# CHRIST THEKING

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

## Sunday, December 2, 2018 10:00 am Morning Worship

**Prelude** 

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming CTK A Cappella Choir Arr. J. Washburn

Preparation

We focus our hearts and minds in preparation to enter into the life-giving presence of God.

Until the day when God shall deign to reveal the future to man, all human wisdom is summed up in these two words, 'Wait and hope'. - Alexandre Dumas, The Count of Monte Cristo

A prison cell, in which one waits, hopes... and is completely dependent on the fact that the door of freedom has to be opened from the outside, is not a bad picture of Advent.

- Dietrich Bonhoeffer, Letters from Prison

Come Thou long-expected Jesus Born to set Thy people free; From our fears and sins release us, Let us find our rest in Thee. - Charles Wesley

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

God calls his people to assemble for worship; accordingly the church calls itself together.

## | Call to Worship

Rev. Nathan Dicks

Leader: The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;

Congregation: Those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shone.

Leader: In Christ was life, and the life was the light of men.

Congregation: The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

Leader: For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder,

Congregation: And his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor...

Leader: Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world?

Congregation: Christ has become to us wisdom from God, righteousness and sanctification and redemption.

Leader: Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord!

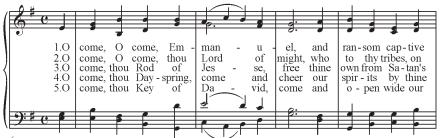
Congregation: Give glory to the only wise God forevermore through Jesus Christ! – from *Isaiah 9:2,6; John 1:4,9; 1 Cor. 1:20,30-31; Romans 16:27* 

#### **Invocation**

## O Come, O Come Emmanuel

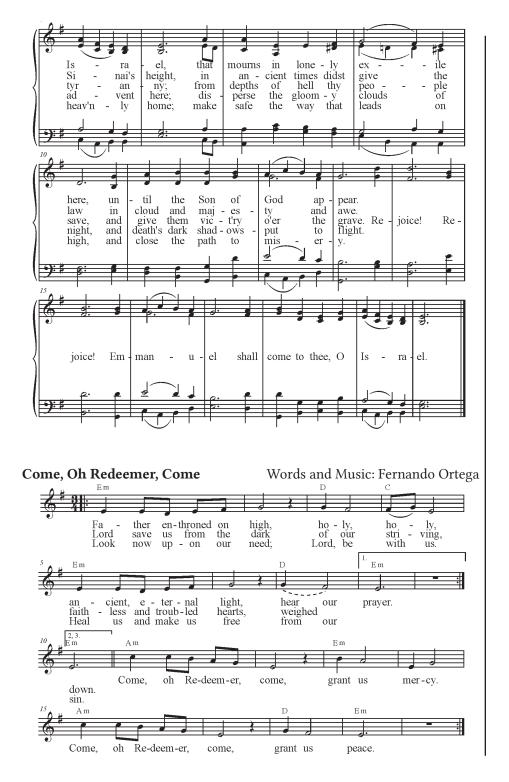
Words: Latin hymn, trans. by John Mason Neale;

Music: 13th Century Plainsong, arr. by Thomas Helmore



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 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: "Come now, let us reason together," says the Lord: "though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall become like wool." — *Isaiah 1:18* 

## **Prayer of Confession**

All: Eternal God, in whom we live and move and have our being, whose face is hidden from us by our sins, and whose mercy we forget in the blindness of our hearts: cleanse us from all our offenses, and deliver us from proud thoughts and vain desires, that with reverent and humble hearts we may draw near to you, confessing our faults, confiding in your grace, and finding in you our refuge and strength; through Jesus Christ your Son. Amen. – from the *Book of Common Worship* 

#### **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: 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

O Little Town of Bethlehem CTK A Cappella Choir

Arr. D. Warland

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.

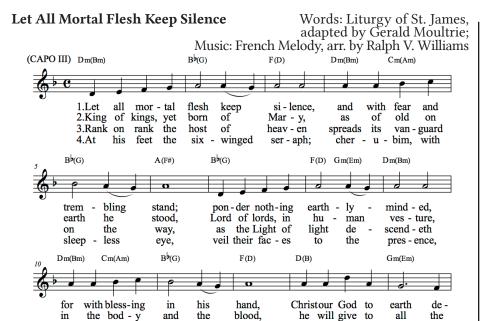
## Pastoral Prayer

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.

**Lighting of the Advent Wreath** 

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. Dismissal of Children and Passing of the Peace





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**Scripture Reading** 

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Reader: The grass withers and the flower fades.

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Congregation: But the word of our God will stand forever.

**Sermon** Rev. Nathan Barczi

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**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.

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.

## Lord's Supper

Invitation

All: We believe in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but made himself nothing, taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. – from *Philippians 2:5-11* 

Words of Institution

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.

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.

## WELCOME

**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, or by contacting 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 Education classes are taught in the social hall. Childcare and classes for children through Grade 5 are held downstairs, and Middle/High School meets in the office in the balcony.

Join us for the current Adult Ed class: **What is Covenant Theology?** Covenants hold the Bible together and help us interpret it more clearly, and the implications of a covenantal approach reach deep into our theology and life as a church. Taught by Jeremy Mullen, Nathan Barczi, and Kelly Sawyer.

## 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, 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 1s, 2s and 3s 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. Kids begin in room 3 / 4 and are picked up from adjoining rooms.

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.

## Online Resources

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

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.

Follow along with a daily Bible reading plan designed to complement the current sermon series. Learn more at 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.

# WAYS TO GET INVOLVED

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).

