CHRIST THEKING

Ascension Sunday May 21, 2023 10:30 am Morning Worship

Preparation

presence of God.

We focus our hearts and minds in preparation to

enter into the life-giving

Prelude

[W]hat does all Scripture more clearly teach than that Christ, as he took our true flesh when he was born of the virgin and suffered in our true flesh when he made satisfaction for us, so also received that same true flesh in his resurrection, and bore it up to heaven? For we have this hope of our resurrection and of our ascension into heaven: that Christ rose again and ascended, and... bore the guarantee of our resurrection with him to heaven. — John Calvin, Institutes

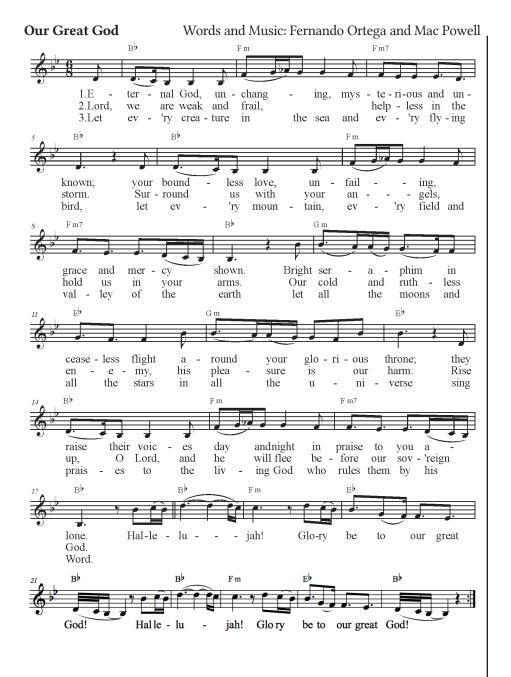
Prayer (Collect) of Preparation: Deliver us when we draw near to You, from coldness of heart and wanderings of mind: Grant that with steadfast thoughts and kindled affections, we may worship You in Spirit and in Truth. Amen

Call to Worship	Matt Sherrill	Call to Worship	
Leader: Our God has ascended with a mighty shout.		God calls his people to assemble for worship;	
		accordingly the church calls itself together.	
Leader: Come, let us sing praise to God together,			
Congregation: For our God is sovereign over all the earth!			
Leader: Come and worship, people of God! Let us celebrate with songs of praise!			
Congregation: For our God—the Most High—is seated throne, Sovereign over all the earth!			
All: Let's worship God together. – based on <i>Psalm</i> 47	7		
Invocation			

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

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 Faith

Leader: What benefits do they that are effectually called [by God] partake of in this life?

Congregation: They that are effectually called do in this life partake of justification, adoption and sanctification, and the several benefits which in this life do either accompany or flow from them.

Leader: What are the benefits which in this life do accompany or flow from justification, adoption and sanctification?

Congregation: The benefits which in this life do accompany or flow from justification, adoption and sanctification, are, assurance of God's love, peace of conscience, joy in the Holy Ghost, increase of grace, and perseverance therein to the end.

- Westminster Shorter Catechism, Questions 32, 36

Confession of Sin

All: Awesome and compassionate God, you have loved us with unfailing, self-giving mercy, but we have not loved you. You constantly call us, but we do not listen. You ask us to love, but we walk away from neighbors in need, wrapped in our own concerns. We condone evil, prejudice, and greed. God of grace, as you come to us in mercy, we repent in spirit and in truth, admit our sin, and gratefully receive your forgiveness through Jesus Christ, our Redeemer. Amen.

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.

Leader: 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: 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.

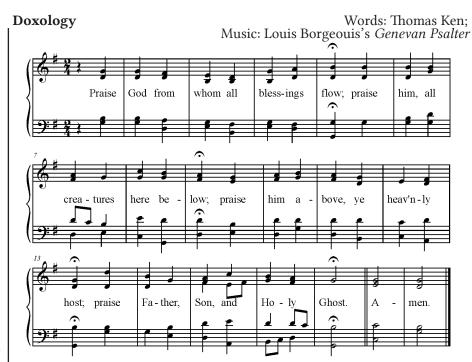
Congregation: As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

Cornerstone	Words and Music: J. Myrin, R. Morgan,
	E. Lijero, E. Mote, and W. Bradbury
E	А
1.My hope is built or 2.When dark-ness veils hi	
3.His oath, his cov - e	
4.When he shall come with	h trum-pet sound, O may I then in
⁴ в Е _	
right - eous-ness. I chang - ing grace. In	dare not trust the sweet-est frame, ev-'ry high and storm-y gale,
whelm-ing flood; when	
him be found; dresse	ed in hs righ - teous - ness a - lone,
	3. 2,4.
but whol-ly trust in Je - my an-chorholds within	sus' Name. the veil.
he then is all my hope	and stay.
fault less to stand be-fore	the throne.
	B E/G# A C#m
Christ a long Corner sto	one, Weak made strong in the Sav - ior's love,
	C#m B E
Through the storm,	He is Lord, Lord of all.
Through the storm,	The is Lord, Lord of all.
Offertory	

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.

