

**Welcome to King of Kings**

We are glad to have you worship the Lord with us today. Members, friends and visitors are asked to complete a "Welcome" card, found in the chair pocket. Please place the card in the offering plate. Your personal information will not be shared outside of King of Kings. Prayer requests on the reverse side of the card will be offered by the King of Kings Prayer Team.

*Sunday Morning Worship*

Sunday, December 25, 2022  
The Nativity of Our Lord

9:30 AM Worship Service in person and live streamed  
Divine Service, Setting 3, LSB 184

*Preservice Music*  
**Welcome & Opening Announcements**  
**Hymn of Invocation** LSB 367  
**Invocation**  
**Confession & Absolution**  
**Service of the Word**  
**Introit** Psalm 98:1-4; antiphon: Isaiah 9:6  
**Hymn** Angels We Have Heard On High LSB 368  
**Scripture Readings** Isaiah 52:7-10  
 Hebrews 1:1-12  
 John 1:1-18  
**Nicene Creed**  
**Hymn of the Day** From Heaven Above to Earth I Come LSB 358 1, 3, 8, 13, 15  
**Message** The Reason for the Season Isn't What You Think! Rev. Rich Balvanz  
**Offertory** LSB 192  
**Offering**  
**Prayer of the Church**  
**Service of the Sacrament** LSB 194  
**Lord's Prayer**  
**Distribution Hymns** God Love Me Dearly LSB 392  
 O Come, All Ye Faithful LSB 379  
**Benediction** Joy To The World LSB 387  
**Hymn to Depart**  
**Songs by African immigrant worship community**  
**Musicians: Gordon Russell piano/vocals**

**An update from the CEC**

**ENROLLMENT**

28 children are enrolled in our Infant through School Age programs.

**PROGRAM NEWS**

The CEC had our first unannounced compliance visit from our DHS licenser Amy Lyons. Here are some highlights from her report.

"With having commenced operations 55 days prior to this license visit, management has already established noteworthy systems of organization to help ensure administrative items are completed and maintained as required. It's evident management and staff are taking great pride in offering a new quality childcare program in the community."

"Classrooms are pristine and arranged in a thoughtful manner with learning at the forefront. Children's accomplishments (e.g. art) are displayed in various areas of the program space. Furnishings are new and child friendly. Curriculum includes Creative Curriculum, Iowa Early Learning Standards, Teaching Strategies Gold and Concordia "One in Christ". Curriculum also incorporates on-site guest speakers, enrichment experiences, off-site field trips, and teacher-inspired ideas."

"KOKCEC is located inside the King of Kings Lutheran Church in a newly constructed section attached to the church. KOKCEC is a ministry of King of Kings Lutheran Church and governed by a board. Building and grounds are well maintained. Church administration, church custodial staff, and the board help ensure the program space is sanitary and hazard-free each day. The space is ADA accessible. A mother's room and designated car seat storage room have been established. Center kitchen is extremely spacious and top-notch. The center cook discussed how she enjoys cooking, shadowed another childcare cook, and is striving to create a nutritious and child-interesting menu."

**THANK YOU**

Several children from the CEC were able to participate in the Children's Christmas Musical this past Sunday. Thank you to Mr. Gordon for his dedication to supporting the CEC. Our preschoolers light up when they see him arrive for music time every Thursday morning!

**THIS WEEK AT KING OF KINGS**

Sun, Dec 25 9:30 a.m. Christmas Day Worship  
Merry Christmas!

Mon, Dec 26 Church Office Closed

Tue, Dec 27 Church Office Closed

Thu, Dec 29 6:30 p.m. Celebrate Recovery

Sun, Jan 1 9:30 a.m. Worship (one service)  
1:00 p.m. African Worship  
4:00 p.m. Hiawatha Care Center

*for unto us a child is born*



**Attendance Last Week 12/18**  
**Worship:** 8:00 AM-122 | 10:45 AM-75 Total- 197  
**Children/Youth Sunday:** 38

**Serving Schedule** - contact the church office if you'd like to serve.

<b>THIS WEEK NEXT WEEK</b>		12/25 9:30 AM 01/01 9:30 AM	
Elder 12/25 Elder 01/01		Tom Sandersfeld Shane Hartzler	
Ushers 12/25 Usher 01/01		OPEN OPEN OPEN OPEN.	
Acolyte 12/25 Acolyte 01/01		OPEN OPEN	
Lay Reader 12/25 Lay Reader 01/01		Greg Happel Steve Gronemeyer	
Sound 12/25 Sound 01/01		OPEN Brian Carlson	
Media 12/25 Media 01/01		NA NA	
Video 12/25 Video 01/01		OPEN Kirk Monson	
Greeters 12/25 Greeters 01/01		Rachel Happel OPEN	

**King of Kings**  
 LUTHERAN CHURCH  
 December 25, 2022—December 31, 2022



3275 N Center Point Road, Cedar Rapids, IA 52411  
 319-393-2438 | www.kingofkingscr.org



## Prayer of the Church – December 25, 2022

Heavenly Father, we give You thanks that Your Son, the eternal Word, has become flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth. Extend His praise into all the world, that with us many would come to hope in His steadfast love.

