# CHRIST THEKING

So we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. - 1 John 4:16A

# Sunday, January 28, 2018 10:00 am Morning Worship

Prelude Leif Jentoft

The effect of prayer is union with God, and, if someone is with God, he is separated from the enemy. Through prayer we guard our chastity, control our temper and rid ourselves of vanity. It makes us forget injuries, overcomes envy, defeats injustice and makes amends for sin. . . It will refresh you when you are weary and comfort you when you are sorrowful. . . Prayer is the delight of the joyful as well as the solace of the afflicted. –Gregory of Nyssa

To be a Christian without prayer is no more possible than to be alive without breathing.

- Martin Luther

'Doctrines' are the cognitive, theoretical articulation of what we 'understand' when we pray.
- James KA Smith

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

#### Preparation

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



#### Call to Worship

Rev. Rick Downs

Leader: Oh, taste and see that the LORD is good! Blessed is the man who takes refuge in him!

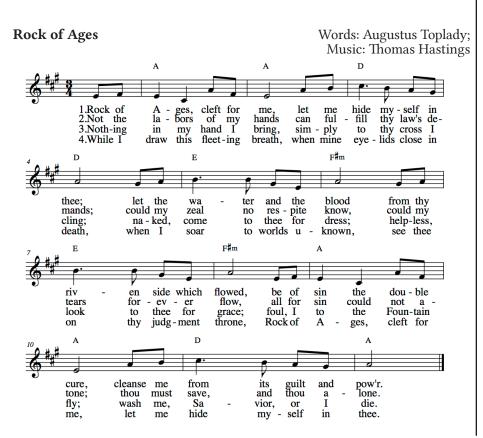
Congregation: Come, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and he who has no money, come, buy and eat!

Leader: Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which does not satisfy? Listen diligently to the LORD, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food.

Congregation: Seek the LORD while he may be found; call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the LORD, that he may have compassion on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

- from Psalm 34:8; Isaiah 55:1-2,6-7

# Invocation



#### Call to Worship

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

#### 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: The proof of God's amazing love is this: While we were sinners, Christ died for us. Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. Trusting in God's faithfulness and compassion, let us confess our sin before God and one another. – based on *Romans 5:8; Hebrews 4:16* 

#### **Prayer of Confession**

All: Almighty God, we are unworthy to come into your presence, because of our many sins. We do not deserve any grace or mercy from you, if you dealt with us as we deserve. We have sinned against you, O Lord, and we have offended you. And yet, O Lord, as we acknowledge our sins and offenses, so also do we acknowledge you to be a merciful God, a loving and favorable Father, to all who turn to you. And so we humbly ask you, for the sake of Christ your son, to show mercy to us, and forgive us all our offenses. Forgive the sins of our youth, and the sins of our old age. By your Spirit, O God, take possession of our hearts, so that, not only the actions of our life, but also the words of our mouths, and the smallest thought of our minds, may be guided and governed by you. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever. Amen.

- from John Knox, Liturgy of 1560

#### **Declaration of Absolution**

Leader: Christ has entered, not into holy places made with hands, which are copies of the true things, but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God on our behalf. Nor was it to offer himself repeatedly, but as it is, he has appeared once for all at the end of the ages to put away sin by the sacrifice of himself. 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: Our help is in the name of the Lord,

Congregation: the Maker of heaven and earth.

Leader: O Lord, open our lips,

Congregation: and our mouths will declare your praise.

Leader: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

Congregation: As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.



Offertory

My Song Is Love Unknown Cara and Jonathan Pardo Samuel Crossman

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. Some of us choose to put an offering in the plate, while others give online or by mail.



Pastoral Prayer

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

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.

# Pastoral Prayer

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.

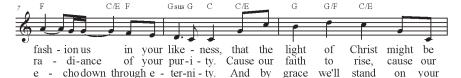
Dismissal of Children and Passing of the Peace



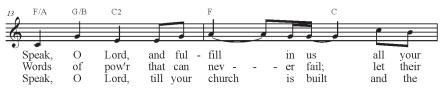
#### Words and Music: Keith Getty and Stuart Townend













# **Scripture Reading**

Mark 11:1-14, 19-25 page 847 in pew Bible

Reader: The grass withers and the flower fades.

Congregation: But the word of our God will stand forever.

Sermon

Rev. Nathan Barczi

Kathryn Mogk

# Scripture Reading

So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ. *Romans 10.17* 

#### 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.

We encourage kids remaining in the service to use the Sermon Worksheet available in the foyer.

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. *Grape juice iš available* in the center of each wine tray and gluten-free bread on the right for those who desire such. Please hold the elements until all can partake together.

#### Lord's Supper

Invitation

Minister: What do you believe about the work of God?

