

KLC ANNOUNCEMENTS

SUNDAY DECEMBER 29

9:30AM Worship in the Sanctuary and Livestream Worship Service

Seminarian Joseph Lual Preaching & Pastor Nisar Presiding

First Sunday of Christmas

Luke 2: 21 - 38

THIS WEEK DECEMBER 30 – JANUARY 5

MON. Dec. 30: Church Office Open

5:00 PM Kent Community Supper

TUES. Dec. 31: New Year's Eve

WED. Jan. 1: New Year's Day 2025 Church Office Closed

THUR. Jan. 2: 4:00 PM Thursday Supper

FRI. Jan. 3: Church Office closed on Fridays

TBD Volunteer Meal Prep for the Norwegian Christmas Dinner

SAT. Jan. 4: 5:00 PM Norwegian Christmas Dinner in the Fellowship Hall

SUN. Jan. 5: 9:30 AM Worship Service in the Sanctuary and on YouTube

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

SAT. Jan. 4 5:00 PM Norwegian Christmas Dinner in the Fellowship Hall

SUN. Jan. 5 11:00 AM Peer Kent Presentation in the Fellowship Hall/Coffee Hour

SAT. Jan. 11 10:00 AM Centering Prayer in the Prayer Chapel & ZOOM

COFFEE HOUR

KLC Committees now hosting coffee hour

December 29: Executive & Memorial

January 5: Mission Support

January 12: Outreach

January 19: Property Management

January 26: Social Concerns



NEXT SUNDAY JANUARY 5

9:30AM Worship in the Sanctuary and Livestream Worship Service

Pastor Tormod Svensson Preaching & Presiding

Second Sunday of Christmas

Luke 2: 41 - 52

COMING UP

MON. Jan. 6: **Church Office Open**

5:00 PM Kent Community Supper

TUES. Jan. 7:

WED. Jan. 8:

THUR. Jan. 9: **4:00 PM Thursday Supper**

FRI. Jan. 10: **Church Office closed on Fridays**

SAT. Jan. 11: 10:00 AM Centering Prayer in the Prayer Chapel & ZOOM

SUN. Jan. 12: 9:30 AM Worship Service in the Sanctuary and on YouTube

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

December 2024



Abigail Meir-Meads 12/1

Kelly Graham 12/13

Claudia Otey

Chual Garbel

12/82

12/1

Ann Timlick 12/7

Jacob Deng 12/14

Long Tut 12/8

Anniversaries



Tom Calvin and Lisa Kurth (12/10)

Bob and Emily Bumpous (13/1) – 51

COLD WEATHER CLOTHING DONATIONS

As the weather gets colder and damper, we are collecting warm clothing for our unsheltered neighbors such as: **Hats, scarves, gloves, heavier socks, ponchos, blankets, sleeping bags and coats.** Please contact the KLC office to arrange your donation drop off. Thank you for your continued support.



KLC WEEKLY FAITH CONVERSATIONS PODCAST



shutterstock - 109731593

Please see Pastor Tormod to set up a time for a short podcast interview focusing on faith. We need folks to help with this!

2025 BLOCK PARTY

Pastor and leadership are toying with the idea of KLC putting on a block party next summer! We envision food, music, activities for adults, children and youth, prayer stations, tours of the church, sharing about our ministries, perhaps a mini organ recital (?) and more! If you are interested in being part of an ad hoc planning team, please let Pastor Tormod know.

KLC CONSTITUTION UPDATE

One of the items on the agenda for our January 26 annual meeting will be updates to our KLC

Constitution. We will have physical copies available at the church starting today to give you time to review the proposed changes. If you would like an electronic copy, please send your request to the church office (klcoffice@kentlutheran.org) The proposed changes include those required by the ELCA and some additional ones from our congregation. If you have any questions, please contact any of your church officers (Lavina Brennecke, Nancy Lunden, Jim Funfar) or the church office.



KLC HOUSING AND PROPERTY VISIONING COMMITTEE

Based upon our congregational coffee hour conversation regarding the future of our two rental houses, our church council decided to form an ad hoc committee to do some research and visioning regarding the future of those properties. If you are interested in being part of the committee, please let Pastor Tormod or any of our officers know.

PEER KENT PRESENTATION

On January 5, Sarah Andrews, Program Director at Peer Kent, will be with us during coffee hour to give a presentation on the work of Peer Kent, and especially as it pertains to their work with people who struggle with addictions and those who are unsheltered.

NEW SECURITY CAMERA

We now have a PTZ camera installed overlooking the parking lot and surrounding area. The camera view is accessible through a phone app. If you are interested in helping us to monitor the area, please contact the office or Pastor Tormod to get the info needed. In other news, a high-powered parking lot light is on order and will be installed soon.

