

# THE KING'S CROWN



February 2025



King of Kings Lutheran Church

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Facebook: King of Kings Lutheran Church - Liverpool, NY

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## Upcoming Events

*February 1st—Men's Breakfast*

*February 11th—Quilt Group*

*February 22nd—Soup & Game Night*

### **Genesis Bible Study**

*Wednesdays at 1:00pm*

### **Caregiver Group**

*2nd & 4th Wednesdays at 9:30am*

### **Men's Bible Study**

*Biweekly on Fridays 6:00am*

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March  
Newsletter  
Deadline is  
February 15

## **Mission Statement**

*"Empowered by the grace and love of Jesus, we are committed to growing in faith with the community."*

## **From the Desk of Pastor Rebecca**

*As often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.*

*(1 Corinthians 11:26)*

After the sections of Gathering and Word, the third part of the pattern for worship used in most liturgical traditions is the Meal. This refers to the Lord's Supper, the sacrament of Holy Communion.

The Meal section begins with the collection of our financial tithes and offerings while the table is set. This placement has pros and cons. There is a danger of having it appear that the offering is like paying the price of an admission ticket to receive the sacrament, but this is not the intent. Because Holy Communion emphasizes our unity as the Body of Christ and the abundance of our Lord's mercy, keeping the collection close to the Meal is supposed to remind us of how we are called to share all our resources, supporting one another and remembering that everything we have comes to us from God in the first place.

Limiting myself to just a few hundred words about Holy Communion is incredibly difficult. I came to love the sacrament during a time when I was forced to fast from it. When I was a missionary in London, I was placed with a Roman Catholic community, and despite all the time we spent building a team of service and love, I was not allowed to receive the sacrament from them. It hurt to have that line drawn between us, but I believe that experience of exclusion taught me a lesson about the value of grace and invitation that I will always carry with me.

Much of the music and prayers that are said during the Great Thanksgiving come directly from the Bible. Christians in the Lutheran tradition believe that Christ's real presence is with us during Holy Communion in, with, and under the bread and wine. This is different from believing that the Meal is only symbolic or (on the other end of the spectrum) that the elements only look like bread and wine, but have actually entirely transformed. Lutheranism says this is not an either/or situation, but a both/and mystery. Together we consume bread and wine and the body and blood of Christ.

For more than 500 years, our sacramental theology has declared that scripture and faith live in a beautiful in-between place. When our human impulses are to explain, categorize, and cling to certainty, Holy Communion reminds us that mystery and paradox are foundational parts of our faith. The Sacrament of the Altar is a time when all receive the same—when all are united in need for Christ's mercy—when we stand shoulder to shoulder with our neighbors declaring our trust in God's abundance.

In Christ's peace,  
Pastor Rebecca



Epiphany continues through the entire month of February. As Christians, the season of Epiphany calls us to continuous celebration of the manifestation of Jesus as the Messiah of ALL peoples. We are reminded to share the news of Jesus as the "Light of the World" as we share the good news of the gospels through our words and actions.

February is also Black History Month; for the past several years we have highlighted the musical contributions of African Americans during this month. We sing some of the wonderful spirituals that came out of the period of slavery, and also gospel and praise songs of more contemporary composers.

On February 2nd, the Hand Bell Choir will be performing "Jesus is a Rock in a Weary Land" based on a spiritual that can be found in the ELW hymnal # 333. Spirituals were used to provide spiritual solace and a sense of community during times of oppression and hardship; they were also a way to help preserve African cultural heritage through the rhythms used, and frequent use of "call and response" type singing.

In addition to some spirituals, we'll be hearing other songs and compositions from African American composers throughout the month in appreciation of the rich contributions they have made to worship.

Here are a few Youtube links to a variety of songs I think you will enjoy:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DfW2mkkMTAg> Brooklyn Tabernacle Choir "Psalm 34"

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UuuZMg6NVeA> Hezekiah Walker "Every Praise"

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Lq4PXLxTuVU>, Cece Winans "Come, Jesus, Come"

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6QvX4CwSmwY> Nicole Mullins "My Redeemer Lives"

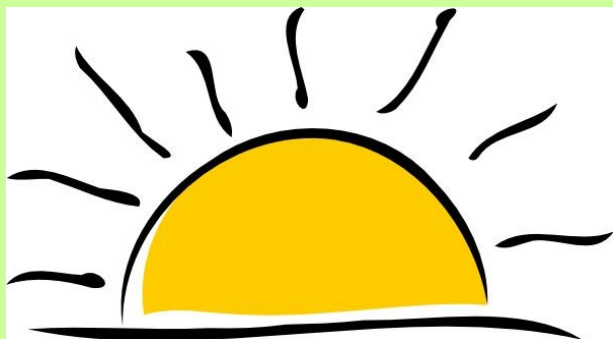
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=olQrCfkbGw> "Oh, Happy Day"

May the Light of Christ shine through us as we sing out His praises throughout the month of February!

