CHRIST THEKING

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

Sunday, February 23, 2020 10:00 am Morning Worship

Prelude Ada Carter

...[A] name is infinitely more than a means to distinguish one thing from another. It reveals the very essence of a thing, or rather its essence as God's gift. To name a thing is to manifest the meaning and value God gave it, to know it as coming from God and to know its place and function within the cosmos created by God.

- Alexander Schmemann, For the Life of the World: Sacraments and Orthodoxy

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.

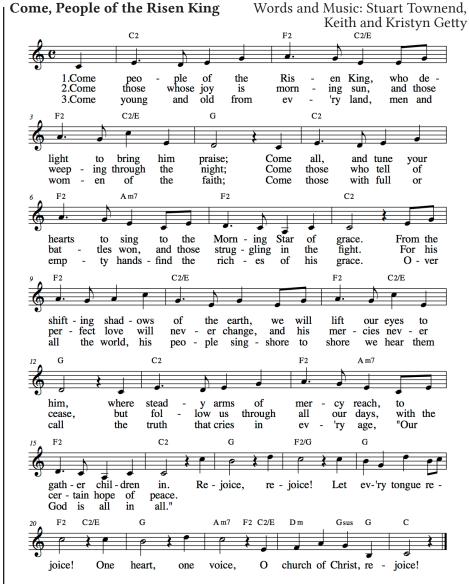
The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this. — Isaiah 9:6-7

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

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

Call to Worship

Nathan Carter

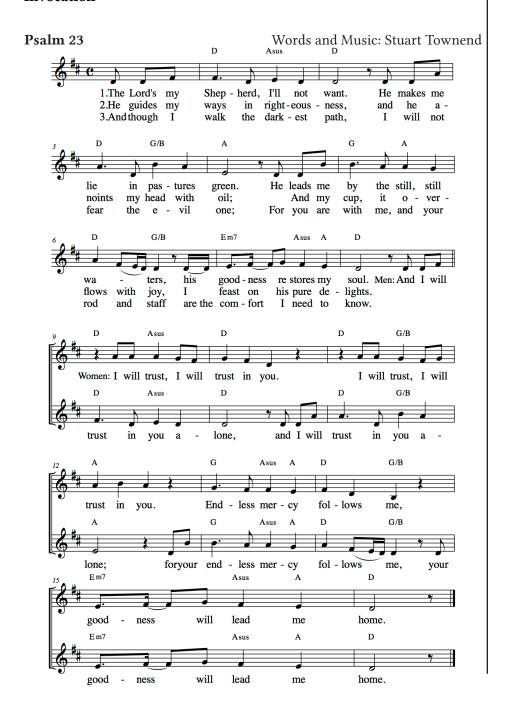
Leader: Seek the Lord while he may be found;

Congregation: Call upon him while he is near;

Leader: Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts;

Congregation: Let him return to the Lord, that he may have compassion on him,

Invocation



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: Lord God, eternal and almighty Father: we acknowledge before your holy majesty that we are poor sinners, conceived and born in guilt and in corruption, prone to do evil, unable of our own power to do good. Because of our sin, we endlessly violate your holy commandments. But, O Lord, with heartfelt sorrow we repent and turn away from all our offenses. We condemn ourselves and our evil ways, with true sorrow asking that your grace will relieve our distress. Have compassion on us, most gracious God, Father of mercies, for the sake of your son Jesus Christ our Lord. And in removing our guilt, also grant us daily increase of the grace of your Holy Spirit, and produce in us the fruits of holiness and of righteousness pleasing in your sight: through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. – from John Calvin, *Geneva Liturgy of 1543*

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: 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.

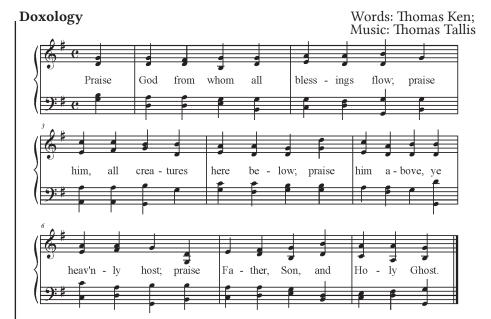


Offertory

Amanda Holley

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.

