Upcoming Events at King of Peace

Christmas Day
Our Christ Mass will be held tomorrow at 12 NOON. Open up your presents in the morning and then come over to the church at midday to place the real meaning of the season—Jesus’ birth—in the middle of your Christmas celebration.

Sunday
Our Sunday worship service is at the usual time of 10 A.M.

Plan now for January 2
The evening of January 2, King of Peace will hold a burning of the greens on the church grounds. This is not a religious festival, but a chance for fellowship as we burn Christmas trees and enjoy low country boil and an oyster roast. A sign up sheet for planning food to bring is in the entry hall. After Christmas and before January 2, you may drop off live Christmas trees on the yard in front of the church entrance at anytime. We will use these for the fire.

A note about the use of incense
Incense has been a part of Christian worship from its beginnings, and was a part of the Jewish worship that preceded Christianity. Incense is referred to in scripture as a visual sign of our prayers going up to God. The Bible refers to the use of incense more than 100 times, including Isaiah 6:4 and Revelation 8:3-4.

Tonight incense helps us mark this occasion as particularly festive while involving all our senses in worship.
King of Peace Episcopal Church

A SERVICE OF LIGHT FOR THE EVE OF THE NATIVITY

The church is dark, or partially so, when the service is to begin. Each person is to be holding this service booklet and an unlit candle as the service begins. When the bell rings, all stand, and the Celebrant and acolytes enter. The Celebrant greets the people with these words.

Celebrant  Light and Peace, in Jesus Christ our Lord.
People  Thanks be to God.

It is not ourselves that we proclaim; we proclaim Christ Jesus as Lord, and ourselves as your servants, for Jesus’ sake. For the same God who said, “Out of darkness let light shine,” has caused his light to shine within us, to give the light of revelation—the revelation of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. 2 Corinthians 4:5-6

Celebrant  Let us pray.
O Lord God Almighty, as you have taught us to call the evening, the morning, and the noonday one day; and have made the sun to know its going down: Dispel the darkness of our hearts, that by your brightness we may know you to be the true God and eternal light, living and reigning for ever and ever. A men.

The celebrant lights a candle from the Christ candle and then lights the candles of several people in the congregation. Everyone in the congregation shares their lights until everyone is holding a lit candle.

During the candle-lighting silence is kept. When all the candles are lit, we sing the following hymn.

Our Poinsettias

IN THANKSGIVING
Martha Dickman in thanksgiving for Karen and Scott Landry, Danielle Landry, Kalyn Dial and Logan Beck.
Kenn and Elaine Hodge in thanksgiving for their children and grandchildren.
The Gross Family in thanksgiving for Emily, Kyle and Shaun.
The Rev. Frank and Victoria Logue in thanksgiving for their daughter, Griffin.
Scott and Celeste McCullough in thanksgiving for their family.
The Maxwell Family in thanksgiving for their family.
The Maxwell Family in thanksgiving for their King of Peace family.
Mary Root in thanksgiving for King of Peace ministries.
Jerry and Marilyn Shriner in thanksgiving for Lisa’s successful surgery.
Marian Stone to the Glory of God and in thanksgiving for “All My Children.”
Barbara Thomson in thanksgiving for her husband Russell Thomson.
Craig Wells in thanksgiving for Mr. and Mrs. Bill Wells and the Henderson-Wise Family.
Craig Wells in thanksgiving for The Michael Desmond Family.
Craig Wells in thanksgiving for the Frank Logue Family.
Our Poinsettias

IN MEMORIAL
Martha Ann Byington in memory of Robert B. Hutchinson.
Martha Ann Byington in memory of Harriet Hutchinson.
Martha Ann Byington in memory of Robert H. Byington
Rickie Croy in memory of his father, Leonard Croy.
The Desmond Family in memory of Bernice C. Wood.
The Desmond Family in memory of All Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen
and Marines.
Martha Dickman, Karen & Scott Landry, Kalyn Dial and Logan
Beck in memory of Marc Dickman.
Ruth Graves in memory of Leland Graves.
The Hall Family in memory of Grandpa Graves.
Florence Hughes in memory of her mother, Lilian Hedges.
Dee Ingraham in memory of her Aunt Dolly, Uncle Frank, and
cousin, Donald Laskay.
Dee Ingraham in memory of her aunt and uncle, Mamie and Floyd
Corona.
Dee Ingraham in memory of her parents, Helen and Nick Taflan.
The Rev. Frank, Victoria, and Griffin Logue in memory of Kitty
Steele.
The Rev. Frank, Victoria, and Griffin Logue in memory of their
brothers (and uncles) Joel Benjamin Campbell and Thomas
Michael Logue.
Tammy McCaulley in memory of her father, LaVern Wenzlick.
Scott and Celeste McCullough in memory of J.W. McCullough.
Scott and Celeste McCullough in memory of Celeste Dinkins.
The Maxwell Family in memory of Tom and Rhoda Maxwell.
The Maxwell Family in memory of John and Lorraine Billington.
Winona and Raleigh Pickels in memory of their parents.
Colby and Georgia Stilson in memory of their sister, Barbara Myers.
Marian Stone in memory of her husband, Charles Edward Stone.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY
Celebrant: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.
Celebrant: Let us pray.