All: We believe that God - who is perfectly merciful and also very just - sent his Son to assume the nature in which the disobedience had been committed, in order to bear in it the punishment of sin by his most bitter passion and death.

Minister: And what do you believe about the work of Jesus Christ?

All: We believe that Jesus Christ presented himself in our name before his Father, to appease his wrath with full satisfaction by offering himself on the tree of the cross and pouring out his precious blood for the cleansing of our sins, as the prophets had predicted.

Minister: Why did he endure all this?

All: He endured all this for the forgiveness of our sins.

Minister: What comfort does this give you?

All: We find all comforts in his wounds and have no need to seek or invent any other means to reconcile ourselves with God than this one and only sacrifice, once made, which renders believers **perfect forever.** – from the Belgic Confession, articles 20-21

Words of Institution

*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.

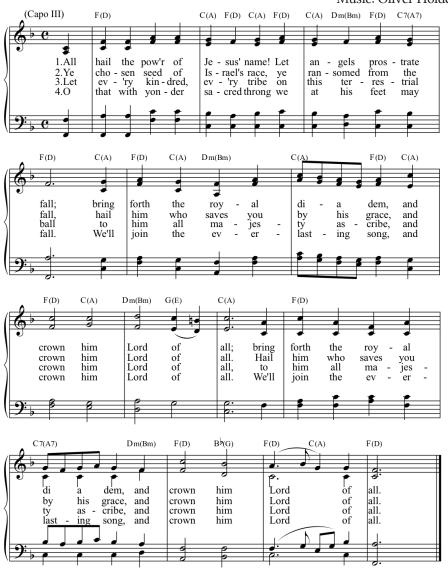
Prayer for Those Desiring to Trust in Jesus Christ for the First Time Lord Jesus, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever before believed. And I know that through you I am more loved & accepted than I ever dared hope. I thank you for paying my debt, bearing my punishment on the cross, and 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

# Deacons' Fund Offering

#### All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name

Words: Edward Perronet and John Rippon; Music: Oliver Holden



# Benediction

#### Benediction

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

# WELCOME

Christ the King is a multi-congregational church with an English-speaking congregation that meets in Cambridge on Sunday mornings (ctkcambridge.org) and a mostly Brazilian congregation meeting in Portuguese in Cambridge on Sunday afternoons, as well as congregations that meet in Dorchester, Newton, Pembroke, Roslindale, Jamaica Plain and Somerville (ctkboston.org).

**Welcome visitors!** Please visit the welcome table in the foyer and fill out a visitor card so we can get to know you better. Also, find out more about us by talking with one of the pastors or our lead greeter, who will be standing in the back of the sanctuary. For more information about Christ the King, contact office@ctkcambridge.org.

# **SUNDAY MORNINGS**

# ADULT EDUCATION & SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES

Every Sunday morning at 8:45am, Christ the King offers classes for adults, youth and children. The topics of these classes reflect the desire of the church to equip its members with a better understanding of God's Word. Adult Education classes are taught in the social hall. Childcare and classes for children through Grade 5 are held downstairs, and Middle/High School meets in the office in the balcony.

Being Human: Following the winter getaway, Nathan Barczi will teach a class developing a biblical and theological understanding of what it means to be human, with application to many of the ethical questions covered in our summer "hot topics" series. We will explore how complex issues of identity, desire, and vocation are drawn together and addressed in the Christian doctrines of the trinity, creation, incarnation, resurrection, the church, and the image of God. The class will run February 11 - April 15. Come with your questions!

# CHILDREN DURING THE SERVICE

Children are always welcome in our service. Parents may opt to bring children to the programs below or to the social hall as needed where audio of the service plays and an area is partitioned for nursing mothers.

Nursery (0–3 years): Our nursery rooms provide safe care and are open throughout the service. Infants and non-walkers are upstairs and our 1's, 2's and 3's rooms are in the basement (exit through the right-side door for all rooms). Please sign your child in on the clipboard outside the room and take a visual pager number card.

**Children's Worship (4 years–Grade 2):** Children are dismissed before the sermon to classes designed to engage God in a manner more suitable to young hearts and minds. Kids begin in room 3 / 4 and are picked up from adjoining rooms.

**Children/Youth (Grade 3 & up):** Our older children attend the entire service, and a worksheet is provided to aid in the instruction during the sermon.

For more information about children's ministry, please see ctkcambridge.org/kids or email dana@ctkcambridge.org.

# **BULLETINS**

Bulletins are available on the church website (http://www.ctkcambridge.org/sermons/) each Thursday before the service, allowing for download for use during the service on a smartphone or tablet.

CTK is a member of Presbyterian Church in America (PCA). Scripture texts are from The Holy Bible, English Standard Version™, ©2001 Crossway Bibles, a division of Good News Publishers, Wheaton, IL 60187, CCLI #912939.

