

CHRIST THE KING

For the kingdom of God is... righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit. —Romans 14:17

SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT
DECEMBER 5, 2021 10:30 AM MORNING WORSHIP

Prelude

In our secularized Western society Christmas offers a good occasion to experience [an] illusory happiness that offers a short break in our fear-filled lives. For many, Christmas is no longer the day to celebrate the mystery of the birth of God among us, the God hidden in the wounds of humanity... Instead... there are trees, decorated streets, sweet tunes in the supermarkets, and children saying to their parents: 'I want this and I want that.' The shallow happiness of busy people often fills the place meant to experience the deep, lasting joy of Emmanuel, God-with-us.
— Henri Nouwen, *Lifesigns*

Prayer (Collect) of Preparation:

*Deliver us when we draw near to You, from coldness of heart and wanderings of mind:
Grant that with steadfast thoughts and kindled affections, we may worship You
in Spirit and in Truth. Amen*

Call to Worship

Kris Sachsenmeier

Leader: The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;

Congregation: The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

Leader: For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder,

Congregation: And his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Leader: He did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but made himself nothing.

Congregation: And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.

Leader: Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name,

All: So that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord. — from Isaiah 9; John 1; Phil. 2

Preparation

We focus our hearts and minds in preparation to enter into the life-giving presence of God.

Call to Worship

God calls his people to assemble for worship; accordingly the church calls itself together.

Invocation

God's people sing not only as an expression of our love for God but also to remind ourselves of our place in God's redemptive work.

The church is marked by its singing, from Israel's deliverance through the Psalms to our worship today.

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

Words: Charles Wesley and Mark Hunt;

Music: Rowland H. Prichard

1. Come, thou long - ex - pect - ed Je - sus, born to set thy
2. Joy to those who long to see thee, Day - spring from on
3. Come to earth to taste our sad - ness, he whose glo - ries
4. Born thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a child and

7
peo - ple free; from our fears and sins re - lease us;
high, ap - pear, come, thou prom - ised Rod of Jes - se,
knew no end; by his life he brings us glad - ness,
yet a king, born to reign in us for ev - er,

13
let us find our rest in thee. Is - rael's strength and
of thy birth we long to hear! O'er the hills the
our Re - deem - er, Shep - herd, Friend. Leav - ing rich - es
now thy gra - cious king - dom bring. By thine own e -

19
con - so - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art,
an - gels sing - ing news, glad tid - ings of a birth:
with - out num - ber, born with in a cat - tle stall;
ter - nal Spir - it rule in all our hearts a - lone;

25
dear De - sire of ev - 'ry na - - tion,
"Go to him, your prais - es bring - ing;
this the ev - er - last - ing won - der,
by thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it,

29

joy of ev - - - ry long - ing heart,
 Christ the Lord has come to earth."
 Christ was born the Lord of all,
 raise us to thy thy glo - rious throne.

O Little Town of Bethlehem

Words: Phillips Brooks;
 Music: Lewis H. Redner

1.O lit - tle town of Beth-le-hem, how still we see thee lie; a -
 2.For Christ is born of Mar - y; and gath - ered all a -
 3.How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly, the won - drous gift is giv'n! So
 4.O ho - ly child of Beth-le-hem, de - scend to us, we pray; cast

6

bove thy deep and dream less sleep the si - lent stars go by; yet
 mor - tals sleep, the an - gels keep their watch of won - d'ring love. O
 God im - parts to hu - man hearts the bless - ings of his heav'n. No
 out our sin and en - ter in; be born in us to - day. We

10

in thy dark streets shin - eth the ev - er - last - ing Light; the
 morn - ing stars, to - geth - er pro - claim the ho - ly birth! And
 ear may hear his com - ing, but in this world of sin, where
 hear the Christ - mas an - gels the great glad tid - ings tell; O

14

hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee to - night.
 prais - es sing to God the King, and peace to men on earth.
 meek souls will re - ceive him still, the dear Christ en - ters in.
 come to us, a - bid with us, our Lord Em - man - u - el.

