# CHRIST THEKING

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

## TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST OCTOBER 30, 2022 10:30 AM MORNING WORSHIP

#### Prelude

The particularity of this God is startling; the God of Israel aligns himself with specific mortals with individual names who live in identifiable places on the map. They have life stories unique to themselves, by no means always edifying. This God, unlike the gods of the religions, has chosen of his own sovereign free will to elect a discrete group of people simply because he wills to do so. The irreligiousness of this election is that it has nothing to do with any spiritual attainments by the chosen ones. The opposite is true — they are selected, we might say, in spite of themselves... This factor of undeserved election is in view whenever God is called 'the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.' — Fleming Rutledge, The Crucifixion

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

Leader: Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, you who lead Joseph like a flock. You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, shine forth.

Congregation: Restore us, O God of hosts; let your face shine, that we may be saved!

Leader: You brought a vine out of Egypt... You cleared the ground for it; it took deep root and filled the land.

Congregation: The mountains were covered with its shade, the mighty cedars with its branches.

All: Turn again, O God of hosts! Look down from heaven, and see; have regard for this vine! — from Psalm 80

#### 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**

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 Faith**

Stand Up and Bless the Lord

Leader: What is God's providence?

Congregation: God's providence is His completely holy, wise, and powerful preserving and governing every creature and every action.

Leader: What did God's providence specifically do for man whom He created?

Congregation: After the creation God made a covenant with man to give him life, if he perfectly obeyed; God told him not to eat from the tree of knowledge of good and evil or he would die.

— Westminster Shorter Catechism Q. 11 & 12

Words: James Montgomery;



#### 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.

#### **Assurance of Grace**

Leader: Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life. He does not come into judgment, but has passed from death to life. - *John 5:24* 

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.

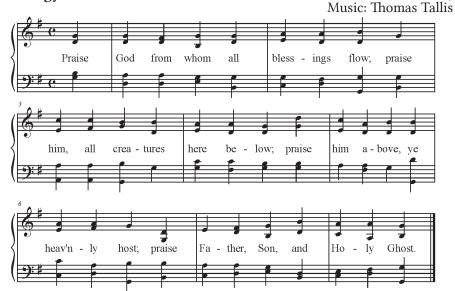


#### Offertory

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

Doxology



Words: Thomas Ken;

## Prayers of the People

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

## 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.

#### 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.

#### 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**

Nehemiah 9:1-38; 10:28-29, p404 in pew Bible

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

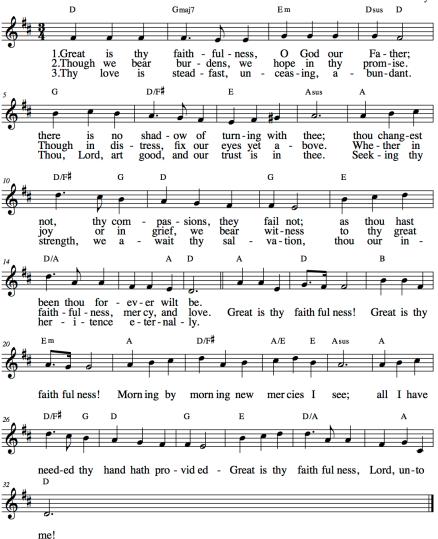
Congregation: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Rev. Travis Drake

## **Great Is Thy Faithfulness**

Words: Thomas O. Chisholm, Laura Bullock, Amanda Holley; Music: William M. Runyan



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

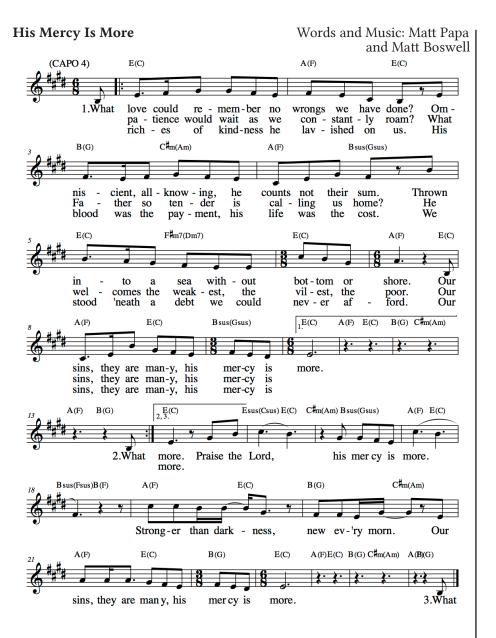
Distributing of Elements

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**

#### 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. 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. High School Sunday school as well as Adult Education will begin later in the Fall.

Our sermon series in Nehemiah has been calling us back to community. One way to answer that call could be in attending the **new Adult Education class**, **starting on October 16th** in the social hall at 9:15a. Leonard Layne will be teaching a 6-week class on *Life Together* by Dietrich Bonhoeffer, facilitating discussions on how God is at work and how we rebuild in our life together.

#### 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.

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.

## LIFE TOGETHER

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

All **kids in 3rd-5th grade**, we will be having a ice cream party gathering today right after church in the fellowship hall. Please join us for some lunch snacks, ice cream bar, and games from 12:30-2pm. We hope you can join us, please email lara@ctkcambridge.org to let us know if you are coming or if you have any questions.

This August, we sent three of our high school seniors off to college. As a congregation, we'll be sending cards to them as an encouragement during their first midterms. Ariana will be putting the cards and pens in the social hall if anyone would like to sign them or leave a brief note letting them know we're thinking of and praying for them. This is the last Sunday before we'll be mailing the cards.

Calling All Singers! We are putting together an a cappella choir to sing several Advent selections during the service on Sunday, December 4. The first rehearsal will take place on Saturday morning, November 5, in the sanctuary. If you are interested in lending your voice, please email amanda@ctkcambridge.org.

Are you a singer or instrumentalist who loves Christmas music? CTK's music ministry is currently putting together selections for our **tenth annual Christmas Concert**, and we are looking for new participants! The event will take place the evening of Saturday, December 10. Please contact amanda@ctkcambridge. org if you'd like to learn more.

## **UPCOMING EVENTS AT CTK:**

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

Sun, Oct 30, 12:30p :: **3rd-5th Grade Ice Cream Party** ctkcambridge.org/calendar

Sun, Nov 6, 2:30p :: Middle School Rock Climbing ctkcambridge.org/youth

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