CHRIST THEKING

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

Sunday, April 26, 2020 10:00 am Morning Worship

Prelude

Left to ourselves, we will pray to some god who speaks what we like hearing, or to the part of God we manage to understand. But what is critical is that we speak to the God who speaks to us, and to everything that he speaks to us... There is a difference between praying to an unknown God whom we hope to discover in our praying, and praying to a known God, revealed through Israel and Jesus Christ, who speaks our language. In the first, we indulge our appetite for religious fulfillment; in the second we practice obedient faith. The first is a lot more fun, the second is a lot more important. What is essential in prayer is not that we learn to express ourselves, but that we learn to answer God. — Eugene Peterson, Answering God

I either know about the God I seek from my own experience and insights, from the meanings which I assign to history or nature – that is, from within myself – or I know about him based on his revelation of his own Word. ... [I]f it is God who says where he will be, then that will truly be a place which at first sight is not agreeable to me, which does not fit so well with me. That place is the cross of Christ. — Dietrich Bonhoeffer, Circulating Letter, 1936

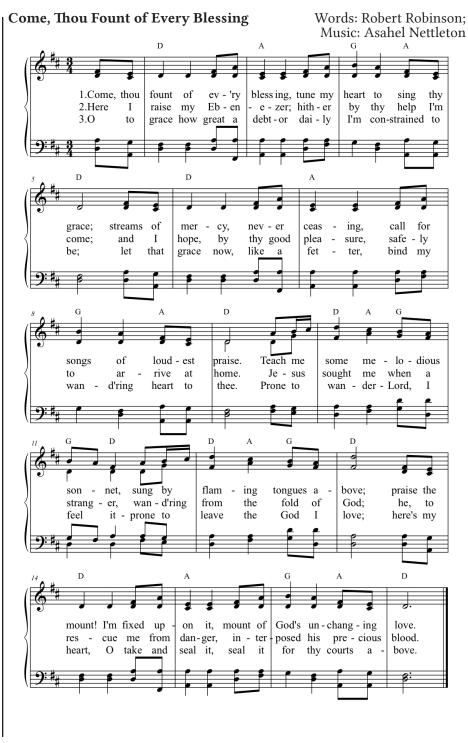
Prayer (Collect) of Preparation:

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

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,

All: And to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. — *Isaiah 55:6*, 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: Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. - Hebrews 4:14-16

Prayer of Confession

All: Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent, for the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen. – from the Book of Common Prayer

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: 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.

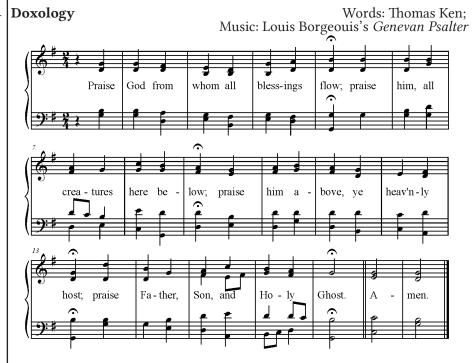
Words and Music: Keith Getty and Stuart Townend



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



Pastoral Prayer

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

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.



Sermon

Galatians 1:11-24

Rev. Rick Downs

Deacons' Fund Offering

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





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 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.

SUNDAY MORNINGS

Adult Education & Sunday School Classes

Typically, Christ the King offers classes for adults, youth, and children every Sunday morning at 8:45am. During this hiatus from public gathering, we will be offering Adult Education online:

Our Only Comfort: A Study of The Heidelberg Catechism. Since its publication in 1563, the Heidelberg Catechism has become one of the most widely circulated books in the world, and it's not hard to see why. Alongside its clear presentation of Christian doctrine, it's truly beloved for its pastoral spirit and its emphasis on the tremendous consolation and encouragement to be found in the gospel. This will be an excellent opportunity to learn and be refreshed - come join the discussion on Zoom! We recommend that you purchase Kevin DeYoung's excellent guide to the Catechism, *The Good News We Almost Forgot*.

FOR FAMILIES

Parents, you might try some of these ideas to help your child(ren) understand and better connect with our worship service.

During the service

- · Encourage children to participate in each part of the service. During the sermon, children might then complete one of the worship activities provided at ctkcambridge.org/worship-kids.
- \cdot For non-readers, place your arms around your child and point to the words in the bulletin as they are read.

After the service / 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 service and sermon as a family using the worship guide (at ctkcambridge.org/worship-kids) to help children understand each part. 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).

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.

For additional communication and socializing during this period of social distancing, **join us on our Slack space**: ctk-cambridge.slack.com. Email office@ctkcambridge.org to join.

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

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, no groups are meeting in person, but many are meeting virtually. Please reach out to the listed contact person for more information.

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

Currently there are no groups meeting in person, but some ministries and groups are still meeting virtually. Please reach out to the listed contact person to learn more.

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)

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

For more information on CTK's response to the coronavirus — both what we are actively doing now and what we are preparing for in the future — visit ctkcambridge.org/coronavirus.

Starting tonight at 8pm, the Adult Education class will be on Our Only Comfort: A Study of The Heidelberg Catechism. Since its publication in 1563, the Heidelberg Catechism has become one of the most widely circulated books in the world, and it's not hard to see why. Alongside its clear presentation of Christian doctrine, it's truly beloved for its pastoral spirit and its emphasis on the tremendous consolation and encouragement to be found in the gospel. This will be an excellent opportunity to learn and be refreshed - come join the discussion! We recommend that you purchase Kevin DeYoung's excellent guide to the Catechism, *The Good News We Almost Forgot.* Please visit our website for details and links.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Mon, 5/4/20, 8p :: Women's Evening Bible Study :: Online ctkcambridge.org/women (Laura Martin, laura.a.martin87@gmail.com)

WEEKLY EVENTS AT CTK:

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

Sun, 8p :: Adult Education :: Online ctkcambridge.org/calendar (Nathan Barczi, nathan@ctkcambridge.org)

Tue, 7a :: Morning Prayer :: Online ctkcambridge.org/prayer (Laura Bullock, laura@ctkcambridge.org)

Wed, 1:30p :: Women's Morning Bible Study :: Online (Kelly Sawyer, bostonkelly@gmail.com)

Fri, 4:30p :: Theology Reading Group :: Online (Nathan Barczi, nathan@ctkcambridge.org)

DAILY PRAYER ONLINE:

Visit ctkboston.org/prayer for more information

Mon, Wed, Fri, 6:30a :: Morning Prayer

Tue, Thu, 8a :: Morning Prayer

Mon thru Fri, 8:30p :: Evening Prayer

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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