Call to Confession

In God's presence, the evil that mars our lives – corporate and individual – comes to light. Through Jesus Christ, we are safe to be honest about ourselves because we fear no condemnation.

Declaration of Absolution

God declares through his Church that all who repent and believe in Jesus Christ are completely forgiven from all their sins and their guilty consciences cleansed.

Call to Confession

Leader: For thus said the Lord God, the Holy One of Israel, "In repentance and rest you shall be saved; in quietness and in trust shall be your strength."
– *Isaiah 30:15*

Prayer of Confession

All: Gracious God, our sins are too heavy to carry, too real to hide, and too deep to undo. Forgive what our lips tremble to name, what our hearts can no longer bear, and what has become for us a consuming fire of judgment. Set us free from a past that we cannot change; open to us a future in which we can be changed; and grant us grace to grow more and more in your likeness and image, through Jesus Christ, the light of the world. Amen. – from the *Book of Common Worship*

Declaration of Absolution

Leader: There is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death. For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do. By sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. To those who repent and look to Jesus Christ for their salvation, the absolution of sins is effected in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Congregation: Amen.

Leader: Christians, what do you believe?

All: I believe in one God the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible;
And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God;
begotten of his Father before all worlds;
God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God;
begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father;
by whom all things were made;

Who for us and for our salvation came down from heaven,
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary,
and was made man;
And was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered and was buried;
and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures;
And ascended into Heaven, and sits on the right hand of the Father;
And he shall come again with glory, to judge both the quick and the dead;
Whose Kingdom shall have no end;

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, and Giver of Life,
 Who proceeds from the Father and the Son;
 Who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified;
 Who spoke by the prophets;
 And I believe in one holy, catholic, and apostolic Church;
 I acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins;
 And I look for the resurrection of the Dead;
 And the life of the world to come. Amen. — *The Nicene Creed*

Joy Has Dawned

Words and Music: Keith Getty and Stuart Townend

F Gm F/A B^b C Dm Gm7 F/C C

1. Joy has dawned up - on the world, prom - ised from cre - a - tion;
 2. Sounds of won - der fill the sky with the songs of an - gels;
 3. Shep - herds bow be - fore the Lamb, gaz - ing at the glo - ry;
 4. Son of A - dam, Son of heav'n, giv - en as a ran - som

5 F Gm F/A B^b C Dm B^b C F

God's sal - va - tion now un - furled, hope for ev - 'ry na - tion.
 as the might - y Prince of Life shel - ters in a sta - ble.
 gifts of men from dis - tant lands pro - phe - sy the stor - y.
 re - con - cil - ing God and man, Christ our might - y Cham - pion!

9 F/A B^b F/A Gm7 C Dm Gm7 F/C C

Not with fan - fares from a - bove, not with scenes of glo - ry,
 Hands that set each star in place, shaped the earth in dark - ness.
 Gold, a King is born to - day; in - cense, God is with us;
 What a Sav - ior, what a friend, what a glo - rious mys - tery,

13 F Gm F/C B^b C Dm7 Gm7 C F

but a hum - ble gift of love: Je - sus, born of Mar - y.
 Cling now to a moth - er's breast, vul - n'ra - ble and help - less.
 myrrh, his death will make a way, by his blood he'll win us.
 once a babe in Beth - le - hem, now the Lord of his - t'ry.

Offertory

We give back to God our wealth and talents in recognition that they all come from him. These gifts help support the mission and ministries of the church.

Offertory

Let Every Heart

Cary Ratcliff

*Let every heart prepare him room and heav'n and nature sing.
Joy to the world, the Lord is come: let earth receive her King!
While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains repeat the sounding joy,
The Savior reigns, joy to the world, let us our songs employ.*

Sing Emmanuel, sing God is with us. Hallelujah; sing gloria!