As our families gather in this holy season, give us patience, that we may be slow to judge and quick to forgive. Comfort the lonely with Your presence and help us extend the welcome of our homes and the friendship of Your grace. Make us mindful of those less fortunate, who celebrate this blessed feast in poverty and want, and teach us to be generous. Accept with our offerings the living sacrifice of our bodies to Your service and our voices in praise and thanksgiving.

Merciful Father, guard and keep all who are sick, lonely, overwhelmed by grief or poor in spirit that they may be comforted and healed according to Your good and gracious will. Let them look to Jesus Christ and be reminded that He is the light no darkness can overcome.

Grant that we may come worthily to receive the body and blood of Jesus with faith in His bodily presence for us, that we may depart with grace upon grace from His fullness.

We thank You, Lord God, for all Your people who have gone before us and now rest in Your presence. Keep us faithful with them until that day when You make all things new; for You live and reign with Christ and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

*Prayers for healing, recovery, peace, strength:*  
Amy Stuenkel, daughter in law of Lorraine Stuenkel  
Lydia Parry  
Jo Schumacher  
Gary Russell  
Cherie Buelow  
Mary Balvanz  
Lois Muench  
Diane Muench  
Richard Nelson  
John Owen  
John Leonard  
Marv Frerking  
Jerry Green  
Jerry Cline  
Jack (grandson of Bob and Pat Harris)  
Richard Goshon  
Paula Easton  
Jen Zebuhr  
Julie Gentry  
*Prayers for encouragement upon the death of loved ones:*  
Nancy Koster and family at the death of her mother, Marcia Peters.  
August and Deb Stephenson at the death of his mother.

We'd like to wish the following King of Kings Members a very happy and blessed Birthday or Anniversary:

**Ben LeRoy 12/26**  
**Christine Oshel 12/26**  
**Michael Behn 12/27**  
**Deric Oshel 12/28**  
**Robert Freymark 12/29**  
**Conrad Ramsey 12/30**  
**John Schumacher 12/30**

If we missed your birthday or anniversary, we apologize, we'd love to include you. Please contact the church office to update your information, 319-393-2438 or [office@kingofkingscr.org](mailto:office@kingofkingscr.org)

**COMMUNION PREPARATION** (Communion is observed on the first and third Sundays of the month at both service times.)  
The Bible instructs us to examine ourselves...  
+Do I truly repent of my sins?  
+Do I believe I am forgiven my sins through Jesus?  
+Do I believe that along with the bread and wine I also receive the real body and blood of Jesus for the forgiveness of my sins?  
+Do I promise, with the help of the Holy Spirit, to amend my sinful life?  
*If you are not a member of a LCMS church, please speak with the pastor before the service.*

## Guest Information

Welcome to King of Kings Lutheran Church! We are happy you have chosen to attend one of our two Sunday morning worship services. The message is the same at both, but the worship styles are somewhat different. You will participate in a more traditional liturgical worship (with variations) at 8:00, while the 10:45 a.m. service employs a more contemporary form. Communion is observed on the first and third Sundays of the month at both service times. Please stop by the WELCOME CENTER, near the main entrance, for information on programs and ministries at King of Kings. We hope to see you again soon!

## Book of Isaiah Bible Study

The next meetings of the Isaiah Bible study class will be Friday, January 6 and Sunday, January 8 at the regular time, continuing weekly thereafter.

## R U SURE?

The Adult Bible Study considering what some World Religions believe ABOUT SIN will have no sessions until Sunday (08 January, 2023).

## No Sunday School

No Sunday morning Children's and Youth classes on December 25 and January 1. We'll see you in the new year as we start back up on January 8<sup>th</sup>!

## PLEDGE CARDS

Thank you to all who returned pledge cards last weekend. If you have not yet taken the opportunity to return your cards (2023 annual giving & Forward with Christ building campaign), you may continue to do so – place them in the box at the welcome center (additional cards are available there also), mail them to the church, call 319-393-2438 or email Jonathan, [jofft@kingofkingscr.org](mailto:jofft@kingofkingscr.org), with your pledge information.

## Call Committee Update – Dec 2022

We have received a total of 31 nominations in this second round of our search for our next Senior Pastor. After reviewing the new candidate profiles and re-evaluating the previous candidates, we are proceeding forward with contacting 14 pastors to request a Zoom interview.

