CHRIST THEKING

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

Twelfth Sunday After Pentecost August 28, 2022 10:30 Am Morning Worship

Prelude

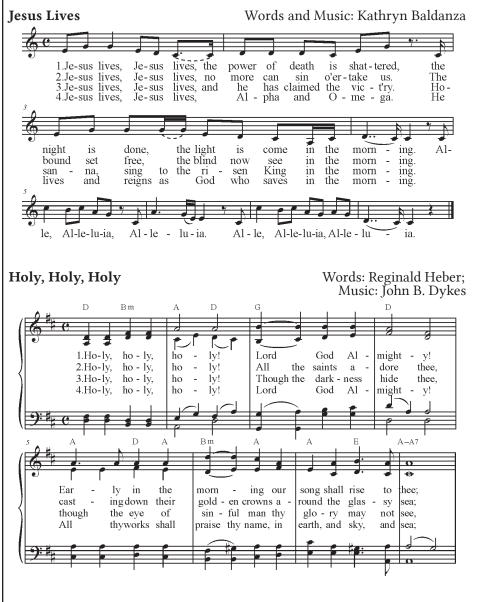
The solemnity and self-importance of tragedy touches upon a very real kind of pain, a suffer- ing that comes in the wake of shattered expectations or hopes But the doctrine of the resur- rection opens up another, still deeper kind of pain: it places all hope and all consolation upon the insane expectation that what is lost will be given back The finality of Christ's death on the cross - which left to itself, could be so soothing to us, in the somber glow of our wisdom and trag- edy's pathos - has been unceremoniously undone, and we are suddenly denied the consolations of pity and reverence, resignation and recognition, and are thrown out upon the turbid seas of boundless hope and boundless hunger. — David Bentley Hart, The Beauty of the Infinite	we focus our nearts and minds in preparation to enter into the life-giving presence of God.
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 WorshipTyler Holley	
Leader: Lift up your heads, O gates!	God calls his people to assemble for worship;
Congregation: And be lifted up, O ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in.	accordingly the church calls itself together.
Leader: Who is this King of glory?	
Congregation: The Lord, strong and mighty, the Lord, mighty in battle!	
Leader: Lift up your heads, O gates!	
Congregation: And lift them up, O ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in.	
Leader: Who is this King of glory?	
All: The Lord of hosts, he is the King of glory! - Psalm 24:1-10	

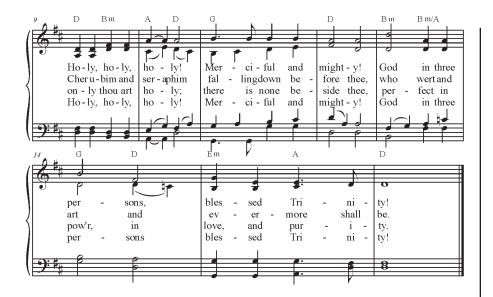
Preparation

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

Minister: What do you believe about the work of God?

All: We believe that God – who is perfectly merciful and also very just – sent his Son to assume the nature in which the disobedience had been committed, in order to bear in it the punishment of sin by his most bitter passion and death.

Minister: And what do you believe about the work of Jesus Christ?

All: We believe that Jesus Christ presented himself in our name before his Father, to appease his wrath with full satisfaction by offering himself on the tree of the cross and pouring out his precious blood for the cleansing of our sins, as the prophets had predicted.

Minister: Why did he endure all this?

All: He endured all this for the forgiveness of our sins.

Minister: What comfort does this give you?

All: We find all comforts in his wounds and have no need to seek or invent any other means to reconcile ourselves with God than this one and only sacrifice, once made, which renders believers perfect forever. – from *Belgic Confession*, *Art. 20-21*

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.

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.

Confession of Sin

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. *– Romans 8:1-5*

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.