Laura Bullock, Morgan Crago, Ryan Grams, Greg Russell



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.

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

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

Matthew 5:3-11, *p809 in pew Bible*

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

Congregation: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Rev. Travis Drake



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

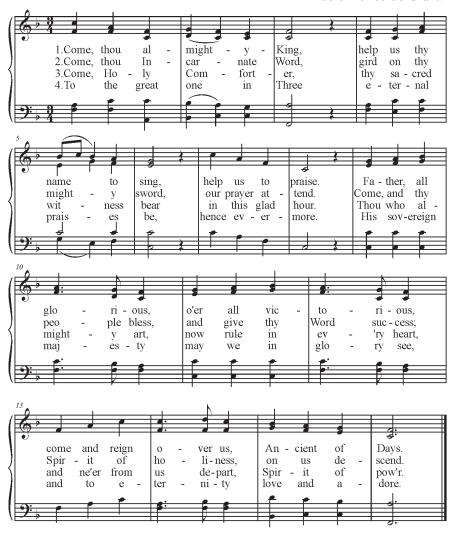
Lord Jesus, you claim to be the way, the truth, and the life. If what you claim is true, please guide me, teach me, and open to me the reality of who you are. Grant that I might be unafraid of the cost of following you as I consider the reasons for doing so. Give me an understanding of you that is clear, 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

Come, Thou Almighty King

Words: Anonymous ca. 1757; Music: Felice de Giardini



Benediction

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 High School are currently offered Sunday mornings from 9:15a-10:15a. The current Adult Education class is described below:

The world needs Hope. The Church needs Hope. You need Hope. NT Wright's exciting book on the resurrection and future hope - *Surprised by Hope*- is being offered in a 6-week video series about the sure hope of the resurrection. Come and be encouraged. Why not bring a friend who needs hope? This will be the last class for the spring before summer break.

For Families

Nursery

• Open during the service for up to 8 registered participants ages 6 months (and sitting) to 3 years. The room is behind the sanctuary through the doors on the right.

• Please contact Lara Kastelein (lara@ctkcambridge.org) with questions.

Children's Worship

- Children 4 years through Grade 2 are dismissed from the service prior to the sermon to classes with teaching suited to their age. Parents must escort kids to class in order to check them in.
- Parents may pick up children during the song after the sermon. Please head to the back foyer (4y-Grade K) and Social Hall (Grades 1 & 2) and be sure to have your security tag with you.
- 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:

Volunteers Needed: Soccer Nights (soccernights.org) is a low-cost summer evening soccer clinic in Central Square that seeks to promote athletic skill, leadership development, and citywide unity in neighborhoods throughout Greater Boston. They are running a program mid-June for 5 evenings in the Cambridge area for grade-school-aged kids and they are looking for volunteers! Anyone can volunteer, even if you don't have prior soccer experience. Deadline for signing up is Sunday, May 21st, 11:59pm. They expect to have 150+ kids, with 50+ volunteers across various churches in the wider Boston area If you're interested in helping out, please contact soccernights1@gmail.com.

Save the Date! Saturday, June 3, 10:30 am-12:00 pm -All women and girls of CTK are cordially invited to gather for fellowship, including a brunch and flower arranging. Sign up using the Perfect Potluck link in the Reader. We'll meet inside the Social Hall. Please bring \$5 to help offset the cost of your flowers and vase. Can't wait to see you all!

New to CTK? **Discovering CTK** is a newcomers 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 take place on Saturday, June 10th in the church social hall. Registration is now open at ctkcambridge.org/discovering-ctk.

UPCOMING EVENTS AT CTK:

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

- Sun, May 21, 12p :: Volunteer Appreciation Day :: Social Hall ctkcambridge.org/calendar
- Sat, Jun 3, 10:30a :: Women's Brunch :: Social Hall ctkcambridge.org/women
- Sun, Jun 4, 12:30p :: EMOSEWA :: Social Hall ctkcambridge.org/calendar
- Sat, Jun 10, 8:30a :: Men's Breakfast :: Social Hall ctkcambridge.org/men
- Sat, Jun 10, 10:30a :: Discovering CTK :: Social Hall ctkcambridge.org/discovering-ctk

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
- Thu, 9:30a :: **Women's AM Bible Study** :: Social Hall ctkcambridge.org/women
- Fri, 6:15a :: **Men's Morning Bible Study** :: Online ctkcambridge.org/men

Links

Giving:



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 dana@ctkcambridge.org lara@ctkcambridge.org ariana@ctkcambridge.org

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