CHRIST THEKING

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

Fourth Sunday in Lent March 19, 2023 10:30 Am Morning Worship

Prelude

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

Matt Sherrill

Leader: Oh give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever!

Congregation: Let the redeemed of the Lord say so, whom he has redeemed from trouble and gathered in from the lands, from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south.

Leader: Some wandered in desert wastes, finding no way to a city to dwell in; hungry and thirsty, their soul fainted within them.

Congregation: Then they cried to the Lord in their trouble, and he delivered them from their distress.

Leader: He led them by a straight way till they reached a city to dwell in.

All: Let them thank the Lord for his steadfast love, for his wondrous works to the children of men! For he satisfies the longing soul, and the hungry soul he fills with good things. — *Psalm 107:1-9*

Invocation

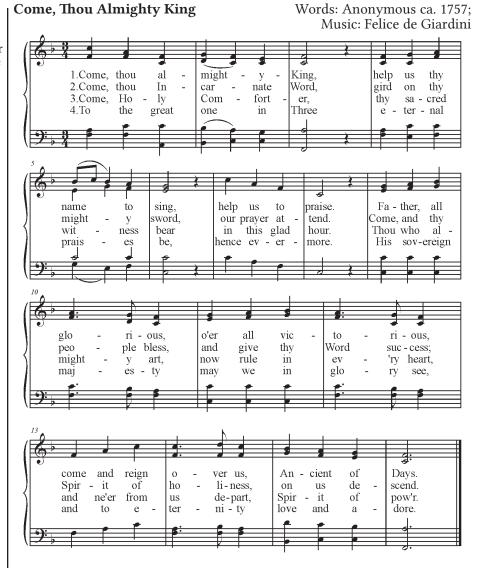
Preparation

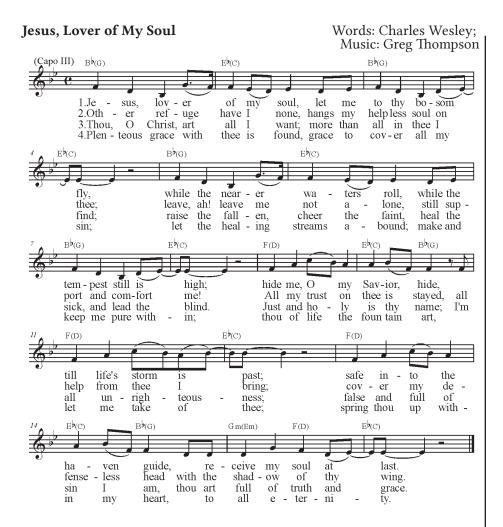
We focus our hearts and minds in preparation to enter into the life-giving presence of God.

Call to Worship God calls his people to

assemble for worship; accordingly the church calls itself together. 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.





Confession of Faith

Leader: How is Christ a priest?

Congregation: As a priest, Christ offered himself up once as a sacrifice for us to satisfy divine justice and to reconcile us to God, and he continually intercedes for us.

Leader: How is Christ a king?

Congregation: As a king, Christ brings us under his power; rules and defends us; and restrains and conquers all his and all our enemies. — Westminster Shorter Catechism, Questions 25-26

Confession of Faith

We join the global and historic church in professing what we believe as Christians, to remind ourselves of the hope we have and the life that hope invites us to live.

Confession of Sin

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.

Assurance of Grace

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.

Confession of Sin

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*

Assurance of Grace

Leader: Now hear this promise of grace and forgiveness from the word of God, from Colossians 1, verses 13 and 19 through 20:

God has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins... For in Christ all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.

To those who repent of their sin and look to Jesus Christ for salvation, the forgiveness of sins is fully yours, by the grace of God the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

Congregation: Amen.

Leader: The Lord is merciful and gracious,

Congregation: slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness.

Leader: Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good,

Congregation: for his steadfast love endures forever.

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

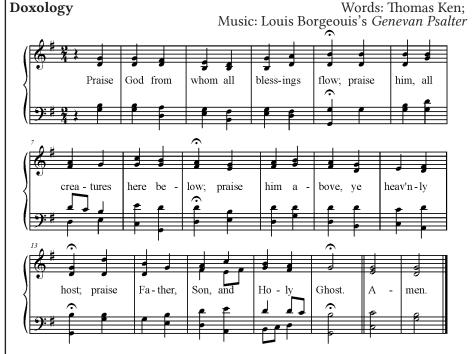
Congregation: As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.



Offertory

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



Prayers of the People

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.

Life Together

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

Prayers of the People

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

Leader: May the peace of Christ be with you.

Congregation: And also with you!

Life Together

Scripture Reading

Luke 15:1-3, 11-20a, *p874 in pew Bible*

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

Congregation: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Rev. Travis Drake

Words: John Newton;

Amazing Grace



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, followed by those on the main floor, starting in the back row.