See you at church!

Beth Colbert

Director of Music



The Men's Bible Study Group meets every other Friday 6:00am in person or by Zoom (your choice). Please contact Steve Miller if you are interested in joining them.

Upcoming dates are  
1/31, 2/14, 2/28, 3/14

Our Sunday Services are now LIVE on BOTH Facebook AND YouTube



Streaming Sunday Service

Link on computer and phone  
[www.youtube.com/@kingofkings-ny](http://www.youtube.com/@kingofkings-ny)

(No passwords required).

On your TV, go to the YouTube channel (837 on FIOS), type in kingofkings-ny and select the circle that has our name and our stained glass windows



Men's Breakfast

Men's Breakfast group will meet

Saturday February 1st.

Coffee will be up at 7:30am,  
breakfast food at 8:00am

## KING OF KINGS QUILT GROUP

*Wrapped in a quilt is like getting a warm hug from the quiltmaker. Children especially like their blankies for warmth and a feeling of familiarity. Speakers from various care groups from the Syracuse area tell stories about children who do not have some of the basic necessities, let alone a cuddle quilt. These organizations appreciate donations of quilts because the need is great. A speaker from the McMann Ryan Advocacy Center has given quilts to children for comfort, who then has asked, "Is this really mine? Do I have to give it back?" The group "Sleep in Heavenly Peace" has volunteers who make and assemble beds for children who have never had a bed (members of our congregation have been involved with this worthy cause). They accept donations of new sheets and blankets, but ask for colorful pillowcases. As the beds are being made up with the sheets and blankets, they like to put a quilt at the foot of the bed. Children can use their quilt to snuggle in while watching TV. And, recently I heard Beth Broadway from Faith Interworks tell of refugee families moving into a new apartment, who came with little or nothing to this foreign country. The new families are delighted to see a quilt on their new bed or quilts for their children. They are moved to tears sometimes, looking in wonder at the handmade gift from someone in America that was made just for them.*

*On Tuesday, February 11, we will meet at 1 p.m. in the Sunday School Wing. We learned a fun and quick "Fold and Sew" quilt block last month that we can use as our quilt pattern to make some darling children's quilts. These quilts will be donated to Interfaith Works of CNY. Bring children's fabrics or colorful fabrics in 10" and 5" squares. Or if you are very ambitious, bring completed blocks to be assembled into quilt tops. Let's give a child a warm hug from us!*

*The King of Kings Quilt Group meets the second Tuesday of every month at 1 p.m. Feel free to drop in to see what we are doing or contact Donna Huberty for more information. 315-935-5422 [donnahuberty@outlook.com](mailto:donnahuberty@outlook.com)*



### Photos Wanted

Painting, staining, kitchen/bathroom remodel, school supply collection, lawn mowing, new first aid station, nursery refresh and resupply and more (so many more) Well, you get the "picture". If you have any photos of any of the varied community and church home projects of this last year, please send them to the office. We plan to use them for celebration. [kokchurchsecretary@gmail.com](mailto:kokchurchsecretary@gmail.com)

Brought to you by the Worship and Music Team, A.W.E division.  
Poetic expressions intended to inspire prayer, awe, joy into your spiritual journey.  
Curated by Bob Lebel



Amanda Gorman (born 1998) American poet. She read the poem "The Hill We Climb", from which these excerpts are taken, as part of the inaugural celebration for President Barack Obama, on January 20, 2009. It is offered here as an opportunity to reflect on the spirit of our national journey, again in the context of a new president taking office.

