

CHRIST THE KING

For the kingdom of God is... righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit. —Romans 14:17

THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT
DECEMBER 12, 2021 10:30 AM MORNING WORSHIP

Prelude

*Veiled in darkness Judah lay, waiting for the promised day,
While across the shadowy night streamed a flood of glorious light,
Heavenly voices chanting then,
'Peace on earth, peace on earth, goodwill, goodwill to men.'*

— Douglas L. Rights, *Veiled in Darkness Judah Lay*

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

Tyler Holley

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

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, Mighty God, Everlasting Father...

Leader: Christ has come from the Father and has come into the world,

Congregation: Now he has left the world and gone to the Father – having overcome the world.

All: Praise the Alpha and the Omega, the first and last, the beginning and the end, who is and who was and who is to come!

— from *Isaiah 9:2,6; John 1:9; 16:28,33; Revelation 1:8; 22:13*

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.

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.

Angels From the Realms of Glory

Words: James Montgomery;
Music: Henry Smart

1. An - gels, from the realms of glo - ry, wing your flight o'er
2. Shep - herds in the fields a - bid - ing, watch - ing o'er your
3. Sa - ges, leave your con - templa - tions, bright - er vi - sions
4. All cre - a - tion, join in prais - ing God the Fa - ther,

4
all the earth; ye who sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry,
flocks by night, God with man is now re - sid - ing,
beam a - far, seek the great De - sire of na - tions;
Spir - it, Son; ev - er - more your voic - es rais - ing

7
now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth: Come and wor - ship,
yon - der shines the in - fant Light:
ye have seen his na - tal star:
to th'e - ter - nal Three in One:

10
come and wor - ship, wor - ship Christ, the new - born King.

Angels We Have Heard On High

Traditional French Carol

1. An - gels we have heard on high, sweet - ly sing - ing o'er the plains,
2. Shep herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro - long?
3. Come to Beth - le - hem and see him whose birth the an - gels sing,

and the mountains in re - ply ech - o back their joy - ous strains.
What the glad some tid - ings be, which in - spire your heav'n - ly song?
come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ the Lord, the new - born King.

Glo - - - - - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o,

glo - - - - - ri - a in ex - cel sis De - o.

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.

Call to Confession

Leader: Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord!

O Lord, hear my voice!

Let your ears be attentive

to the voice of my pleas for mercy!

If you, O Lord, should mark iniquities,

O Lord, who could stand?

But with you there is forgiveness,

that you may be feared. — *Psalm 130:1-4*

Prayer of Confession

All: Almighty God, who freely pardons all who repent and turn to Him, now fulfill in every contrite heart the promise of redeeming grace; forgiving all our sins, and cleansing us from an evil conscience; through the perfect sacrifice of Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

— from the *Book of Common Prayer*

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.

Declaration of Absolution

Leader: Christ has entered, not into holy places made with hands, which are copies of the true things, but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God on our behalf. Nor was it to offer himself repeatedly, but as it is, he has appeared once for all at the end of the ages to put away sin by the sacrifice of himself. 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: Christians, what do you believe?

**All: I believe in one God the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible;
And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God;
begotten of his Father before all worlds;
God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God;
begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father;
by whom all things were made;**

**Who for us and for our salvation came down from heaven,
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary,
and was made man;
And was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered and was buried;
and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures;
And ascended into Heaven, and sits on the right hand of the Father;
And he shall come again with glory, to judge both the quick and the dead;
Whose Kingdom shall have no end;**

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, and Giver of Life,
 Who proceeds from the Father and the Son;
 Who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified;
 Who spoke by the prophets;
 And I believe in one holy, catholic, and apostolic Church;
 I acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins;
 And I look for the resurrection of the Dead;
 And the life of the world to come. Amen. — *The Nicene Creed*

Sing We the Song of Emmanuel

Words and Music: Matt Boswell,
 Matt Papa, and Stuart Townend

The musical score is written in treble clef with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#) and a common time signature (C). The melody is simple and repetitive, with lyrics written below the notes. Chords are indicated by letters (E, A, B, C#m) above the staff. The score is divided into systems of four lines each, with measure numbers 1, 4, 7, 10, 13, and 15 marking the beginning of each system. The lyrics are: 1. Sing we the song of Em-man-u-el; this the Christ who was 2. Come we to wel-come Em-man-u-el; King who came with no 3. Go spread the news of Em-man-u-el; joy and peace for the long fore told. Lo in the sha-dows of Beth-le-hem, crown or throne. Help-less he lay, the in-vin-ci-ble, wea-ry heart. Lift up your heads, for your King has come; pro-mise of dawn now our eyes be-hold. God most high in a Ma-ker of Ma-ry, now Ma-ry's son. O what wis-dom to sing for the light o-ver-whelms the dark. Glo-ry shin-ing for man-ger laid; lift your voi-ces and now proclaim: save us all, Shep-herds, sa-ges, be-fore him fall. all to see, hope a-live, let the gos-pel ring. Great and glo-ri-ous, Love has come to us; Grace and ma-jes-ty, what hu-mi-li-ty; God has made a way, he will have the praise; join now with the hosts of hea-ven. come on bend-ed knee, a-dore him. tell the world his name is Je-sus.