DECEMBER FROM THE BISHOP



Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might... Isaiah 6:3

Do you hear a song, or maybe a multitude of songs, when you read the words above? We know these words in hymnody – in traditional songs, in praise songs, as part of the Eucharistic liturgy, and more. These words are deep in the bones of the Church. Of course, like so many lyrics that we sing in church, they weren't created out of thin air. We first hear these words from seraphs during the strange and grand vision that Isaiah had when he entered the holiest of holy places in the Temple – the place that housed the ark of God, the place revered as God's earthly throne, the place where God was simultaneously present in the heavenly realm and within the fabric of the world. We hear these words in Isaiah's call story in [Isaiah 6:1-8](#). (Go ahead ... read the Isaiah story now before reading the rest of this article.)

As Isaiah enters into the Holy of Holies, God grants Isaiah a glimpse into God's celestial throne room. God is so magnificent and big that the hem of God's robe fills the temple. God is attended by fierce and fiery creatures – scary flying snakes with six wings called seraphim. These were not the cute cherubs holding flutes and harps. These were sea serpent-sized creatures singing (shrieking, screaming) in loud, ear-piercing voices, "*Holy, holy, holy, Lord God almighty...*"

Isaiah is overcome. He falls on his knees and cries, "Woe is me!" Isaiah knows, in that moment, who the Creator of the universe is and what this Creator can do. Isaiah knows he could be destroyed in the flash of a second.

It needs to be said, of course, that Isaiah's vision didn't happen in a vacuum. Isaiah entered the holy of holies when the Assyrians were attacking, and the people of Jerusalem were trying to barricade themselves against this most formidable army. Outside of the Temple it was a dark and scary time. For Isaiah, and the rest of the Judeans, the world felt frightening and terrifying and out-of-control.

Do you know this feeling? This feeling of being so small and powerless in a world that seems so big and overwhelming. This feeling of the world being topsy turvy and unpredictable. This feeling of not knowing what to do next because everything seems like too much to bear.

For Isaiah, the next thing that happens in his vision is that a huge seraph comes at him with a piece of burning coal and presses it to his lips. The pain must have been brutal. But when the coal touches Isaiah's lips, things are clarified for him – he is cleansed and he is prepared for what is coming next and he instantly pledges to God, "Here I am. Send me." And Isaiah becomes God's prophet. (If only things could be made this clear for all of us.)

In any case, what do we do with this strange and beautiful story? What does Isaiah's call story mean for us today? Please know that I cannot wrap this story up in a tidy bow – nor do I want to – because this isn't how life works. (Also, Isaiah couldn't either ... as much as Isaiah pledged to follow God, if you read [Isaiah 6:9-11](#) you'll hear Isaiah crying out, "How long, O Lord?"). But this is where I seize hope.

Above all things, God is God, and we are not. God is wholly other. We cannot know the mind of God. And yet, in this extraordinary story, there are glimpses beyond majesty and awe. God is fearful to behold and God holds us as a mother holds a child to her breast. The touch of God burns and yet it is with life-giving fire. God towers above and God embraces us in inexplicable and earth-shattering tenderness and forgiveness. The One who creates all things also lives in the dirt and muck of life.

Dear Beloveds, may you always know and trust through all things: God is God. Almighty and Always. The One who shepherds you in life also tenderly holds you into death and beyond. The One who created the universe is as close as your next breath. For God gave you life, named you, and holds you near. Forever. *Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might.* Amen –Bishop Shelley Bryan Wee bishop@lutheran.org

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

FOR HEALING AND HOPE:

Tia Bantempo, Linda, Rick Ward, Judy & Bruce, Bonnie, Lisa Kurth's cousins & family, Eliza, Diane Kurth, Kathy Meyers, Carl Pederson, Shawn, Dennis Moino, Elain Rebuck, Elizabeth Owen, Vickie Wilson, Diane Anderson, Jeanie Worthington, Charm Lowe, Marilyn Meier, Jill, Rick Ward, Kim, Dan, Dave & Rachel, Sue Pederson, Russ Forcum & wife/daughters Eliza

FOR THOSE MOURNING THE DEATH OF LOVED ONES:

Ruot Simon Dak, Amanda, Robert Strom Sr., Kimberly Unti, Brenda Blizzard (Roger/husb)

MINISTRIES SUPPORTED:

Natl. ELCA Bishop Elizabeth Eaton & NWWA Bishop Shelley Bryan Wee, Kent Community Supper

GLOBAL MINISTRY SUPPORTED:

ELCA African Mission in South Sudan, Massae Girls Lutheran Secondary School

LOCAL PARTNERS IN MINISTRY:

Holy Spirit Parish, Kent First Korean Church, Kent Youth & Family Services, Catholic Comm. Services

NWWA SYNOD MISSION STARTS:

Family & Friends Gathering, Echoes in Bellingham, El Camino de Emmaus in Burlington