*From "The Hill We Climb"*

*When day comes we ask ourselves:*

*Where can we find light*

*In this never-ending shade?*

*The loss we carry, a sea we must wade...*

*We've learned that quiet isn't always peace...*

*And yet the dawn is ours before we knew it...*

*We lay down our arms*

*So that we can reach out our arms to one another.*

*We seek harm to none, and harmony for all...*

*Scripture tells us to envision that:*

*"Everyone shall sit under their own vine and fig tree,*

*And no one shall make them afraid." \**

*When day comes, we step out of the shade,*

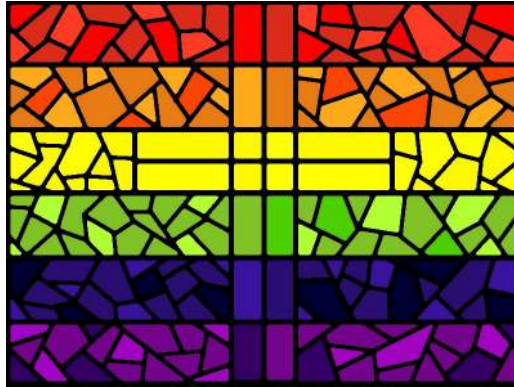
*Aflame and unafraid.*

*The new dawn looms as we free it,*

*For there is always light,*

*If only we're brave enough to see it,*

*If only we're brave enough to be it.*



*You are Not Alone!*

*At King of Kings Lutheran Church, we embrace all individuals and respect their dignity and worth, for all are beloved children of God. We seek to recognize everyone's own distinctions, and we strive to protect all from oppression. As a congregation we share God's vision of love for people of every race, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, socio-economic status, age, ability, political persuasion, and personal history. At King of Kings, we commit ourselves to ongoing and consistent efforts to advocate for racial equality, and to be allies to all who are oppressed simply for being who they are. Our sanctuary is a place for worship and praise, and to celebrate baptisms, marriages, funerals, and other milestones of growth in faith for all who come. Here we believe there is a place for EVERYONE.*

*Welcome to King of Kings.*



## **CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP**

**On the 2nd & 4th Wednesdays of the month at 9:30am**

**Caregiving can be challenging and lonely, come join us for conversation, support and shared wisdom.**

**Come join this group when you are able.**

**All are welcome, supporters and caregivers both.**

*Highlights from the  
January meeting.*

Council met on January 9th, 2025 with everyone in attendance. Time was spent preparing the agenda for the Annual Meeting. We also reviewed the Budget for 2025 one last time with Doug Keim. It was approved, and will be presented to the congregation at our Annual Meeting, 1/26/25.



We reviewed the year ending Financial Statements of 2024 and we are at 97.8% of the budget. We also had an extra \$5,135.59 donation for the Capital and Building Fund. All bills are current and paid for the year.

King of Kings enjoyed a lot of volunteers during the month of December. Members helped decorate/degreen the church for Christmas. Special music was played at both Christmas Eve services and the Christmas Pageant led by Barb Nies was wonderful.

Members volunteered at Brown Memorial, donated hats, gloves, scarves to the warming tree, put up new shelving in the mechanical room and new storage hangers were built in the sacristy for our church banners.

Pastor shared that she is working to get an accurate count of King of Kings members and she is already working on preparing for the Lenten Season.

I thanked council members Sue Tierney and Robin Ngumbi for serving on the council as they stepped down 1/31/25. We welcome Barb Nies and Lynn Myers as new council members effective 2/1/25. Please thank these ladies for their dedication to serving on council.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Lisa Clark



## People's News

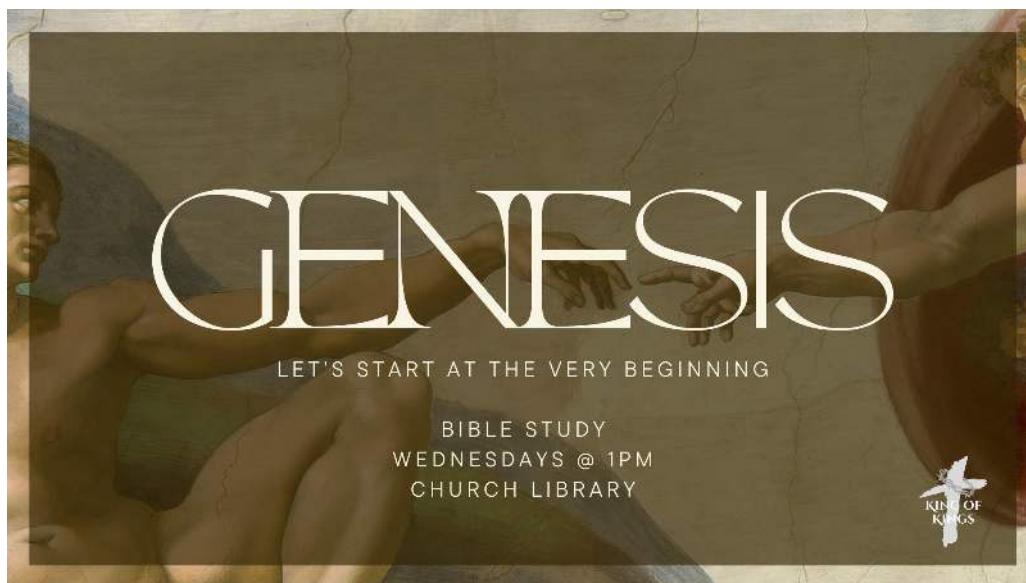


Sincere sympathy to Bob Dumond and his family on the passing of his wife, Diane. May you all know God's strength and peace now and in the days ahead.

Steve Salem was recently named a Music Educator of the Week by Spectrum's PBS (Channel 11) recognizing his outstanding work with music students at Liverpool High School,

Thirty-eight students from Liverpool High School including junior Emilie Sousou have been selected to perform at the New York State Music Association's All State Festival at Ithaca College on January 31 and February 1.