# WAYS TO GET INVOLVED

# CTK READER

Visit ctkcambridge.org/reader to sign up for our weekly CTK Reader (electronic newsletter) with notes from our pastors, church announcements and community classifieds.

# COMMUNITY GROUPS

Community groups are central to our life together at CTK, as we seek to live as followers of Jesus in relationship to one another. We encourage people to join a group near where they live, to gather over a meal and study, pray, and serve one another and our neighborhoods together. All are invited to join a group. To find a group near you, visit www.ctkcambridge.org or email office@ctkcambridge.org.

# Men's and Women's Fellowship Groups

Men's and women's fellowship groups meet throughout the city to provide opportunities for fellowship, discipling, and growing in faith. For a listing of groups, visit www.ctkcambridge.org. If you would like a group started near you, email nathan@ctkcambridge.org (men) or Emily DeBaun Stuntz at emilydebaun@gmail.com (women).

# Women's Ministry

To connect with women in the church and learn about women's events throughout the year, contact hannah@ctkcambridge.org.

# Women's Bible Study

Thursdays, 9:30-11:30am in the church social hall. Childcare provided. The group does not meet the first Thursday of each month. Contact Becky Williams (john.n.becky@gmail.com).

# VOCATIONAL GROUPS

Vocational groups offer times of fellowship and discussion for those in the CTK congregations throughout the city who work in similar fields. Contact nathan@ctkcambridge.org.

# PRAYER MEETINGS

**Morning Prayer:** Tuesdays, 6:30am-8:30am for prayer in the social hall. Coffee and snacks are provided. Please contact office@ctkcambridge.org with questions.

**Missions & Church Planting Prayer:** Periodically there is a time of prayer for the missionaries CTK Cambridge supports and for church planting in Boston. Contact laura.a.martin87@gmail.com.

# College Students

CTK supports Reformed University Fellowship on nearby campuses. Contact our campus ministers at BU: nathan.dicks@ruf.org, Harvard: jeremy.mullen@ruf.org, and MIT: solomon.kim@ruf.org.

# SERVING ON SUNDAYS

Members and regular attenders have the opportunity to serve in a variety of ways on Sunday mornings. To learn more about ways to serve our congregation, please visit ctkcambridge.org/serve-church.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

Want to meet people over a meal? Join CTK member Catherine Cook for Fourth Sunday Eat and Meet TODAY following the service. Please meet in the social hall at the Fourth Sunday Eat and Meet sign, and then the group will head to a local restaurant. All are welcome!

Next Sunday, February 4, there will be no Adult Education classes or Children's Sunday School. Classes will resume Sunday, February 11.

We want to promote a healthy church community this winter and ask that you be sensitive of others when feeling unwell. Parents are asked to adhere to our sick policy (ctkcambridge.org/s/SickPolicy.pdf) when determining whether appropriate for a child to attend nursery or children's classes. Volunteer and teachers are asked to follow these guidelines as well.

A Men's Breakfast will be held in the social hall on Saturday, February 10, from 8-10am. Come expecting to be challenged, ready to pray and fellowship with other men in our church. Please contact rickdowns@ctkcambridge.org if you would like to help out with the meal.

Follow along with a daily Bible reading plan designed to complement the sermon series in Mark. Learn more at www.ctkcambridge.org/daily-bible-readings

Belligerents or Brothers? Faith and Science Examined: Science and religion are locked in eternal conflict - or so we are told. Prof. Ian Hutchinson, professor of nuclear science at MIT, disagrees. In a pair of lectures, Prof. Hutchinson will draw on his own experience as a research scientist and from the history of the relationship between science and religion to demonstrate that, far from being opposed to one another, the knowledge we gain from science and faith may complement and benefit one another. Prof. Hutchinson's second lecture will explore a case study in cooperation between science and theology from his own work addressing the challenges of sustainable energy. This free event will be held on February 17 from 10am to 3pm (lunch is provided), at MIT (Building E51, Room 345), and is sponsored by Boston Fellows and RUF. Space is limited; RSVP at tinyurl.com/science-faith-2018 to reserve your spot! Contact Nathan Barczi (nathan@ctkcambridge.org) with questions.

CTK's Annual Report for 2017 is now available. Read the encouraging news about what God is doing in our city at www.ctkboston.org/2017-report.

We use an **online giving platform** called Church Center Online. It's straightforward to use, is secure, and has more features in development which promise to improve the online giving experience. Try Church Center Online by visiting https://ctkboston.church-centeronline.com/giving. Questions? Email giving@ctkboston.org.

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

Pastor Associate Pastor Church Administrator Director of Children's Ministry Bookkeeper Music Director Rev. Richard Downs Rev. Nathan Barczi Laura Bullock Dana Russell Laura Cheng Amanda Holley

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