



# Follow Me

John 4:19

THE THIRD SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY  
25 JANUARY 2026  
CHRIST THE KING LUTHERAN CHURCH



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LUTHERAN CHURCH

The Third Sunday after  
the Epiphany  
25 January 2026

Our Mission:  
As God's forgiven family,  
we grow in faith through  
Word and Sacrament to  
share the Gospel of  
Jesus Christ.

# WELCOME!

WE ARE HAPPY YOU WERE LED TO WORSHIP WITH US! IF THIS IS YOUR FIRST TIME IN A LUTHERAN CHURCH, WE WANT YOU TO FEEL COMFORTABLE AND "AT HOME" IN OUR WORSHIP SETTING.

The Lord speaks to us through His Word and Sacrament and we respond with joy in song and prayer. This rhythm reflects our rich worship heritage built on the teachings of the Bible placing Jesus Christ at the center of all we do.

Check out the back of this bulletin for information on Bible Classes, upcoming events, how to get involved and more!

**Holy Communion:** CTK practices "close" communion. This expression means that all who receive the Sacrament believe in the Real Presence of Jesus Christ in, with and under the bread and wine, and embrace the teachings of the Lutheran faith according to the Scriptures. If you are not a member of an LCMS congregation, we ask that you please contact one of the pastors prior to receiving the Sacrament. You are welcome to approach the altar with folded arms to receive a blessing.

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Listen to our worship service each Sunday at  
9:00<sub>am</sub> on WHBQ, 560AM.

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Senior Pastor

Rev. Charles Neugebauer  
Pastor Emeritus

Rev. Matthew Lynch  
Associate Pastor

Steven Andrews  
Vicar



THE LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI SYNOD

**AS WE GATHER** It may at times seem insignificant and even unimportant when the light of the Gospel is preached in our hearing and in our world today. How many of us have heard God's voice directly saying, "Follow me?" Those who were baptized as infants have no memory of ever being apart from God or His church. The life of faith in God may just seem normal or even routine to us—nothing out of the ordinary. Still, our sins remind us of the temptation to ignore God. Like the Christians in Corinth, we have sinful pride that causes divisions and quarreling among us. And while that's no different than anywhere else in our world, to be a disciple of Jesus means to be truly different than the world. Repentance means being transformed by love of God and love of neighbor. Today, Jesus truly is saying to you, "Repent" and "Follow Me," even in the ordinary details of life.

## **PRELUDE**

## **WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **✠ PREPARATION ✠**

## **PROCESSIONAL HYMN** "Holy, Holy, Holy" *LSB 507*

**Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!**

**Early in the morning our song shall rise to Thee;**

**Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty!**

**God in three persons, blessed Trinity!**

**Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore Thee,**

**Casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;**

**Cherubim and seraphim falling down before Thee,**

**Which wert and art and evermore shalt be.**

**Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide Thee,**

**Though the eye of sinful man Thy glory may not see,**

**Only Thou art holy; there is none beside Thee,**

**Perfect in pow'r, in love, and purity.**

**Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!**

**All Thy works shall praise Thy name in earth and sky and sea.**

**Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty!**

**God in three persons, blessed Trinity!**

Text: Public domain

## **INVOCATION**

*P: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.*

**C: Amen.**

**OPENING SENTENCES**    *Psalm 43:4; Matthew 4:16*

*P: I will go to the altar of God,*

**C: to God my exceeding joy.**

*P: The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light, . . .*

**C: on them a light has dawned.**

**CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**    *Psalm 22:22*

*P: Today Jesus Christ comes to you with an invitation, saying, “Repent” and “Follow Me.” Let us prepare to receive His Word, leave our sin behind, and follow Him in the power of His forgiveness.*

**C: Lord God, open our ears to hear Your call of salvation and life. Enable us to hear the voice of Your Son, Christ our Lord, that His Word may move us to turn from our ways and our walk without You, and instead follow Him in faith, that we may learn and live in the light of Your love.**