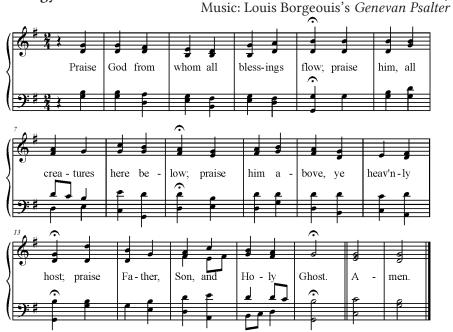


Offertory

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





Words: Thomas Ken;

Prayers of the People
We cry out together forPrayers 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

Deacons' Fund Offering

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

Revelation 1:1-20, p1048 in pew Bible

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

Congregation: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Rev. Nathan Dicks

Of the Father's Love Begotten trans. by John Mason Neale, Henry W. Baker; Music: 12th Century Plainsong, arr. by C. W. Douglas

1.Of the Fa - ther's love be-got - ten, ere the worlds be-gan to be, that birth for - ev - er bless-ed. 2.0 when the Vir - gin, full of grace. 3.0 ve heights of heav'n, a-dore him, an - gel hosts, his prais es sing. thee with God the Fa - ther, 4.Christ, to and, O Ho - ly Ghost, to thee, Al - pha and he is O - me - ga. he the source, the end ing he. by the Ho - ly Ghost con-ceiv - ing, bore the Sa - vior of our race; pow'rs, do - min-ions, bow be - fore him. and ex - tol our God and King; hymn and chant and high thanksgiv_ - ing and un - wea - ried prais - es be: of the things that are, that have been. fu - ture years shall see, and that and the Babe, the world's Re-deem er. first re-vealed his sa - cred face. let no tongue on earth be si lent. ev - 'ry voice in con - cert ring. hon or, glo - ry, and do-min ion, and e - ter - nal vic - to - ry, and more! more ev ev er er more and more! ev er _ ev er ev er more and ev er more! ev er - more and ev er more!

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; those seated in the outer pews can then come forward, starting from the back rows; finally, those in the center pews can come forward, starting from 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

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.

Words of Institution

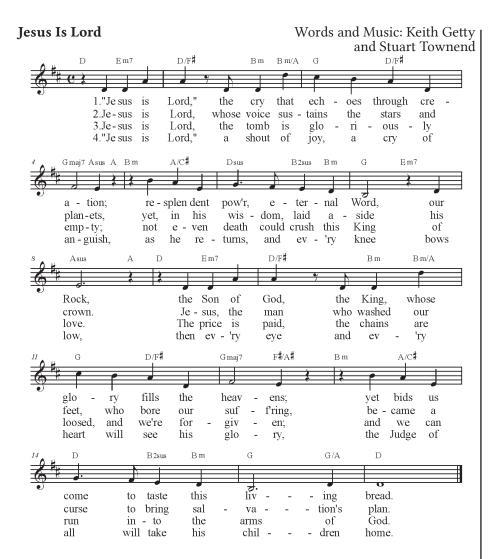
Distributing of Elements

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



Benediction

Benediction

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

Please join us outside for refreshments immediately following the service, as weather permits. 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

Adult Education and Children & Youth Sunday School classes are currently on hiatus for the summer but will resume in person this fall. More details will be provided later on in the summer.

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 a class that teaches 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.
- Class capacity is 12 registered students, with a waitlist available. Parents may sign up children for class when registering for the service.
- Please contact Dana Russell (dana@ctkcambridge.org) with any questions or to cancel if registered and unable to make it.

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 preview 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:

Registration Reminder: We ask that folks please register to attend on Sunday mornings if they would like **distanced seating**, or if they would like to **register children for either nursery** (ages 6 months through 3 years) **or children's worship** (ages 4 through Grade 2). Space is limited, but wait lists are available.

This summer we have begun a **new pick up procedure for children's worship** in order for the children to be in the service for the Lord's Supper and Benediction. After the sermon, there will now be a song before we take the Lord's Supper; during the song one parent can head to the back foyer outside of the social hall on the bathroom side. Pick up will take place at the door at the top of the stairwell. Please remember your security tag during pick up. Drop off will remain at the Passing of the Peace.

Interested in investing in the future generation? **The CTK youth ministry team is in need of volunteers for the next school year**. Some of the ways to get involved include: mentoring, teaching sunday school, and planning/hosting/chaperoning events. Please contact dana@ctkcambridge.org if you are interested.

As of July 31st, the livestream link is available by request only. If you need the link, please email laura@ctkcambridge.org.

UPCOMING EVENTS AT CTK:

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

Sun, Sep 11 3:30p :: Congregational Meeting :: Sanctuary

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

Fri, 6a :: **Men's Morning Bible Study** :: Online ctkcambridge.org/men

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

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