*He comes to make his glories known far as the curse is found.
No more let sins and sorrows grow, nor thorns infest the ground.
He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the nations prove
The glories of his righteousness and wonders of his love.*

Doxology

Words: Thomas Ken;
Music: *Geistliche Kirchengesänge*

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here be
low; al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia! Praise him above, ye heav'nly
host, praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost; al-le-lu-ia, al-le-
lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia!

Life Together

We share important announcements and prayer requests for our church community.

Life Together

Prayers of the People

Prayers of the People

We cry out together for grace and mercy in a time of need.

All: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Dismissal of Children and Passing of the Peace

Leader: May the peace of Christ be with you.

Congregation: And also with you!

O Love That Will Not Let Me Go

Words: George Matheson;
Music: Christopher Miner

(Capo IV) B(G) F#(D) E(C) B(G)

1. O Love that will not let me go, I
2. O Light that foll - ow'st all my way, I
3. O Joy that seek - est me through pain, I
4. O Cross that lift - est up my head, I

4 G#m(Em) B(G) E(C) F#(D) B(G) F#(D)

rest my wear - y soul in thee; I give thee back the
yield my flick 'ring torch to thee; my heart re - stores its
can - not close my heart to thee; I trace the rain - bow
dare not ask to fly from thee; I lay in dust life's

7 E(C) B(G) G#m(Em) B(G)

life I owe, that in thine o - cean
bor - rowed ray, that in thy sun - shine's
through the rain, and feel the prom - ise
glo - ry dead, and from the ground there

9 E(C) F#(D) C#m(Am) G#m(Em) F#(D)

depths its flow may rich - er, full - er be.
blaze its day may bright - er, fair - er be.
is not vain, that morn shall tear - less be.
bloss - oms red life that shall end - less be.

Scripture Reading

Reader: This is the word of God for the people of God.

Congregation: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Rev. Clyde Godwin

Passing of the Peace

We remind each other of the peace given us in the gospel – peace first between us and God, leading to reconciled relationships with each other.

Scripture Reading

The public reading of God's Word is integral whenever God's people gather to worship. The first step to faith is listening to his Word.

Sermon

God has ordained the preaching of his Word to illuminate and apply the good news of Jesus Christ to our hearts that would remain dull and hard apart from the operation of his Holy Spirit

Lord's Supper

God meets us not only in hearing the Word, but also in visible, tangible form – uniting us with himself spiritually by faith in Christ.

Servers come forward as liturgy begins.

We ask that those in the balcony come forward first; those seated in the outer pews can then come forward, starting from the back rows; finally, those in the center pews can come forward, starting from the back row.

Grape juice is available in the center of each wine tray and a plate of gluten-free bread on either aisle for those who desire such. Please hold the elements until all can partake together.

Lord's Supper

Invitation

Minister: The Lord be with you.

Congregation: And also with you.

Minister: Lift up your hearts.

Congregation: We lift them up to the Lord.

Minister: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

Congregation: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Minister: Let us proclaim the mystery of faith.

All: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Words of Institution and Distributing of Elements

Prayer for Those Searching for Truth

Lord Jesus, you claim to be the way, the truth, and the life. If what you claim is true, please guide me, teach me, and open to me the reality of who you are. Grant that I might be unafraid of the cost of following you as I consider the reasons for doing so. Give me an understanding of you that is clear, convincing, and that leads to the life you promise. Amen.

Prayer for Those Desiring to Trust in Jesus Christ for the First Time

Lord Jesus, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever before believed. And I know that through you I am more loved & accepted than I ever dared hope. I thank you for paying my debt, bearing my punishment on the cross, and providing forgiveness and new life. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sins and receive you as my Savior and Lord and desire to live a life of loving and serving you. Amen.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen

Words: Traditional English Carol
Music: arr. by Charles W. Douglass

The image shows a musical score for the carol 'God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen'. It features a treble and bass clef with a common time signature. The melody is written in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. The lyrics are written below the notes. The lyrics are: 1. God rest ye mer - ry, gen - tle - men, let noth - ing you dis -
2. From God, our heav'n - ly Fa - ther, a bles - sed an - gel
3. "Fear not, then" said the an - gel, "Let noth - ing you af -
4. Now to the Lord sing prais - es, all you with - in this