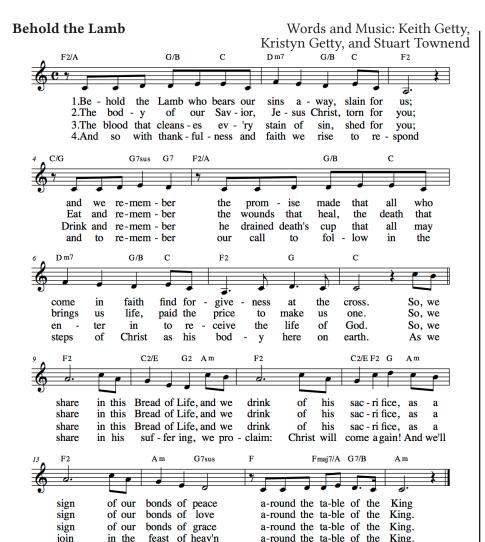
Passing of the Peace

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. We encourage kids remaining in the service to use the Sermon Worksheet available at the front of the sanctuary.

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



Scripture Reading

Ambrose Huang

John 1:35-51 pages 886-7 in pew Bible

Reader: The grass withers and the flower fades,

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

Sermon Rev. Rick Downs

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

Elders are available to pray with anyone who desires it at the front of the sanctuary near either of the hallway exits.

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 *Belgic Confession, Art. 20-21*

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

AJ Fenton, Alecia Augspurg, Bob Sawyer, Celena Huo, Justin Augspurg, Kelly Sawyer, Laura Bullock, Lauren Easton

Elders: Nathan Carter and Rick Downs

Deacons' Fund Offering



Benediction

Benediction

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

WELCOME

Welcome visitors! We're glad you're here. Please fill out a digital visitor card at ctkcambridge.org/visit 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 at the Welcome Table in the back Social Hall, or by contacting 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 are held downstairs, and Middle/High School meets in the office in the balcony.

Being Human: Nathan Barczi is teaching 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. 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. For more information, please see ctkcambridge.org/kids or email dana@ctkcambridge.org.

Nursery (0-3 years): Our nursery rooms provide safe care and are open throughout the service. Infants and 1s are upstairs and 2s and 3s are in the basement (exit through the right-side door for all rooms). Please sign your child in at one of the check-in stations in the infant room or basement and be sure to bring your security tag with you when picking up your child.

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. Please sign-in children then drop off in room 3 & 4; pick-up from adjoining rooms with your parent tag.

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.

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 bit.ly/CTKCambridgeOffering for general offerings and bit.ly/CTKCambridgeDeacons for Deacons' Fund giving. Questions? Email giving@ctkboston.org.

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 with notes from our pastors, church announcements, and community classifieds, visit ctkcambridge.org/reader.

WAYS TO GET INVOLVED

Christ the King is a multi-congregational church worshipping in Cambridge, Dorchester, Jamaica Plain, Wakefield 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

Community groups are central to our life together at CTK, and 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.

MONDAYS

CAMBRIDGE :: NORTH CAMBRIDGE :: 6P Rick & T Downs (cardadowns@gmail.com)

SOMERVILLE :: UNION SQ. :: 7P

Tyler & Amanda Holley (tylerbholley@gmail.com)

TUESDAYS

ALLSTON :: BRIGHTON :: BROOKLINE :: 7:30P James & Sarah Goodman (ssgoodman617@gmail.com)

WEDNESDAYS

SOMERVILLE :: UNION/SPRING HILL :: 6P Nathan & Leann Barczi (nbarczi@gmail.com)

BOSTON :: NORTH END/BEACON HILL :: 7P

Taylor & Audra Wallace (wallacetaylor89@gmail.com)

CAMBRIDGE :: CENTRAL SQ./RIVERSIDE :: 7:30P Mike & Shannon Poor (pcpoor@hotmail.com)

