I have loved you. ¹⁰Since you have kept my command to endure patiently, I will also keep you from the hour of trial that is going to come on the whole world to test the inhabitants of the earth.

¹¹I am coming soon. Hold on to what you have, so that no one will take your crown. ¹²The one who is victorious I will make a pillar in the temple of my God. Never again will they leave it. I will write on them the name of my God and the name of the city of my God, the new Jerusalem, which is coming down out of heaven from my God; and I will also write on them my new name. ¹³Whoever 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. (23) Read responsively by half verse.

¹ The LORD is my shepherd; *
I shall not be in want.

² He makes me lie down in green pastures *
and leads me beside still waters.

³ He revives my soul *
and guides me along right pathways for his Name's sake.

⁴ Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I shall fear no evil; *
**for you are with me;
your rod and your staff, they comfort me.**

⁵ You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me; *
**you have anointed my head with oil,
and my cup is running over.**

⁶ Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, *
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.

Glorify 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 4:18-22)

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

¹⁸ As Jesus was walking beside the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon called Peter and his brother Andrew. They were casting a net into the lake, for they were fishermen. ¹⁹ “Come, follow me,” Jesus said, “and I will send you out to fish for people.” ²⁰ At once they left their nets and followed him.

²¹ Going on from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John. They were in a boat with their father Zebedee, preparing their nets. Jesus called them, ²² and immediately they left the boat and their father and followed 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.

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.

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.

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 – 6 pm

Maundy Thursday - April 6 – 7 pm

Good Friday, April 7

Stations of the Cross, Noon

Good Friday Service – 7 pm

Easter Sunday, April 9

Sunrise Service - 6 am

Easter Service - 10 am

Hey Kids! **TLC's Easter Morning Extravaganza** is just for you during the 10 am Easter morning service. The Youth will be performing a play about the Resurrection and following there will be an Easter Egg Hunt.

Announcements

Order for Easter Lily Deadline is Sunday April 3: Please fill out the form in your bulletin and place it in the collection plate or notify Jeanie: jeaniep59@gmail.com

Sign-up now to **RSVP for the Seder Meal**. Wednesday, April 5 at 6 pm in the Rwanda Room. All including children are welcome. There is no charge for the meal, however a potluck dish and, or, a donation would be greatly appreciated. Sign-up on Sunday at TLC in the foyer, or Contact: jeaniep59@gmail.com to RSVP.

TLC's Kids Easter Morning Extravaganza, during the 10 am service. The Youth will be performing a play about the Resurrection and an Easter Egg Hunt

Community Ministry – March

Cereal, Tomato products, Diapers-Size 6

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 – \$ 5,535.05

Budget – \$ 8,622.00

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, when you set it up.
- Through our secure, easy-to-use online page at 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.