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

At the end of the service, please dispose of your cup as you exit the sanctuary.

Lord's Supper

Invitation

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.

Partaking of the Elements



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

Please join us in the social hall for refreshments immediately following the service. Please dispose of your communion cups as you exit the sanctuary. Thank you!

Welcome

Welcome visitors! We're glad you could join us. Please fill out a digital visitor card at ctkcambridge. org/visit so we can get to know you better. Find out more by contacting office@ctkcambridge.org.

SUNDAYS

Adult Education & Sunday School Classes

Sunday school classes for Kindergarten through Grade 8 are currently offered Sunday mornings from 9:15a-10:15a. The current Adult Education class is described below:

For the last 3 Sundays before Good Friday, the **Adult Ed class will be looking at the Seven Last Words of the Jesus from the Cross**; looked at theologically, biblically, and devotionally, to prepare for the backward look of the crucifixion of Christ, Good Friday, noon, AD 30 under Pontius Pilate. Come sit at the feet of the cross and reflect on the Savior's love.

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 age 4 thru 2nd grade are dismissed from the service prior to the sermon to classes that teach about worship suited to their age. Parents must escort kids to class in order to check them in.
- Pick up from Children's Worship comes after the sermon, during the song prior to the Lord's Supper. A parent can head to the back foyer outside of the social hall; pick up will take place at the door at the top of the stairwell. Please remember your security tag during pick up.
- Please contact Dana Russell (dana@ctkcambridge.org) with any questions.

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.
- There are 'Pew Pouches' containing writing and drawing supplies in the front foyer of the church, and sermon worksheets available for kids to pick up during the Passing of the Peace to the right of the stage.

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 NIrV 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 pre view songs to prepare for the upcoming service (songs are updated mid-week).

WAYS TO GET INVOLVED

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. Some groups are meeting in person and some are meeting virtually. Please visit ctkcambridge.org/community-groups for a full listing with contact information.

Fellowship Groups and Ministries

Men's Bible Study: Andy Stuntz (astuntz@gmail.com)

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

Youth Ministry: Ariana Smartt (ariana@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:

We will have a Baptism and New Member Reception service on Sunday, April 2nd. If you or someone in to office@ctkcambridge.org as soon as possible.

The Friday morning men's Bible study is starting a new study of 1 and 2 Thessalonians on March 24th, so it's a great time to join in the fun. We meet 6:15-7:15am every Friday here on Zoom for fellowship, reading, reflection, and discussion. No preparation required. Contact Andy (astuntz@gmail.com) with questions.

EMOSEWA (2nd-5th graders): Mark you calendars for a all out hot chocolate party on April 2nd 12:30-2:30. Please join us for fun, games, and new challenges for the springtime! Contact lara@ctkcambridge.org to RSVP and/ or if you have any questions.

For Holy Week this year, we will be participating in a tenebrae service with other Cambridge-area churches. The service will be held at Central Square Church (5 Magazine St., Cambridge), on Good Friday, April 7th at 7:30p.

UPCOMING EVENTS AT CTK:

For more details, see ctkcambridge.org/calendar, or email office@ctkcambridge.org

- your family would like to be baptized, please reach out Fri, Mar 24, 7p :: Middle School Craft Night :: Social Hall ctkcambridge.org/youth
 - Sun, Apr 2, 12:30p :: Emosewa (Grades 2-5) :: Basement ctkcambridge.org/youth
 - Sun, Apr 2, 12:30p :: High School Meet-Up :: After Church ctkcambridge.org/youth
 - Fri, Apr 7, 7:30p :: Good Friday Tennebrae :: Central Sq. ctkcambridge.org/good-friday
 - Sat, Apr 15, 8:30a :: Men's Breakfast :: Social Hall ctkcambridge.org/men

WEEKLY EVENTS AT CTK:

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

- Tue, 7a :: Morning Prayer :: Online ctkcambridge.org/prayer
- Wed, 7p :: Women's PM Bible Study :: Social Hall ctkcambridge.org/women
- Thu, 9:30a :: Women's AM Bible Study :: Social Hall ctkcambridge.org/women
- Fri, 6a :: Men's Morning Bible Study :: Online ctkcambridge.org/men

LINKS

GIVING:



READER:



VISITOR CARD:



Please contact the following staff members by calling our office at (617) 864-5464 or by email:

Senior Pastor Church Administrator Music Director Children's Ministry Director Children's Ministry Coordinator Youth Ministry Intern

Rev. Travis Drake Laura Bullock Amanda Holley Dana Russell Lara Kastelein Ariana Smartt

travis@ctkcambridge.org office@ctkcambridge.org office@ctkcambridge.org dana@ctkcambridge.org lara@ctkcambridge.org ariana@ctkcambridge.org

99 Prospect Street, Cambridge, MA - www.ctkcambridge.org