## 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.

#### MONDAYS

SOMERVILLE :: PORTER/DAVIS SQ. :: 6:30P Jeremy & Adrienne Mullen (jmullen79@gmail.com)

SOMERVILLE:: UNION SQ.:: 7P

Tyler & Amanda Holley (tylerbholley@gmail.com)

#### **TUESDAYS**

ALLSTON :: BRIGHTON :: BROOKLINE :: 7:30P James & Sarah Goodman (sarahgoodma@gmail.com)

#### WEDNESDAYS

WATERTOWN :: 6:30P

Matt & Cat Sherrill (sherrillmatt@hotmail.com)

BOSTON:: NORTH END/BEACON HILL:: 7P

Taylor & Audra Wallace (wallacetaylor89@gmail.com)

SOMERVILLE :: UNION SQ. :: 7P

Nathan & Leann Barczi (nbarczi@gmail.com)

CAMBRIDGE :: CENTRAL/INMAN SQ. :: 7:30P

Alex & Megan MacKay (ajmack@gmail.com)

#### WEDNESDAYS (cont'd)

CAMBRIDGE :: CENTRAL SQ./RIVERSIDE :: 7:30P Mike & Shannon Poor (pcpoor@hotmail.com)

SOMERVILLE :: PORTER/DAVIS SQ. :: 7:30P Bob & Kelly Sawyer (sawyer66@gmail.com)

#### THURSDAYS

CAMBRIDGE :: MIT/KENDALL SQ. :: 6P

Nathan & Sarah Brown

(nathan.collin.brown@gmail.com)

SOMERVILLE :: POWDERHOUSE SQ. :: 7P Andy & Emily Stuntz (astuntz@gmail.com)

CAMBRIDGE :: HARVARD SQ. :: 7:30P

Trey & Hannah Nation (trey.nation@gmail.com)

#### **FRIDAYS**

WATERTOWN :: 1st and 3rd Fridays :: 6:30P Sean & Nicole O'Hern (scohern@gmail.com)

#### **SATURDAYS**

BELMONT :: LEXINGTON :: NEWTON :: 5P Ricky & Lindsay Hardy (linsrbins@gmail.com) \*Meets every other Saturday, rotating location

## FELLOWSHIP GROUPS AND MINISTRIES

 $\label{lem:mension} \begin{tabular}{ll} Men's Fellowship Groups meet throughout the city to provide opportunities for discipling and growing in faith. Contact rickdowns@ctkcambridge.org. \end{tabular}$ 

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

A Youth Community Group meets monthly at the church. Please contact dana@ctkcambridge.org.

**Vocational Fellowship Groups** are available for people working within similar fields. For more information, contact nathan@ctkcambridge.org.

College Students can meet with Reformed University Fellowships on nearby campuses. Email our campus ministers at BU: nathan.dicks@ruf.org, Harvard: jeremy.mullen@ruf.org, and MIT: solomon.kim@ruf.org.

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

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:**

Nominations for CTK Officers are now being received. If you are a member of CTK and want to nominate someone for elder, deacon, or deacon assistant, please follow these steps:

- 1. Read 1 Timothy 3:1-13 and Titus 1:5-9 for biblical qualifications.
- 2. Approach your nominee and ask that you pray together for wisdom.
- 3. With the approval of the nominee, please submit the nomination via office@ctkcambridge.org.

CTK's audio/visual ministry is looking for volunteers to run the projector and/or sound board during Sunday services. Volunteers serve once every 4-6 weeks, and training is available. If you are interested, please contact amanda@ctkcambridge.org.

All kids ages 5 and up are invited to sing in a children's choir for the Christmas Eve Lessons and Carols service. Brief rehearsals will take place after the service on Sundays, 12/9, 12/16, and 12/23. If interested, contact amanda@ctkcambridge.org for more information.

The CTK Snow Team is an elite crew of volunteers who receive emails about opportunities to serve our city by shoveling or snowblowing the sidewalks in front of the church. No prior experience required, just a willingness to receive emails and help out as your schedule permits. If this sounds exciting to you, and you think you should be receiving these emails, please contact laura@ctkcambridge.org.

## **UPCOMING EVENTS:**

Sat, 12/8, 6:30p :: Annual Christmas Concert :: Sanctuary ctkcambridge.org/calendar/christmas-concert-2018 (Amanda Holley, amanda@ctkcambridge.org)

Sat, 12/15, 10a :: Women's Christmas Brunch :: Social Hall ctkcambridge.org/christmas-brunch-2018 (Meredith Wyse, meredithkwyse@gmail.com)

Sat, 12/15, 5:30p :: Youth Community Group :: Social Hall ctkcambridge.org/youth-community-group (T.I. Atkins, thomas.ira.atkins@gmail.com)

Mon, 12/24, 6p :: Lessons and Carols Service :: Sanctuary ctkcambridge.org/lessons-and-carols (Laura Bullock, laura@ctkcambridge.org)

#### **SAVE THE DATE:**

2/1-2/3/2019 :: CTK Getaway :: Camp Brookwoods ctkcambridge.org/getaway-2019 (Laura Bullock, laura@ctkcambridge.org)

## WEEKLY EVENTS AT CTK:

 $For \ more \ details, \ see \ ctk cambridge.org/weekly-events$ 

Monday, 6:30p :: ESL Classes :: Church Basement (Mary Cote, maryruthcote@gmail.com)

Tuesday, 6:30a :: Morning Prayer :: Social Hall (Laura Bullock, laura@ctkcambridge.org)

Thursday, 9:30a :: Women's Bible Study :: Social Hall (Kelly Sawyer, bostonkelly@gmail.com)

Friday, 12p :: Men's Fellowship Group :: Harvard Sq. (John Williams, john.n.becky@gmail.com)

Friday, 4p :: Theology Reading Group :: The Field Pub (Nathan Barczi, nathan@ctkcambridge.org)

## 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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