*P: Lord Jesus, “I will tell of Your name to My brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will praise You.” Upon this your confession, I, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to you. And in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.*

**C: Amen.**

**SALUTATION**

*P: The Lord be with you.*

**C: And also with you.**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

*P: Let us pray. Lord God, You call each and every sinner to awaken to their need to turn to You for deliverance from the ravages of sin. By Your powerful Word, draw us by Your grace and mercy to a living faith in Your salvation, Your help, and Your purpose for us, that we may live daily trusting in Your guidance and love; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.*

**C: Amen.**

✠ SERVICE OF THE WORD ✠

**FIRST READING**    *Isaiah 9:1-4    (The light of God’s reign breaks into the world.)*

<sup>1</sup>But there will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations. <sup>2</sup> The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shined. <sup>3</sup>You have multiplied the nation; you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest,

as they are glad when they divide the spoil. <sup>4</sup>For the yoke of his burden, and the staff for his shoulder, the rod of his oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian.

*L: This is the Word of the Lord.*

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**EPISTLE** 1 Corinthians 1:10-18 (*Divisions in the church*)

<sup>10</sup>I appeal to you, brothers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment. <sup>11</sup>For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there is quarreling among you, my brothers. <sup>12</sup>What I mean is that each one of you says, "I follow Paul," or "I follow Apollos," or "I follow Cephas," or "I follow Christ." <sup>13</sup>Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? <sup>14</sup>I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, <sup>15</sup>so that no one may say that you were baptized in my name. <sup>16</sup>(I did baptize also the household of Stephanas. Beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) <sup>17</sup>For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel, and not with words of eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power. <sup>18</sup>For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

*L: This is the Word of the Lord.*

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**HOLY GOSPEL** Matthew 4:12-25 (*Jesus begins calling the first disciples.*)

*P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the fourth chapter.*

**C: Glory to You, O Lord.** (*spoken*)

<sup>12</sup>Now when [Jesus] heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee. <sup>13</sup>And leaving Nazareth he went and lived in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, <sup>14</sup>so that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled: <sup>15</sup>"The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles— <sup>16</sup>the people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light, and for those dwelling in the region and shadow of death, on them a light has dawned." <sup>17</sup>From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." <sup>18</sup>While walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. <sup>19</sup>And he said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men." <sup>20</sup>Immediately they left their nets and followed him. <sup>21</sup>And going on from there he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them. <sup>22</sup>Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him. <sup>23</sup>And he went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. <sup>24</sup>So his

fame spread throughout all Syria, and they brought him all the sick, those afflicted with various diseases and pains, those oppressed by demons, epileptics, and paralytics, and he healed them. <sup>25</sup>And great crowds followed him from Galilee and the Decapolis, and from Jerusalem and Judea, and from beyond the Jordan.