Bailey, Bryley, and Maverick Walker were recently baptized. May God bless their new life in Christ.



**A Bible study led by Pastor Rebecca is meeting on Wednesdays at 1:00pm in the church parlor. Our first topic will be Genesis. Bring yourself and your favorite Bible--no other preparation required!**

As a member of KOK's Caregivers Support Group and a daughter with aging parents and mother-in-law, I have found some resources that have been invaluable for our family as we help our older parents age gracefully.

As our family was researching long term health service facilities in Rochester, we found a great resource put together by the Office for the Aging in Monroe County that compared nursing homes in the Rochester area. Every county in New York State has an Office for the Aging with many resources. Here is the link to the Office for the Aging in Onondaga County: <http://www.ongov.net/aging/>

An easy resource for comparing nursing homes by zip code can be found at Medicare.gov:  
<https://www.medicare.gov/care-compare/?redirect=true&providerType=NursingHome>

Please join our CareGivers Group on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday at 9:30 am if you have resources and experiences with caregiving that you'd like to share with others, if you need a safe place to have conversations about your loved ones or if you want to find out more about our group and the support we give each other.

With JOY, Joanne Keim



## Sunday School/Children's Time Happenings

Christmas happens during the darkest time of the year. Jesus' birth signifies the beginning of brighter days for us since Jesus is the light of the world! As we enter January, do you notice that each day gets brighter?



In our one story from John 1:10-18, we learned that John means gracious. John the Baptist said that Jesus would come to bring grace and truth. Grace means God's forgiveness. Grace means a second chance. Have you heard about God's second and third and fourth chances? That's more than your password gives you.

The song Joy to the World verse 4 reminds us of the promise John sent.

Verse 4

He rules the world with truth and grace,  
And makes the nations prove  
The glories of His righteousness,  
And wonders of His love,  
And wonders of His love,  
And wonders, wonders, of His love.



I hope you have been in church or watched the live streams to see our Children's Time. Each week, a puppet and I have been interacting to teach a children's message. The children come forward and sit with Pastor Truland, the puppet helps answer the questions I ask, and we all learn about one of the readings for the day. I appreciate the families that come and bring their children to participate.

Please contact Susan Evans or leave a message with Pastor or Rachel to let us know you heard God calling you to help with our Children's Time at King of Kings Lutheran Church.

Susan Evans, Sunday School Director



### Reminder to Online Givers

If you give online and increased your pledge for 2025, please remember to go to your online account and change the amount.

If you give online and did not pledge but wish to increase the amount you give, please remember to go to your online account and change the amount.

Thank you for your continued support of the ministries at King of Kings.

Barb Winkel

King of Kings Financial Secretary



# Schedules for February

## Usher

2/2 Eric/Sarah Richardson  
2/9 Darren/Mary Moyer  
2/16 Greg/Julie Yoder  
2/23 Hollie Zimmerman/Karen Wild

## Worship Assistant

2/2 Keith Gatling/Weta Hayden  
2/9 Rachel Webb/Michele Hayes  
2/16 Lauren Seiter/Kathy Sampson  
2/23 Barb Winkel/Michele Hayes

## Coffee Fellowship

2/2 Shari Murray  
2/9 Cathy Miller  
2/16 Kurt/Sarah Richardson  
2/23 Susie Bastedo

## Altar Guild for February

Lisa Clark/Anna Salem

## Lector

Lisa Sousou  
Sherry Miller  
Peter Pavlacka  
Kurt Richardson

## Counter

Eric Richardson/Peter Pavlacka  
Niel Zuern/Weta Hayden  
Cathy Miller/Nicole Swanson  
Dan Weingarten/Doug Keim

## Tech Booth

Dave Krause/Francis Ngumbi  
Bob Hickman/Don Spoerke  
Howie Mansfield/Michele Hayes  
Dave Krause/Francis Ngumbi

*\*\*\* For any questions or changes to the schedules, please reach out to the person who coordinates volunteers for your role and then let Rachel know of any changes.*



## Church Council

Steve Miller, Chair  
Jennifer Foor, Vice Chair  
Barb Winkel, Financial Secretary  
Cindy Johnson, Recording Secretary  
Carl Bastedo, Treasurer  
Barb Nies, Council Member  
Lynn Myers, Council Member  
Kurt Richardson, Council Member  
Lisa Clark, Council Member  
Pastor Rebecca Truland



## Ministry Teams

Finance—Doug Keim  
Property—Art Leitgeb  
Worship & Music—Beth Colbert  
Children's Ministry—Sue Evans  
Mutual Ministry Committee—Anita Leitgeb  
Fellowship—Shari Murray  
PALMS—Weta Hayden  
Stephen Leader—Marcy Grundner  
Quilters—Donna Huberty

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**King of Kings Lutheran Church  
8278 Oswego Road  
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