THURSDAYS

CAMBRIDGE :: MIT/KENDALL SQ. :: 6P

Ben Hoover & Jenn Marlow(benhoover34@gmail.com)

THURSDAYS (cont'd)

WATERTOWN:: 6P

Matt & Cat Sherrill (sherrillmatt@hotmail.com)

SOMERVILLE :: PORTER/DAVIS SQ. :: 6:30P

Michael & Anna Whitham (michael.whitham@ruf.org)

SOMERVILLE :: DAVIS/POWDERHOUSE SQ. :: 7P Sam & Steffi Beswick (sam.beswick@auckland.ac.nz)

MALDEN :: 7P

Andy & Emily Stuntz (astuntz@gmail.com)

CAMBRIDGE :: CENTRAL/INMAN SQ. :: 7:30P Susanne van Veluw (susannevanveluw@gmail.com)

FRIDAYS

WATERTOWN :: 1st and 3rd Fridays :: 6:30P Sean & Nicole O'Hern (scohern@gmail.com)

SATURDAYS

LEXINGTON :: 5P

Ricky & Lindsay Hardy (linsrbins@gmail.com)

*Meets every other Saturday

FELLOWSHIP GROUPS AND MINISTRIES

Men's Fellowship Groups: Rev. Rick Downs (rickdowns@ctkcambridge.org)

Women's Ministry: Laura Martin (laura.a.martin87@gmail.com)

Youth Community Group: Dana Russell (dana@ctkcambridge.org)

Vocational Fellowship Groups: Rev. Nathan Barczi (nathan@ctkcambridge.org)

College Students can join Reformed University Fellowships on nearby campuses.

BU: nathan.dicks@ruf.org, Harvard: michael.whitham@ruf.org, or MIT: solomon.kim@ruf.org.

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

Overseas Partner Liaison: Miriam Kreher (mkreher13@gmail.com)

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

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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Discovering CTK is a class for those interested in learning more about our church and denomination (PCA) and what it means to become a member. The next class will be offered on Saturday, February 29, from 9:00 am-3:00 pm. Please email laura@ctkcambridge.org to with any questions or sign up at ctkcambridge.org/discovering-ctk.

Whether you attended the Getaway this year or not, the staff at CTK would love to get your feedback in this survey (bit.ly/GetawaySurvey). We're always looking for ways to improve the weekend and make it as beneficial, accessible, and enjoyable as possible.

Parents, if you feel your child might be ready to join the church as a communing member, please contact Dana for more details on a **communicants**' class starting March 1.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Mon, 2/24, 6p:: Women's Evening Bible Study:: CTK Office ctkcambridge.org/women (Laura Martin, laura.a.martin87@gmail.com)

Fri, 2/28, 5:30p :: Fourth Fridays :: Beat Brew Hall ctkcambridge.org/fourth-fridays (Susanne van Veluw, susannevanveluw@gmail.com)

Fri, 2/28, 7:30p :: Artist Fellowship :: Somerville ctkcambridge.org/artist-fellowship (Aseneth Castaneda, arts@sevenhillschurch.org)

Sat. 2/29, 9a :: Discovering CTK :: Church Office ctkcambridge.org/discovering-ctk (Laura Bullock, laura@ctkcambridge.org)

WEEKLY EVENTS AT CTK:

For more details, see ctkcambridge.org/weekly-events

Tue, 6:30a :: Morning Prayer :: Social Hall (Laura Bullock, laura@ctkcambridge.org)

Wed, 12p :: Men's Fellowship Group :: Harvard Sq. (Mike Poor, pcpoor@hotmail.com)

Thu, 9:30a :: Women's Morning Bible Study :: Social Hall (Kelly Sawyer, bostonkelly@gmail.com)

Fri, 4p :: Theology Reading Group :: The Field Pub (Nathan Barczi, nathan@ctkcambridge.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
Nursery Coordinator
Music Director
Bookkeeper

Rev. Richard Downs Rev. Nathan Barczi Laura Bullock Dana Russell Lara Kastelein Amanda Holley Laura Cheng

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