CHRIST THEKING

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

Sunday, July 8, 2018 10:00 am Morning Worship

Prelude

God does not need your good works; your neighbor does. - Martin Luther

Never underestimate the formative power of the family supper table. This vanishing liturgy is a powerful site of formation. Most of the time it will be hard to keep the cathedral in view, especially when dinner is the primary occasion for sibling bickering. Yet even then, members of your little tribe are learning to love their neighbor. And your children are learning something about the faithful promises of a covenant-keeping Lord in the simple routine of that daily promise of dinner together. — James KA Smith

In every moment of time beats the pulse of eternity; every point in space is filled with the omnipresence of God; the finite is supported by the infinite, all becoming is rooted in being.

- Herman Bavinck, Philosophy of Revelation

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

Come, Christians, Join to Sing

Leonard Layne

Words: Christian Bateman;

Leader: Oh, taste and see that the LORD is good! Blessed is the man who takes refuge in him!

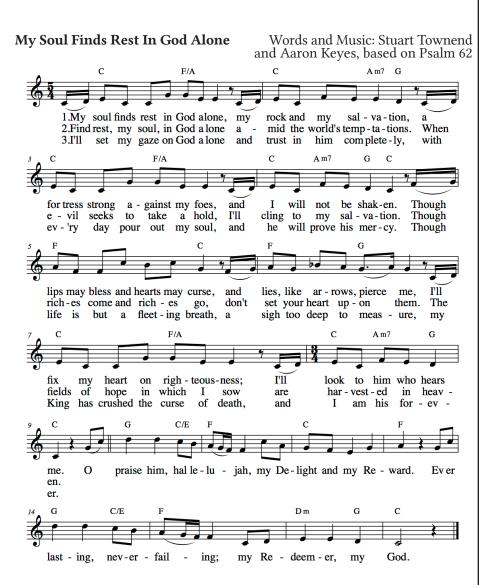
Congregation: Come, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and he who has no money, come, buy and eat!

Leader: Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which does not satisfy? Listen diligently to the LORD, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food.

Congregation: Seek the LORD while he may be found; call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the LORD, that he may have compassion on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

- from *Psalm 34:8*; *Isaiah 55:1-2,6-7*

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: To the Lord our God belong mercy and forgiveness, for we have rebelled against him and have not obeyed the voice of the Lord our God by walking in his laws. — $Daniel\ 9:9-10$

Prayer of Confession

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.

Declaration of Absolution

Leader: The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit. God does not despise a broken and a contrite heart. Jesus said: "Whoever comes to me I will never drive away." The Lord is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations. May the Lord, who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. 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,

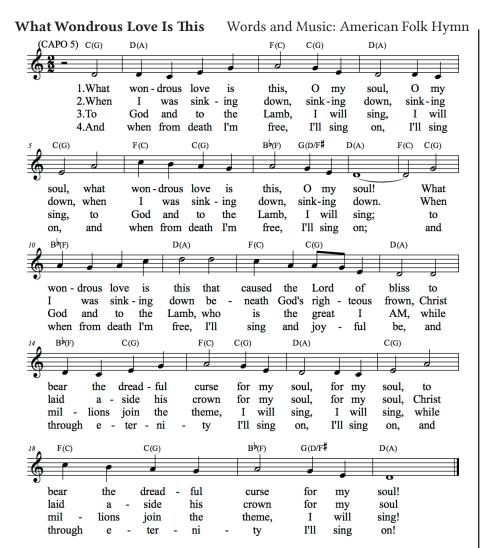
Congregation: slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness.

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.

