



CHRIST THE KING LUTHERAN CHURCH

402-733-3294

ctklc-bellevue.org

7308 South 42nd Street, Bellevue, NE 68147

ALL ARE WELCOME

Christ the King Lutheran Church
7308 South 42nd Street
Bellevue, Nebraska 68147
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Seven Soups for San Andrés



*Details coming soon

Grace and Peace

A message from Pastor Bryan

Lent is almost here. For many of us, that means we're starting to look ahead, toward Easter, toward spring, toward light and new life. And all of that *is* coming. But first, we walk through Lent.

Lent has a reputation, doesn't it? We often think of it as the season where we give things up – dessert, chocolate, coffee, screen time – something to endure so we can finally get to the good part. In that sense, Lent can feel like a long hallway we hurry through on our way to Easter joy.

But what if Lent isn't just something to get through?

In many ways, Lent looks a lot like real life. We live in between, between promise and fulfillment, between the resurrection we proclaim and the world that still groans. If Lent is a season of waiting, then it mirrors the deeper waiting of our lives as we await Christ's return. In that sense, Lent isn't an interruption to life; it *names* life as it actually is.

Even within Lent, though, grace breaks in. Technically, Lent is forty days long, remembering Jesus' forty days in the wilderness. But Sundays don't count. Every Sunday is a resurrection day; no fasting, no mourning. The church insists on joy, even in Lent.

And yet, we know we can't live every day as a Sunday. We don't get to skip grief or loss or fear or uncertainty. Lent gives us space to bring those realities to God: not pretending everything is fine, not rushing to celebration, but trusting that God is present even here. Especially here.

That's why Lent, for all its seriousness, carries a quiet kind of joy. It's not loud or flashy. It's not the joy of dancing in the street. It's the joy of being rescued. The peace of realizing you've been pulled aboard the ship. The relief of knowing there is another day ahead.

Lent invites us to reflection and repentance, not as self-punishment, but as honesty. Repentance isn't just regret; it's turning. It's facing the places where we stumble and trusting God enough to begin again. That may not sound joyful at first, but there is deep peace in being made whole, in letting crooked lines slowly straighten.

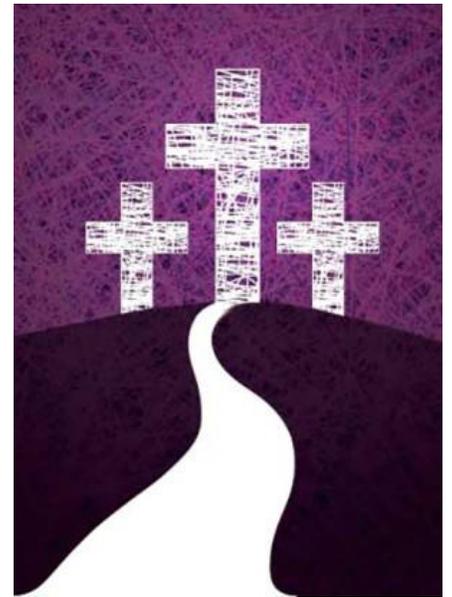
Through the prophet Joel, God says, "Rend your heart and not your garments." Lent isn't about appearances or religious performance. It goes deeper – to the heart. Lent invites us to bring the parts of ourselves we'd rather keep hidden into the light of God's mercy. Not to shame us, but to heal us.

This is one of Lent's great gifts: we are invited to come to God not as we wish we were, but as we actually are. Dusty. Tired. Worn thin. Honest. "Come as you are," Lent says. "There is room for you here."

To follow Jesus is to walk with him on the way of the cross. And just as we dare to call the day of his death "Good," we can also dare to call Lent a season of grace-filled joy. A quieter joy. A steadier joy. The joy of confession met by forgiveness. The peace of knowing our sin is real, and God's grace is greater still.

So don't rush past Lent. Don't skip ahead too quickly to Easter's celebration. Let this season do its gentle work. Rend your heart, not your garments. Come honestly. Come expectantly. The One who walks beside us now is the same One who wipes away tears and makes all things new.

And that, even now, is Good News.





Mid-Month Breakfast

Served 9am-10:30am

February 14

No breakfast in March

Start your weekend off with a nice breakfast and conversation with some friends at church. There is always hot coffee and good conversation.

Friday March 13 and Friday March 20
4:30pm – 7:00pm

Fish will fry again this year
and it's still better than them
other guys!



Invite your friends and neighbors!



Chili Bowl 2026

Chili Bowl 2025!

February 15 at 5pm
in the Fellowship Hall

OH... IT'S ON!