*P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.*

**C: Praise to You, O Christ.** *(spoken)*

## **CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

**HYMN OF THE DAY** ““Come, Follow Me,” the Savior Spake” *LSB 688*

**“Come, follow Me,” the Savior spake,**

**“All in My way abiding;**

**Deny yourselves, the world forsake,**

**Obey My call and guiding.**

**O bear the cross, whate’er betide,**

**Take My example for your guide.**

**“I am the light, I light the way,**

**A godly life displaying;**

**I bid you walk as in the day;**

**I keep your feet from straying.**

**I am the way, and well I show**

**How you must sojourn here below.**

**“My heart abounds in lowliness,**

**My soul with love is glowing;**

**And gracious words My lips express,**

**With meekness overflowing.**

**My heart, My mind, My strength, My all,**

**To God I yield, on Him I call.**

**“I teach you how to shun and flee**

**What harms your soul’s salvation,**

**Your heart from ev’ry guile to free,**

**From sin and its temptation.**

**I am the refuge of the soul**

**And lead you to your heav’nly goal.”**

**Then let us follow Christ, our Lord,**

**And take the cross appointed**

**And, firmly clinging to His Word,**

**In suff’ring be undaunted.**

**For those who bear the battle’s strain**

**The crown of heav’nly life obtain.**

Text: Public domain

## **SERMON**

*“My Lord God, I have no idea where I am going. I do not see the road ahead of me. I cannot know for certain where it will end. Nor do I really know myself, and the fact that I think I am following your will does not mean that I am actually doing so. But I believe that the desire to please you does in fact please you. And I hope I have that desire in all that I am doing. I hope that I will never do anything apart from that desire. And I know that if I do this you will lead me by the right road, though I may know nothing about it. Therefore I will trust you always though I seem to be lost and in the shadow of death. I will not fear, for you are ever with me, and you will never leave me to face my perils alone.”*

Thomas Merton (1915-1968)

## **APOSTLES' CREED**

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life ✠ everlasting. Amen.**

## **PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**    *Matthew 4:16–17, 19*

*After each petition:*

*P: Lord, in Your mercy,*

**C: hear our prayer.**

*P: Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.*

**C: Amen.**

## **OFFERTORY**    *LSB 192 (a capella)*

**Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.**

**Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.**

**Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and uphold me with Thy free spirit.**

## ✠ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT ✠

### **PREFACE**

*P: The Lord be with you. 2 Timothy 4:22*

**C: And also with you.**

*P: Lift up your hearts. Colossians 3:1*

**C: We lift them up to the Lord.**

*P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. Psalm 136*

**C: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

### **PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

*P: Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross. Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.*

**C: Amen.**

### **LORD'S PRAYER** *Matthew 6:9-11*

*P: Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:*

**C: 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 forever and ever. Amen.**

### **THE WORDS OF OUR LORD**

*Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24; Luke 22:19–20; 1 Corinthians 11:23–25*

### **PAX DOMINI**

*P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.*

**C: And also with you.**

**AGNUS DEI** LSB 198 *(a capella)*

**O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world,  
have mercy upon us.**

**O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world,  
have mercy upon us.**

**O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world,  
grant us Thy peace. Amen.**

**DISTRIBUTION**

**“Brightest and Best of the Stars of the Morning”** LSB 400

**Brightest and best of the stars of the morning,  
Dawn on our darkness and lend us thine aid;  
Star of the East, the horizon adorning,  
Guide where our infant Redeemer is laid.**

**Cold on His cradle the dewdrops are shining;  
Low lies His head with the beasts of the stall;  
Angels adore Him in slumber reclining,  
Maker and Monarch and Savior of all.**

**Shall we not yield Him, in costly devotion,  
Fragrance of Edom and off’rings divine,  
Gems of the mountain and pearls of the ocean,  
Myrrh from the forest and gold from the mine?**

**Vainly we offer each ample oblation,  
Vainly with gifts would His favor secure.  
Richer by far is the heart’s adoration;  
Dearer to God are the prayers of the poor.**

**Brightest and best of the stars of the morning,  
Dawn on our darkness and lend us thine aid;  
Star of the East, the horizon adorning,  
Guide where our infant Redeemer is laid.**

Text: Public domain

**POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING**

*P: Let us pray. As You, O Lord, have called us in our ordinary lives to follow You, so  
You have given us extraordinary gifts. To sustain the spirit of true repentance and  
faith You have given, we give You thanks that through ordinary bread and wine You  
continue to give us forgiveness and life through Your very body and blood, once  
shed in atonement on the cross, now risen from death, and forever living  
everywhere among Your faithful people. Glory to You, O Lord, now and forever.*

**C: Amen.**

**BENEDICTION**      *Numbers 6:24–26*

*P: The LORD bless you and keep you.*

*The LORD make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.*

*The LORD lift up His countenance upon you and ~~✠~~ give you peace.*

**C: Amen.**

**RECESSIONAL HYMN**    “From God the Father, Virgin-Born”    *LSB 401*

**From God the Father, virgin-born  
To us the only Son came down;  
By death the font to consecrate,  
The faithful to regenerate.**

**Beginning from His home on high,  
In human flesh He came to die;  
Creation by His death restored,  
And shed new joys of life abroad.**