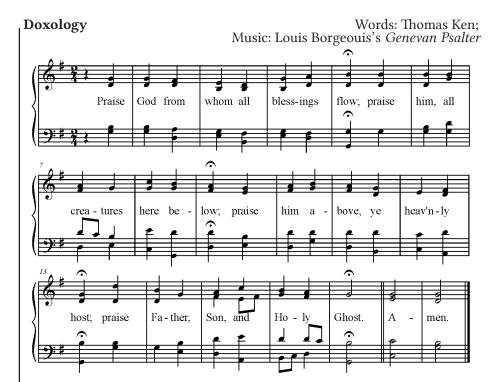


Offertory

Nathan Glenister

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.

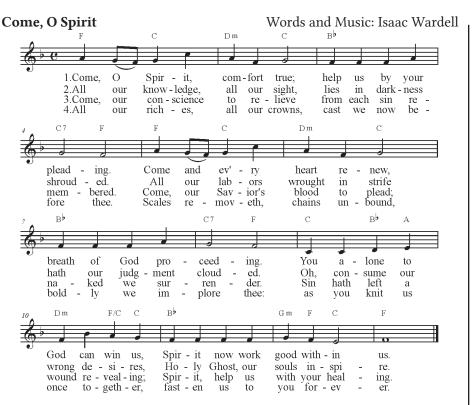
Passing of the Peace

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.

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.

Passing of the Peace



Scripture Reading

Rev. Nathan Barczi

Ephesians 5:17-33 pages 978-979 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

Lord's Supper

Invitation

Minister: Our Savior Jesus Christ has ordained and instituted this Holy Supper to nourish and sustain those who are born again and grafted into his family: his church. Christ has instituted an earthly and visible bread as the sacrament of his body and wine as the sacrament of his blood.

All: Just as truly as we take and hold the sacraments in our hands and eat and drink them in our mouths, by which our life is then sustained, so truly we receive into our souls, for our spiritual life, the true body and true blood of Christ, our only Savior. We receive these by faith, which is the hand and mouth of our souls.

Scripture Reading So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ. Romans 10.17

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. We encourage kids remaining in the service to use the Sermon Worksheet available in the foyer.

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. Minister: What is true faith?

All: True faith – created in me by the Holy Spirit through the gospel – is not only a knowledge and conviction that everything that God reveals in his Word is true, but also a deep-rooted assurance that not only others, but I too, have had my sins forgiven, have been made right with God, and have been granted salvation. These are gifts of sheer grace earned for us by Christ. – Adapted from *Heidelberg Catechism*, *Q&A 21*

Minister: Do you have faith in Jesus Christ?

All: I believe in the Lord Jesus who undertook his office of mediator completely voluntarily. In order to discharge it, he was made under and perfectly fulfilled the law. He endured extremely severe torment in his soul and extremely painful suffering in his body. He was crucified and died. He was buried and remained under the power of death, but his body did not decay. On the third day he arose from the dead with the same body in which he had suffered and with which he also ascended into heaven. There he sits at the right hand of his Father, interceding for believers. He will return to judge men and angels at the end of the world. – adapted from Westminster Confession of Faith VIII.4

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.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

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



Benediction

Benediction

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

WELCOME

Christ the King is a multi-congregational church with an English-speaking congregation that meets in Cambridge on Sunday mornings (ctkcambridge.org) and a mostly Brazilian congregation meeting in Portuguese in Cambridge on Sunday afternoons, as well as congregations that meet in Dorchester, Newton, Pembroke, Roslindale, Jamaica Plain, and Somerville (ctkboston.org).

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 will be standing in the back of the sanctuary. For more information about Christ the King, contact 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 classes are taught in the social hall. Childcare and classes for children through Grade 5 are held downstairs. Youth in grades 6+ are invited to join Adult Ed classes this summer until their class resumes September 9.

Hot Topics in the Church: This summer CTK will be taking a close look at complex social, political, and ethical issues, seeking to apply the wisdom of Scripture to the uncertainties of our lives. The class will be taught by our pastoral staff and members of the church. The topics for the next few weeks are listed below. All are invited; if you have any questions, please email nathan@ctkcambridge.org.

