CHRIST THEKING

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

Sunday, March 8, 2020 10:00 am Morning Worship

Prelude

For at that light, no man can turn aside

— not by consent — to see aught else:
the good, the object of the will and our best guide, is gathered into it,
and nothing could exist apart from it and not be called defective,
for perfection can be sought only where all perfections are installed, in that light...

Eternal light, known to yourself alone, knowing yourself alone, once, twice and thrice, in loving company yet on your own, the self-renewing well of paradise forever! — Dante Alighieri, Paradiso, Canto 33

The Lord willingly and freely reveals himself in his Christ. For in Christ, he offers all happiness in place of our misery, all wealth in place of our neediness; in him he opens to us the heavenly treasures that our whole faith may contemplate his beloved Son, our whole expectation depend upon him, and our whole hope cleave to and rest in him. This, indeed, is that secret and hidden philosophy which cannot be wrested from syllogisms. But they whose eyes God has opened surely learnt it by heart, that in his light they may see light.

- John Calvin, Institutes of the Christian Religion

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

Rev. Nathan Barczi

Leader: Sing to the LORD, all the earth! Tell of his salvation from day to day.

Congregation: Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous works among all the peoples!

Leader: For great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised,

Congregation: And he is to be held in awe above all gods.

Leader: For all the gods of the peoples are idols, but the LORD made the heavens.

All: Splendor and majesty are before him; strength and joy are in his place. -1 Chronicles 16:23-27

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: Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord!
O Lord, hear my voice!
Let your ears be attentive
to the voice of my pleas for mercy!
If you, O Lord, should mark iniquities,
O Lord, who could stand?
But with you there is forgiveness,
that you may be feared. — Psalm 130:1-4

Prayer of Confession

All: Remember your mercy, O Lord, and your steadfast love, for they have been from of old. Remember not the sins of our youth or our transgressions; according to your steadfast love remember us, for the sake of your goodness, O Lord! Good and upright is the Lord; therefore he instructs sinners in the way. For your name's sake, O Lord, pardon our guilt, for it is great. Turn to us and be gracious to us, for we are lonely and afflicted. The troubles of our hearts are enlarged; bring us out of our distresses. Consider our affliction and our trouble, and forgive all our sins. Amen. — Psalm 25:6-8, 11, 16-18

Declaration of Absolution

Leader: Almighty God, our Heavenly Father, has had mercy on us and has given his only Son to die for us and for his sake forgives us all our sins. God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved. Whoever believes in him is not condemned. God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. 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,

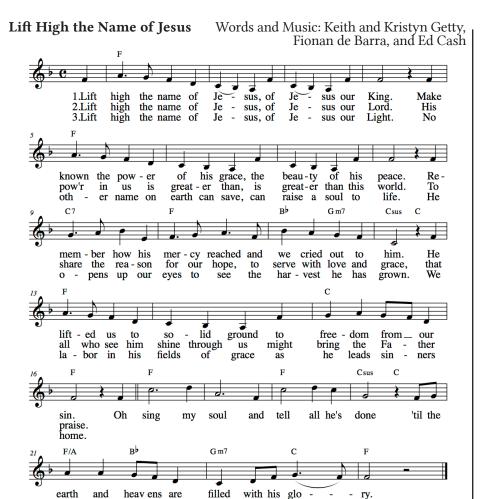
Congregation: the Maker of heaven and earth.

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.

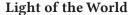
Passing of the Peace

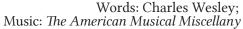
We remind each other of the peace given us in the gospel – peace first between us and God, leading to reconciled relationships with each other. We encourage kids remaining in the service to use the Sermon Worksheet available at the front of the sanctuary.

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

John 8:12-30 page 894 in pew Bible

Reader: This is the word of the Lord. Congregation: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Catherine Cook

Catherine Cook

Rev. Rick Downs

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.