Celebrant: O God, you have caused this holy night to shine with
the brightness of the true Light: Grant that we, who have known
the mystery of that Light on earth, may also enjoy him
perfectly in heaven; where with you and the Holy Spirit he
lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. Amen.

Please be seated for the lessons and extinguish your candle.

Reader: Reading from Isaiah
The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;
those who lived in a land of deep darkness— on them light has
shined. You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its
joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people
exult when dividing plunder. For the yoke of their burden, and
the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this. (Isaiah 9:2-4,6-7)

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

Psalm 96: 1-4,11-12
Reader recites lines in regular type. People respond with bold text.
Sing to the Lord a new song;  
sing to the Lord, all the whole earth.

Sing to the Lord and bless his Name;  
proclaim the good news of his salvation from day to day.

Declare his glory among the nations  
and his wonders among all peoples.

For great is the Lord and greatly to be praised;  
he is more to be feared than all gods.

Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad;  
let the sea thunder and all that is in it;  
let the field be joyful and all that is therein.

Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy  
before the Lord when he comes,  
when he comes to judge the earth.

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Reader A Reading from Titus
For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifest-
THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The Celebrant breaks the Bread. A period of silence is kept.

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
People Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

All baptized Christians are welcome to come forward to receive communion. You may also come forward for the priest to pray for God’s blessing for you. To signify that you want a blessing rather than communion, cross your arms in a X over your chest.

The Bread and the Cup are given to the communicants with these words
The Body of Christ, the bread of heaven. Amen.
The Blood of Christ, the cup of salvation. Amen.

After Communion, the Celebrant says:
Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

Eternal God, heavenly Father,
you have graciously accepted us as living members
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,
and you have fed us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.
Send us now into the world in peace,
and grant us strength and courage
to love and serve you
with gladness and singleness of heart;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE GOSPEL

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered.

Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn. In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.” And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, “Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!” (Luke 2:1-14)

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

Alfredo Esparagoza will sing “O Holy Night”

CHRISTMAS BLESSING

May Almighty God, who sent his Son to take our nature upon him, bless you in this holy season, scatter the darkness of sin, and brighten your heart with the light of his holiness; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. Amen.
The Nicene 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. 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 Prayers of the People
Leader: My sisters and brothers in the peace of God, all the gifts we shall give and receive in these days are but small tokens of the

The Celebrant continues: And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever.

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

People and Celebrant
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.
Then the Celebrant continues
We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world.

In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, “Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.”

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, “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. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.”

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People
We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;
gift that shines forth in God’s word made flesh this night. From grateful hearts let us intercede for all who find themselves longing for this deepest, truest gift, saying: O Lord, Let your light shine.

That the peace proclaimed by angels in the shepherd’s field might be realized on every field of war and on every street of violence, into the dark corners of the world, O Lord,

People Let your light shine.

That the child born to us might find in our hearts warm welcome by our openness to the needs of the homeless and the hungry, into the dark corners of the world, O Lord,

People Let your light shine.

That in this time of gift-giving we might become more responsive to the abandoned, the despairing, and the mourning, into the dark corners of the world, O Lord,

People Let your light shine.

That the rejoicing of this night might be a bond leading us to true communion of life and worship, into the dark corners of the world, O Lord,

People Let your light shine.

That the joy and consolation of the Wonderful Counselor might enliven all who are struck down by disease and illness, into the dark corners of the world, O Lord,

People Let your light shine.

The prayers of the congregation may be added silently or aloud.

That the blessed hope we celebrate this night might be the fulfillment of all who have gone before us in faith, into the dark corners of the world, O Lord,

People Let your light shine.

God of darkness and silence, you have pierced the quiet of this night by the utterance of your word made flesh. May our words of praise and petition be strong echoes of your Christmas word, so that all might come to the peace you promise in Jesus, who is Lord and God this night and forever. Amen.

We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.
Celebrant and People

Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; in your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone; and so uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Celebrant: Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. Amen.

The Peace

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And also with you.

Hymn

_Hark the Herald Angels Sing_

1. Hark! the herald angels sing,
   Glory to the new-born King!
2. Christ, by highest heaven adored;
   Christ, the everlasting Lord;
3. Mild he lays his glory by,
   Born that we no more may die,

Peace on earth and mercy mild,
Late in time behold him come,
Born to raise us from the earth,
Born to give us second birth.

Joyful, all ye nations, rise,
Join the triumph of the skies;
Risen with healing in his wings,
Light and life to all he brings,

with the angelic host proclaim
Christ is born in Beth-lehem!
Pleased as man with us to dwell;
Hail, the Sun of Righteousness!

Refrain

Hark! the herald angels sing
Glory to the new-born King!

The Holy Communion

The Great Thanksgiving (Eucharistic Prayer B)

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.
Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.
People: We lift them to the Lord.
Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

The Celebrant proceeds

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Because you gave Jesus Christ, your only Son, to be born for us; who, by the mighty power of the Holy Spirit, was made perfect Man of the flesh of the Virgin Mary his mother; so that we might be delivered from the bondage of sin, and receive power to become your children. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Refrain

Hark! the herald angels sing
Glory to the new-born King!