**Glide on, O glorious Sun, and bring  
The gift of healing on Your wing;  
To ev’ry dull and clouded sense  
The clearness of Your light dispense.**

**Abide with us, O Lord, we pray;  
The gloom of darkness chase away;  
Your work of healing, Lord, begin,  
And take away the stain of sin.**

**Lord, once You came to earth’s domain  
And, we believe, shall come again;  
Be with us on the battlefield,  
From ev’ry harm Your people shield.**

**To You, O Lord, all glory be  
For this Your blest epiphany;  
To God, whom all His hosts adore,  
And Holy Spirit evermore.**

Text: Public domain

**POSTLUDE**

In our prayers this week: Kathie Jenkins, Kim Weidenhamer, John Mewbourn, Margo McKee, Gene Mallett, Noah Rhoden, Floyd Bearly, Mark Lemley, Violet Lakatos, Dylan Bruns, Bruce Forsythe, Jeff & Ellen Strum, Sally Hornish Malmi, Lori Nogueira, Julie Bourie, Stephanie Dublin, Zachary Rakow, Leigh Wilson, Zane Brooks, Tamara Scott, Sarah Gaddie, Liz Kiley, Lisa Chapman & family, Jeff & Cheryl Harrell, Judy Jacquez, Ross & Jackie Butler, Jean & Cliff Gorham, Howard Troyer, Lorna Schmidt, Jan Mathis, Rebekah Andrews, Glenda Wade, Pat Boysen, Debra Huey. Bless and guide our Call Committee.

The Altar flowers this week were given by

Danny & Sharon Reisinger in celebration of our 58th wedding anniversary

**Sign up for a vase of Altar Flowers by going to [bit.ly/CTKAltarFlowers2025](https://bit.ly/CTKAltarFlowers2025) or contact the Church Office and we'll sign you up! Each vase is \$35.**

## Those Who Serve

Proclaimer Rev. Mark Goble  
Liturgist Rev. Matthew Lynch  
Organist Michella Novy  
Elders Billy Kutteh (L), Clayton Bettin  
Greeters Gil & Karen Whitlock  
Ushers Gil Whitlock, Jim Calhoun, Bo Summers, Charlton Gutierrez, Kevin Baskette, Andrew Smith  
Sound Walt Kosman, Murph Ellard, Kim Goble, Peter Cothron, Aaron Winter  
LiveStreaming Tyler Wilkinson

## CALENDAR

**Please check with your ministry leader to confirm whether your class, meeting, or event will be held this week.**

### Today

- The Connect Class will conclude next Sunday, February 1.
- The Potluck has been cancelled. Stay tuned for a new date.

### Monday, January 26

- Andrews Small Group, 7:00<sub>pm</sub>

### Tuesday, January 27

- Men's Bible Study, 7:00<sub>am</sub>, Parlour
- Nehemiahs, 8:00<sub>am</sub>
- Salzgeber Small Group, 7:00<sub>pm</sub>

### Wednesday, January 28

- Adult Bible Study, 10:00<sub>am</sub>, Room 201
- Choir Rehearsal, 6:30<sub>pm</sub>

### Thursday, January 29

- Woodworking Small Group, 7:00<sub>pm</sub>

### Friday, January 30

- Middle School Movie Night, 6:00<sub>pm</sub>

### Saturday, January 31

- Service of Victory & Thanksgiving for Tom Moore, 11:00<sub>am</sub>
- Father/Daughter Dance, 6:00<sub>pm</sub>

## WEEKLY ADULT BIBLE CLASSES

Wednesday Bible Study Pastor Chuck continues his study on the Book of Revelation.

Men's Bible Study A study of St Paul's letter to the congregations continues led by Gary Osing. There is room for you at the table on Tuesday mornings at 7:00am in the Parlour.

\*\*\*\*\*

Rev. Tom Moore, former member, Elder and President of Christ the King, passed away on January 5. We will have a Service of Victory and Thanksgiving for him this Saturday, January 31 at 11:00am. Please keep Norma and all of Tom's family in your prayers and we hope you all will join us as we celebrate his victory in Christ.