KLC MINISTRIES:

Church Office Staff & Volunteers

PRAYERS FOR MEDICAL PERSONNEL:

Michelle (Bentz) Cordova, Randy Mertes, Adrienne Kleven, Matt Bremmer

LIVING WITH AND IN TREATMENT FOR CANCER:

Jason Thomas, Bob Blakemore, Leticia Garcia, Edna Neuharth, Carol Fettig, Gail Clark, Mike Ellers, Susan Davis, Diane Watanabe, Dewey Spencer, Raynisha Kundert, Emma Bryant, Shannon Meyers, Betty Repp, Suzy Richardson, John Stefer, Deborah Simmons, Mary Vermeersch, Rob Connery, Evelyn Gregory, Christine Miller, Margie Windstrom, Lee Shephard, Cheryl Kincer, Ferne Neeb, Ricardo Gebrera, Daphne Jean, Netia Hancock, Linda Lee, Bob Oberto, Kim Wilbur, Rachel Key, Karen Young, Anna Hart, Marlyn, April, Don Long, Marit, Elaine Hammack, Ruthie, Roy, Clarence Devela, Mary Smalley, Jeff Marsh, Pam, Sally, Frances Lund, Kevin, Jay, Debi, Doreen Twohy, Julie Murphy, Lisa, Tim Clokey, Kerry Farnham, Betty Macneeham, Sandi, Lori Arndt, Kimberly, Jeri Williams, Myriah Perez, Karen Sue Campbell, Cathey Scheu, Nancy Early, Pam Carter, Shawn Dickerson, Jeremy Bjork, Kelly Wilson, Dolores Walkenhorst, Jerry Cox, Mary Hyde, Matthy Welling, Laura Graham, Kelly Wilson, Bruce Prinz, Kate Frey, Miles Cherry, Wayne Daily, Kathleen, Cathy Serly, Artis Stevens, Daniel Boaz, Mike Hawley, John Schuster, Sue Gurley, Pat Fish, Kristie Vandersluis, Don Kosen, Bruce Hansen, Bob Strom Jr., Jo Ann Philpot, Russ Forcum, Jen Morton, Lori Sutter, Sharon Bryant, Lori Cornell, Bill Weatherholt, Colette, Rachel P., Allie, Bonnie, Kate Frey, Doug Graham, Stacy Gavino, Eliza, Diane Kurth, Kathy Myers, Jeanie Worthington, Vickie Wilson Rick Ward

*Serving in the**

MILITARY

Cale Stevens
Tim Denegar
Mark Parlin
Kyle Music
Tia Maria Hawk
Caleb Pulver
Sean Clausen
Cassie Pineda
Eric Worsham
Jeremy Lytle

Corey Molsberry
Mike Voit
Amanda Clark
Timothy Jacobson
Vernon O'Neill
Derrick Salmund
Ryan Krantz
Sean & Daniel Cook
Bobby Jones
Theressa Luna

Anthony Buedhler
Troy Merkel
Jonathan Kundert
Lane Cordova
Jayce Allen
Chad Gallinger
Jake Schuster
Jenifer Osborne

STEWARDSHIP

Offerings

Here are some ways you can contribute to our KLC Ministry:

- 1) Mail a check to Kent Lutheran Church. Our mailing address is: 336 Second Ave S, Kent WA 98032-5849.

There are several methods available for electronic giving:

- 2) Set up bill pay through your bank and the bank will send a check to KLC. You can set up a one-time payment or a recurring payment using this method.
- 3) Simply Giving – you fill out a form (available through the church office) and give the form and a cancelled check to our financial secretary, Kathy Nixon. Kathy enters your information and the fund transfer(s) occur as you specify. When you want to make changes, contact Kathy and she can process the changes.
- 4) Donate Using Kent Lutheran's Website. Use the "Make a Donation" button on our webpage www.kentlutheran.org. Pressing this button takes you to a Kent Lutheran screen on a secure server. You are asked to create a giving profile or to login to a profile you have already created. You specify what amounts you want to contribute and if you want to make recurring donations.

TORMOD SVENSSON, PASTOR CELL : **301-707-1548**
EMAIL : **PASTORSVENSSON@GMAIL.COM**

Sean Haley, Director of Music Ministries
Ken Brooks, Office Ministries Manager
Mona Lee, Treasurer
Kathy Nixon, Financial Secretary
Joseph Lual, Seminarian

OUR VISION

Kent Lutheran Church is a
Christ-centered sacred place
for spiritual, cultural and
community enrichment.



KENT LUTHERAN CHURCH

Lives and celebrates the accepting love of Christ

336 2nd Ave S.
Kent WA 98032
253-852-2057
klcoffice@kentlutheran.org
www.kentlutheran.org
Church Office Hours
Monday-Thursday
10:00am-2:00pm