7/15: Homosexuality and the Bible

7/29: Gender and Church Office

7/22: Approaching Transgender 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 about children's ministry, 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 non-walkers are upstairs and our 1's, 2's and 3's rooms 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. *Note, classes do not meet over the summer but resume September 9 with the *I Believe: the Apostles' Creed* curriculum.

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.

BULLETINS

Bulletins are available online (ctkcambridge.org/sermons/) each Thursday before the service, allowing for download for use during the service on a smartphone or tablet.

Online Giving

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

WAYS TO GET INVOLVED

CTK READER

Visit ctkcambridge.org/reader to sign up for our weekly CTK Reader (e-newsletter) with notes from our pastors, church announcements, and community classifieds.

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 together. To find a group near you, visit ctkcambridge.org or email office@ctkcambridge.org.

Prayer Meeting

Morning Prayer meets Tuesdays, 6:30am-8:30am in the social hall. Come for as long as you can. Coffee and snacks are provided. Please contact office@ctkcambridge.org with questions.

FELLOWSHIP GROUPS

Fellowship groups meet throughout the city to provide opportunities for discipling and growing in faith. For a listing of groups, or if you would like a group started near you, visit ctkcambridge.org.

For Men's Fellowship Groups, contact Nathan Barczi (nathan@ctkcambridge.org).

For Women's Fellowship Groups, contact Emily DeBaun Stuntz (emilydebaun@gmail.com).

For **Vocational Fellowship Groups** for people working within similar fields, contact Nathan Barczi (nathan@ctkcambridge.org).

Women's Ministry

To connect with women in the church and learn about women's events throughout the year, contact Laura Martin (laura.a.martin87@gmail.com).

Women's Bible Study

This group is on hiatus for the summer, and will resume in the fall on Thursdays, 9:30-11:30am in the church social hall. Childcare provided. Contact Becky Williams (john.n.becky@gmail.com).

College Students

CTK supports Reformed University Fellowship on nearby campuses. Contact our campus ministers at BU: nathan.dicks@ruf.org, Harvard: jeremy.mullen@ruf.org, and MIT: solomon.kim@ruf.org.

FOURTH FRIDAYS

A monthly gathering on the fourth Friday to connect with friends or make new ones. Events take place at John Harvard's Brewery (33 Dunster St, Cambridge) from 5:30-7:30pm. Contact Susanne van Veluw (susannevanveluw@gmail.com) or Mary Cote (maryruthcote@gmail.com).

SERVING ON SUNDAYS

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

Daily Bible Readings

Follow along with a daily Bible reading plan designed to complement the current sermon series. Learn more at ctkcambridge.org/daily-bible-readings.

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

Samples of the songs for Sunday's worship service are posted on the website by the Wednesday before the service, along with the bulletin and the Scripture passage for the week. This is a great way to prepare for the service, especially for children who will be joining us during the service for the summer rather than being dismissed for Children's Worship. We encourage attenders of all ages to avail themselves of this resource.

Join us for summer ultimate frisbee on Sunday afternoons from 1:30 to 3:00pm in the northwest corner of Cambridge Common in Harvard Square. All ages and experience levels welcome! Sign up for the mailing group at tinyurl.com/ctkfrisbee for updates and more details.

Do you enjoy serving people through hospitality? We're looking for a volunteer to occasionally fill in preparing refreshments in the social hall for after the service. If this is something you'd be willing to help with from time to time, please contact Laura at office@ctkcambridge.org.

Save the Date! The Christ the King congregations will be jointly hosting a Children's Ministry Conference on October 12 & 13 (at our building). This "Established" conference (based on Ps. 78:5-7a) is PCA-sponsored and will provide training and support for those involved in Children's Ministry through a variety of workshops, taught by both visiting and CTK speakers. Parents, children's teachers, and ministry leaders are encouraged to attend. You may visit pcacdm.org/ Established-Boston for more details, but please contact Dana before registering to get a code for discounted CTK pricing.

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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