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### **VOTERS' Meeting**

There will be a Voters' meeting held on Tuesday, February 10 at 6:00pm. The agenda includes an important vote on a resolution, updates on Church Council activities and a Treasurer's finance report.

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On Sunday, February 8, our Youth & Family Ministry Candidate, Paige Mielke, will be present at the 8:30am service and will be available to say hello to members at a Meet and Greet at 9:45am in the Fellowship Hall. We pray that Paige and her mother Heidi will have a great weekend visiting CTK and the surrounding area. Please check your January-February newsletter (check your email or it is available on the CTK App, under the "More" tab) for more information about Paige and her education and aspirations.

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**Lutheran Witness:** If you would like to continue your subscription or start a new one, please send in your payment of \$15 this week. You may place a check in the Offering plate or pay via the My Vanco app or click “Give” on the website.

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**Stepping Stones**

The Stepping Stones Book Club will meet Sunday, March 15 at 12:15pm in Room 202. We will be reading Half-Broke Horses by Jeanette Walls. This is the true-life story of Ms. Wall’s no-nonsense, resourceful, hard working grandmother. She conquered many skills unusual for her time: driving a car, flying an airplane and running a vast ranch in Arizona. She bristled at prejudice of all kinds and lived an adventurous, brave life. Please join us!

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**CTK SCHOOL**

**We are seeking a part-time teacher** for the following schedule: **Monday–Friday, 8:15am–12:15pm**, teaching these classes:

- Discovery for 4th grade Reading
- 7th Grade History
- 6th Grade History
- 5th & 6th Grade Literature
- 7th Grade PLUS class Literature

If interested, I would love to talk further. Please contact me at [ann.laury@ctkschool.com](mailto:ann.laury@ctkschool.com)

**CHECK OUT THE SCHOOL TABLE** FOR information on ordering Buff City Soap for Valentines Day gifts. This is a fundraiser for our Middle School class trip to the Ark Encounter. You may also order a CTK sweatshirt.

\*\*\*\*\*

Vicar Andrews has begun a weekly video devotion on Luther's Small Catechism. These videos are released each Monday morning, but you can watch anytime during the week on CTK's Facebook page, on CTK's App under the "Sermons and Devotions" tab, or on CTK's YouTube page under the Podcast playlist.

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**Small Group Ministry**

Arlington Saints & Sinners Club - Join us—no dues required, just admit you’re a saint *and* a sinner! Together we’ll dive into the Old Testament, discovering that it’s anything but boring—a wild, grace-filled story pointing to Jesus.

We will also have opportunities to practice your faith and serve your neighbors at Room in the Inn and the Memphis Union Mission. Please join us as we strive to Share the Light of Christ through lives transformed by the Gospel. Next meetings: **January 26 & February 9 at 7:00pm.**

Jim Devan – Woodworking and Nehemiahs  
Woodworking: Meets Thursday nights at 7:00pm in the Nehemiah workshop. Learn, teach, create!

Nehemiahs: Meets every Tuesday, 8:00am. Projects around campus. Devotion with lunch provided.

Billy & Carol Kutteh - "James: Genuine Faith" by Sam Allberry. For more info, contact Billy at [wkutteh4@comcast.net](mailto:wkutteh4@comcast.net). Next meeting: **February 28 at 6:30pm**

Salzgeber Small Group “Church History in Plain Language” by Bruce Shelley. Next meetings: **January 27 & February 24.**

Pastor Matt’s Group for 20’s and 30’s. **Next meeting: February 20 at 6:00pm** (stay tuned for location).



You are cordially invited to the

*Under  
the Sea  
Father Daughter Dance*

JANUARY 31 at 6:00pm

FELLOWSHIP HALL

Sign up in the Rotunda or  
RSVP to Kim at  
[kim.britt@ctkschool.com](mailto:kim.britt@ctkschool.com)