Elizabeth Cantrell, Morgan Crago, Ryan Grams, Rachel Thrasher

4

may, re - mem - ber Christ our Sav - ior was born on Christ - mas
came, and un - to cer - tain shep - herds brought ti - dings of the
fright. This day is born a Sav - ior of a pure vir - gin
place, and with true love and broth - er hood each oth - er now em -

8

day to save us all from Sa - tan's pow'r when we were gone a -
same: how that in Beth - le - hem was born the Son of God by
bright, to free all those who trust in him from Sa - tan's pow'r and
brace. This ho - ly tide of Christ - mas doth bring re - deem - ing

12

stray, name, O ti - dings of com - fort and joy, com fort and
might." grace.

16

joy, O ti - dings of com - fort and joy!

Benediction

Minister: For to us a child is born, to us a son is given;
and the government shall be upon his shoulder,
and his name shall be called
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end,
on the throne of David and over his kingdom,
to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness
from this time forth and forevermore.

The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this. — *Isaiah 9:6-7*

All: Amen.

Benediction

We depart with this 'good word' of God's calling upon our lives in the world.

Please join us outside for refreshments immediately following the service, as weather permits.

WELCOME

Welcome visitors! We're glad you could join us online. Please fill out a digital visitor card at ctkcambridge.org/visit so we can get to know you better. Find out more about us by contacting office@ctkcambridge.org. For more information on CTK's response to the coronavirus, visit ctkcambridge.org/coronavirus.

SUNDAYS

ADULT EDUCATION & SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES

Typically, Christ the King offers classes for adults, youth, and children every Sunday morning. Currently, we are offering Adult Education on Zoom, but our children's Sunday school gatherings are on hiatus.

In the Adult education class, we have been pursuing the themes of Micah 6:8 - act justly, love mercy, and walk humbly. During the summer, we went through Michael Card's wonderful study on Heseid (mercy) and Morgan Crago led us through an insightful study of racism in the Presbyterian Church. In our current class, we are using Tim Keller's book *Generous Justice* to pursue what it means to act justly.

FOR FAMILIES

Nursery

- Open during the service for up to 8 registered participants ages 6 months (and sitting) to 3 years, with a waitlist available. The room is behind the sanctuary through the doors on the right.
- Please contact Lara Kastelein (lara@ctkcambridge.org) with questions or to cancel if registered and unable to make it.

Children's Worship

- Children 4–5 years are dismissed from the service prior to the sermon to a class that teaches about worship suited to their age. Parents must escort kids to class in order to check them in and pick them up after the service.
- Class capacity is 10 registered students, with a waitlist available. Parents may sign up children for class when registering for the service.
- Please contact Dana Russell (dana@ctkcambridge.org) with any questions or to cancel if registered and unable to make it.

During the service

- Encourage children to participate in each part of the service. For non-readers, place your arms around your child and point to the words in the bulletin as they are read.
- During the sermon, kids may complete one of the worship activities available at ctkcambridge.org/worship-kids or in the church foyer along with 'Pew Pouches' containing writing and drawing supplies.

During the week

- Reread the Scripture passage. For younger children, read from a storybook Bible or more accessible translation like International Children's Bible (ICB) or NIV available at biblegateway.com.
- Discuss the parts of the service as a family using the worship guide (ctkcambridge.org/worship-kids). Have everyone recall a part of the service that stood out to them.
- Listen to and discuss the songs from the service at ctkcambridge.org/songs. Visit this page to also preview songs to prepare for the upcoming service (songs are updated mid-week).

WAYS TO GET INVOLVED

Christ the King is a multi-congregational church worshipping in Cambridge, Dorchester, and Quincy. We also have sister congregations worshipping in East Boston (in Portuguese), Newton, Hanover, West Roxbury, and Somerville. See ctkboston.org to find out more.