Come cheer on our culinary champions as they seek, with all the Lutheran grace and humility they can muster, to destroy the champions from Aldersgate and San Andrés in this epic battle of savor and spice!

OPEN CORNBREAD COOKOFF

If you think you make great cornbread, bring your best offering and a plate with 3 pieces or muffins for the judges. This is open to anyone!

Worship

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, a day when we are encouraged to take the time to repent. The actual date of Ash Wednesday is calculated by counting backward from Easter Sunday. As Easter Sunday always falls on the first Sunday after the first full moon after the spring equinox, like Easter, Ash Wednesday moves around a bit. This year Ash Wednesday is February 18 and at Christ the King we will have our Soup Supper before worship.



February 18

6:00pm Soup Supper

7:00pm Worship With Holy Communion

February 25 – March 25 Table Worship – 6:00pm

Over the course of his ministry, Jesus repeatedly creates sacred space over the dinner table, ministering to the hurting and delivering understanding to the proud. These occurrences run like a thread throughout the gospel narrative. Jesus freely extended hospitality, as well as often being the recipient of it, sharing in both physical and spiritual nourishment with people from all walks of life.



While his meals shared with those living on the fringes of society were audacious in the eyes of many, they served as the entry point to the Kingdom of God for many more. The intentionality of Jesus' table ministry and hospitality echoes throughout the gospels as he takes a seat next to the humble and hurting, offering both provision and understanding to their spiritual and physical needs.

This year, instead of going upstairs for worship after soup, we will remain at the table for worship. I'm still working out the details, but it will be a light meal beginning at 6pm. We will transition into a time of worship, listening, and communion.

Youth and Family *Events for specific age groups*

If you have a young person in your life please encourage them to participate.
We promise a welcoming space for all.



Young Adults *Post-High School*

1 Samuel – February 8, 6pm

At our December Gathering, several people asked for a deeper dive into the Bible; and I'm excited to make that happen. We'll be spending time in the first book of the prophet Samuel, exploring the period of the United Monarchy and the stories of kings Saul and David.

I've been doing quite a bit of preparation for this study, and I'm really looking forward to the conversation we'll share together. I'll make sure food is ready, so come hungry—both physically and spiritually.

To get the most out of our time, please read **1 Samuel chapters 1–15** ahead of time. As you read, jot down any questions, insights, or moments that catch your attention, and bring those with you. And feel free to bring a friend! They don't *have* to read ahead—but if you invite them early enough, they just might. We're looking forward to a rich, thoughtful, and engaging time together.

First Communion?

Communion is a Sacrament that people celebrate for the rest of their lives. It has been the common practice of Christ the King to invite young people, who have received instruction, are at least in the second grade, and whose parents feel they are ready, to receive communion as a regular part of their worship experience. **We will be talking about Communion on February 1 during Christian Education.**

If you have a young person in your life who is ready to celebrate communion for the first time, please plan on bringing them February 1 and reach out to Pastor Bryan 402-618-7847.
voice or text



February and March 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9am Adult Study 10am Worship 11:15am Fellowship 11:20am Christian Education 2-4pm PLAN	2 5pm Fitness Club 5:30pm T.O.P.S.	3 9am Quilting	4 9am San Andrés Pantry Set-up	5 5pm Fitness Club	6	7 2-4pm PLAN
8 Scout Sunday 9am Adult Study 10am Worship 11:15am Fellowship 2-4pm PLAN 6pm CTKYA	9 5pm Fitness Club 5:30pm T.O.P.S.	10	11 9am San Andrés Pantry Set-up	12 5pm Fitness Club	13	14 9am Mid-Month Breakfast
15 First Communion 9am Adult Study 10am Worship 11:15am Fellowship 11:20am Christian Education 5pm Chili Bowl	16 5pm Fitness Club 5:30pm T.O.P.S.	17 9am Quilting 11:30am WELCA	18 Ash Wednesday 9am San Andrés Pantry Set-up 12 pm Worship 6pm Lenten Meal 7pm Worship	19 5pm Fitness Club 6:30pm PLAN Dress Rehearsal	20 7pm PLAN PLAY	21 7pm PLAN PLAY
22 9am Adult Study 10am Worship 11:15am Fellowship	2 5pm Fitness Club 5:30pm T.O.P.S.	24	25 9am San Andrés Pantry Set-up 6pm Table Worship	26 5pm Fitness Club	27	28
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29 Palm Sunday 9am Adult Study 10am Worship 11:15am Fellowship 11:20am Christian Education Don and Mille's	30 5pm Fitness Club 5:30pm T.O.P.S.	31				