We are aware that Advent is a very busy time for pastors, so we are not expecting to conduct many interviews until January, but we will proceed through the interview process as soon as possible in the new year.

Please keep this process in your prayers as we seek God's will for our next Senior Pastor. If you have any questions, please contact Dan Henry at 319-693-3636 or [DanJHenry05@gmail.com](mailto:DanJHenry05@gmail.com). Merry CHRISTmas!

## New Year's Day

January 1 at 9:30 AM (one service)

## Pew Sister Bible Study for Women

A new study for women is starting on Monday, January 16 at 7:00 PM. This 12-session Bible study for women "goes and tells what God has done" in the lives of real women in the church today. From alcoholism to postpartum depression to cancer, twelve different women generously share the story of God's faithfulness in their lives for the consolation of their sisters in Christ.

Each session begins with a scripture reading followed by a narrative of an individual woman's real-life story. Eight study questions, designed for both personal and group study, help the reader apply the reading and narrative to her own life in Christ. A meditative hymn stanza and collect complete each session.

Sign up at the Welcome Counter or email Ann at [office@kingofkingscr.org](mailto:office@kingofkingscr.org). Each book will be \$15. They will meet the 1st and 3rd Mondays of the month.

## Inclement Weather

It's that time of year again, we never know what mother nature has in mind. If inclement weather is predicted and we need to cancel services or activities we will send out notifications via email, text, social media (Facebook) and on KCRG (TV and online). Please make sure to check one of those avenues if the weather is questionable. Also, if you have not opted in to text notifications, please contact the church office to sign up.

## Church Office Closed

The church will be closed Monday, December 26 and Tuesday, December 27. Please contact Pastor Balvanz on his cell phone, 319-350-3276, for urgent pastoral needs the week between Christmas and New Year's Day.

## Annual Voter's Assembly

We have once again reached the very important time of the year when we conduct our Annual Congregational Voter's Assembly. This meeting plays a critical role in the setting of the annual budget, elections for open Governing Board positions, as well as the establishment of congregational Visions and Goals for 2023. The leadership of the congregation truly values the input of all of our members, and would encourage everyone to attend. This year's meeting will be held on Sunday, January 8, 2023, immediately following the 10:45 a.m. service. No meal will be provided. Childcare will be available.

## Poinsettias on the altar are given to the glory of God by:

- \* Steve & Kathy Epley in memory of their parents
- \* The BFF Life Group in remembrance of Bob Fruth who has passed away and his wife Jan who has moved to Texas.
  - \* Sharon Meyer in memory of Darwin Meyer
- \* Matt & Kelsey Younggren in memory of Rhett Younggren
- \* Dixie Dahl in memory on Wayne & Vera Jenkins and Mildred Beck
  - \* Dan & Marla Henry rejoicing in the birth of our Savior
- \* Galen & Sherry Brendes in memory of their parents Ralph & Jeannette Brendes and Kenneth Soenksen
- \* Galen & Sherry Brendes in memory of their daughter Melissa
  - \* Dan & Becky Zange & Bob Nygaard in memory of Judy Nygaard
    - \* Tom & Sheryl Sandersfeld
- \* Terry & Sharon Liddle in memory of their parents Dorthy & Gerald Liddle and Gordon & Doris Schlotterback
  - \* Jo Schumacher in memory of Tom Schumacher
- \* Deanna & Greg Glass in memory of Rosemary Glass
- \* Lynette Nuehring & Family in memory of Harley Nuehring
  - \* Denise & Janae Scott in memory of Kelly Scott
  - \* Boyd Kaiser & Family in memory of Hannah Kaiser
  - \* Ken & Janet Ramstad in memory of loved ones
- \* The Silcox Family in memory of Jen's parents Don & Sandy Brough

## Interested in Membership at King of Kings?

A new Foundations of Faith class begins Sunday, January 15<sup>th</sup>. Pastor Balvanz will lead us through a study of how one becomes and remains Christian. The study consists of four 90-minute sessions on consecutive Sunday afternoons at 2 p.m. in the King of Kings conference room. We emphasize open and free-flowing discussion. Everyone desiring membership at King of Kings is requested to attend these sessions, including those entering through transfer from another LCMS congregation. Please contact the church office to indicate your attendance plans. Email [office@kingofkingscr.org](mailto:office@kingofkingscr.org) or call 319-393-2438.



**KING OF KINGS**  
STUDENT MINISTRIES

## HS Servant Event

We still have some spots available for our summer youth trip to Mission, South Dakota. All youth currently in grades 8 through 12 are eligible to sign up. Don't miss out on this life-changing opportunity to go and serve in Jesus' name. For more information, reach out to DCE Tony. The deadline to sign up is Dec. 31, so don't wait! ([tdixon@kingofkingscr.org](mailto:tdixon@kingofkingscr.org))

**NO Midweek Youth Events on December 28.**