COMMUNITY GROUPS

Now as always, Community groups are central to our life together at CTK as a way to study and pray together and serve each other and our communities. Right now, groups are meeting virtually. Please visit ctkcambridge.org/community-groups for a full listing with contact information.

FELLOWSHIP GROUPS AND MINISTRIES

Men's Fellowship Groups: Church Office (office@ctkcambridge.org)

Women's Ministry: Martha Olson (women@ctkcambridge.org)

Youth Ministry: Ariana Smartt (ariana@ctkcambridge.org)

Vocational Fellowship Groups: Church Office (office@ctkcambridge.org)

College Students can join Reformed University Fellowships

BU: nathan.dicks@ruf.org, serena.jones@ruf.org

Harvard: michael.whitham@ruf.org, catherine.cook@ruf.org

MIT: solomon.kim@ruf.org

Meals Ministry: Erin Ward (meals@ctkcambridge.org)

Overseas Partner Liaison: Morgan Crago (missions@ctkcambridge.org)

ONLINE RESOURCES

Samples of the songs for Sunday's worship service are posted on the website by the Wednesday before the service, along with **the coming Sunday's bulletin and Scripture passage**, at ctkcambridge.org/songs.

For **online giving**, visit ctkcambridge.org/giving.

Sermon recordings and Adult Ed classes can be found on the website at ctkcambridge.org/sermons and ctkcambridge.org/adulteducation, respectively.

For recommended **daily Bible reading plans** selected by pastoral staff, visit ctkcambridge.org/daily-bible-readings.

To sign up for the **CTK Reader**, our weekly e-newsletter, visit ctkcambridge.org/reader.

LIFE TOGETHER

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Registration Reminder: We continue to ask that folks please register to attend on Sunday mornings. Whether you choose distanced or open, registering allows staff to know how many seats of each type we need. **Registering by Friday is most helpful.**

When registering for the service, you may also **register children for either nursery** (ages 6 months through 3 years) **or children's worship** (age 4 and Kindergarten). Space is limited, but wait lists are available.

Celebrate the Advent season at **CTK's Ninth Annual Christmas Concert!** Come join CTK's talented musicians for an evening of festive performances and rousing caroling on **Saturday, December 11 at 6:30p.** Please invite neighbors, co-workers, and other friends! The concert will be in person as well as livestreamed on CTK's YouTube channel. Contact amanda@ctkcambridge.org for more information.

Join us on **Christmas Eve at 6pm with a family-friendly service of Lessons and Carols**, in person or livestreamed. Invite friends and neighbors as we read through the Christmas story Genesis through the Gospels and sing Christmas hymns that celebrate the coming of our Lord. As with Sunday morning services, please register to attend. Also, please note, there is no childcare available during this service, but the upstairs nursery and social hall will be open to children and their parents as needed.

Please note, there will be no Sunday school or Adult Education on Sunday, December 26 or Sunday, January 2.

THIS WEEK AT CTK:

For more details, see ctkcambridge.org/weekly-events, or email office@ctkcambridge.org

Sun, 9a :: **Adult Education** :: Online
ctkcambridge.org/adulteducation

Tue, 7a :: **Morning Prayer** :: Online
ctkcambridge.org/prayer

Thu, 9:30a :: **Women's Morning Bible Study** :: Social Hall
ctkcambridge.org/women

Please contact the following staff members by calling our office at (617) 354-8341 or by email:

Interim Pastor	Rev. Clyde Godwin	cgodwin@ctkcambridge.org
Church Administrator	Laura Bullock	office@ctkcambridge.org
Music Director	Amanda Holley	amanda@ctkcambridge.org
Director of Children's Ministry	Dana Russell	dana@ctkcambridge.org
Nursery Coordinator	Lara Kastelein	lara@ctkcambridge.org
Youth Intern	Ariana Smartt	ariana@ctkcambridge.org

For questions about the CTK Pastoral Search Committee, please visit ctkcambridge.org/psc or email psc@ctkcambridge.org

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