Scripture Reading

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

All: We believe in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but made himself nothing, taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. – from *Philippians 2:5-11*

Words of Institution

Minister: Beloved in the Lord Jesus Christ, the Holy Supper that we are about to celebrate is a feast of remembrance, of communion, and of hope. We come in remembrance that our Lord Jesus Christ was sent of the Father into the world to assume our flesh and blood and to fulfill for us all obedience to the divine law, even to the bitter and shameful death of the cross.

All: By his death, resurrection, and ascension he established a new and everlasting covenant of grace and reconciliation, that we might be accepted of God and never be forsaken by him.

Minister: We come to have communion with this same Christ, who has promised to be with us always, even to the end of the world.

All: In the breaking of the bread he makes himself known to us as the true heavenly bread that strengthens us unto life eternal. In the cup of blessing he comes to us as the vine, in whom we must abide if we are to bear fruit.

Minister: We come in hope, believing that this bread and this cup are a pledge and foretaste of the feast of love of which we shall partake when his kingdom has fully come, when with unveiled face we shall behold him, made like unto him in his glory.

All: Since by his death, resurrection, and ascension, Christ has obtained for us the life-giving Spirit, who unites us all in one body, so we are to receive this supper in true love, mindful of the communion of saints.

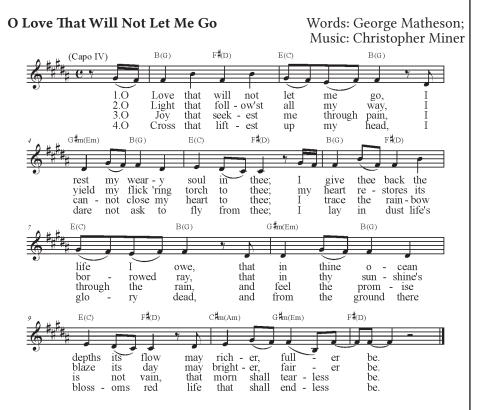
Distributing of Elements

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.

Catherine Cook, Emily Lanois, Lauren Easton, Lucas Lints, Martha Olson, Rick Olson, Ryan Grams, Tyler Holley 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



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:

For daily readings to follow along as we go through this sermon series in John, visit ctkcambridge.org/ daily-bible-readings.

Worship—the heart of faith and the Christian life—changes and transforms us. Children need to worship just as much as adults do. With that in view, Nathan Carter and Dana Russell will be teaching a three-week Adult Education class starting March 22 that will consider the roles of both parents and the congregation in helping children honor and draw near to God.

Calling All Singers! We are putting together a choir to sing selections at the upcoming Good Friday (4/10) and Easter Sunday (4/12) services. The first rehearsal will be Saturday, March 28 at 10:30 am. If you are interested in lending your voice, please contact amanda@ctkcambridge.org.

We're in need of help with the Easter Sunrise Breakfast on Sunday, April 12th, or with preparing the meal on Saturday, April 11th. All food will be purchased by the church. If you are interested in volunteering, please email laura@ctkcambridge.org.

SAVE THE DATE: On Friday, May 8th, Caroline Cobb Smith will be giving a concert at CTK. Many of you will remember Caroline from last year's Getaway. Please put this concert on your calendar and plan to join us!

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Sun, 3/8, 12p :: Second Sunday Eat & Meet :: Social Hall ctkcambridge.org/eat-and-meet (Laura Bullock, laura@ctkcambridge.org)

Mon, 3/9, 6p :: Women's Evening Bible Study :: CTK Office ctkcambridge.org/women (Laura Martin, laura.a.martin87@gmail.com)

Fri, 3/27, 5:30p :: Fourth Fridays :: Beat Brew Hall ctkcambridge.org/fourth-fridays (Susanne van Veluw, susannevanveluw@gmail.com)

Fri, 3/27, 7:30p :: Artist Fellowship :: Somerville ctkcambridge.org/artist-fellowship (Aseneth Castaneda, arts@sevenhillschurch.org)

Sat, 3/28, 8a :: Men's Breakfast :: Social Hall ctkcambridge.org/mens-breakfast (Rick Downs, rickdowns@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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