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;
Music: Thomas Tallis

Praise God from whom all bless - ings flow; praise him, all crea - tures here be - low; praise him a - bove, ye heav'n - ly host; praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

Life Together

We share important announcements and prayer requests for our church community.

Life Together

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.

Dismissal of Children and Passing of the Peace

Leader: May the peace of Christ be with you.

Congregation: And also with you!

In Christ Alone

Words and Music: Keith Getty
and Stuart Townend

1. In Christ a - lone my hope is found, he is my
 2. In Christ a - lone, who took on flesh, full - ness of
 3. There in the ground his bod - y lay, Light of the
 4. No guilt in life, no fear in death, this is the

4 light, my strength, my song; this cor - ner - stone, this sol - id -
 God in help - less babe. This gift of love and right eous -
 world by dark - ness slain; then burst - ing forth in glo - rious
 pow'r of Christ in me; from life's first cry to fi - nal

7 ground, firm through the fierc - est drought and storm. What heights of
 ness, scorned by the ones he came to save. Till on that
 day, up from the grave he rose a - gain! And as he
 breath, Je - sus com - mands my des - ti - ny. No pow'r of

10 love, what depths of peace, when fears are stilled, when striv - ings
 cross, as Je - sus died, the wrath of God was sat - is -
 stands in vic - to - ry, sin's curse has lost its grip on
 hell, no scheme of man, can ev - er pluck me from his

13 cease, my Com - fort - er, my all in all, here in the
 fied; for ev - 'ry sin on him was laid. Here in the
 me; for I am his and he is mine, bought with the
 hand; till he re - turns or calls me home, here in the

16 love of Christ I stand.
 death of Christ I live.
 pre - cious blood of Christ.
 pow'r of Christ I'll stand!

Scripture Reading

Luke 2:1-21

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

Congregation: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Rev. Clyde Godwin

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 a plate of gluten-free bread on either aisle for those who desire such. Please hold the elements until all can partake together.

Lord's Supper

Invitation

Minister: The Lord be with you.

Congregation: And also with you.

Minister: Lift up your hearts.

Congregation: We lift them up to the Lord.

Minister: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

Congregation: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Minister: Let us proclaim the mystery of faith.

All: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

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

Hark! the Herald Angels Sing

Words: Charles Wesley;
Music: F. Mendelssohn, arr. by W. Cummings

1. Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new-born King;
2. Christ, by high - est heav'n a - dored, Christ, the ev - er last - ing Lord!
3. Hail the heav'nborn Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Righteousness!

Laura Bullock, Tyler Holley, Katie Jentoft, Ellen Wu

5



peace on earth, and mer-cy mild, God and sin-ners rec-on-ciled!"
 Late in time be-hold him come, off-spring of the Vir-gin's womb,
 Light and life to all he brings, ris'n with heal-ing in his wings.

9



Joy-ful all ye na-tions, rise, join the tri-umph of the skies;
 Veiled in flesh the God-head see; hail th'in-car-nate De-i-ty,
 Mild he lays his glo-ry by, born that man no more may die,

13



with th'an-gel-ic host pro-claim, "Christ is born in Beth-le-hem!"
 pleased as man with men to dwell, Je-sus, our Em-man-u-el.
 born to raise the sons of earth, born to give them sec-ond birth.

17



Hark! the her-ald an-gels sing, "Glo-ry to the new-born King."

Benediction

Minister: For to us a child is born, to us a son is given;
 and the government shall be upon his shoulder,
 and his name shall be called
 Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
 Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end,
 on the throne of David and over his kingdom,
 to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness
 from this time forth and forevermore.

The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this. — *Isaiah 9:6-7*

All: Amen.

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.

WELCOME

Welcome visitors! We're glad you could join us online. Please fill out a digital visitor card at ctkcambridge.org/visit so we can get to know you better. Find out more about us by contacting office@ctkcambridge.org. For more information on CTK's response to the coronavirus, visit ctkcambridge.org/coronavirus.

SUNDAYS

ADULT EDUCATION & SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES

Typically, Christ the King offers classes for adults, youth, and children every Sunday morning. Currently, we are offering Adult Education on Zoom, but our children's Sunday school gatherings are on hiatus.

For the month December, the Adult Education hour will be devoted to a time of prayer. Starting January 9, we will continue in the vein of Micah 6:8 by studying the book *Humility* by Andrew Murray.

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 4–5 years 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 and pick them up after the service.
- Class capacity is 10 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.
- During the sermon, kids may complete one of the worship activities available at ctkcambridge.org/worship-kids or in the church foyer along with 'Pew Pouches' containing writing and drawing supplies.

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 NIV 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

Christ the King is a multi-congregational church worshipping in Cambridge, Dorchester, and Quincy. We also have sister congregations worshipping in East Boston (in Portuguese), Newton, Hanover, West Roxbury, and Somerville. See ctkboston.org to find out more.

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. Right now, groups are meeting virtually. Please visit ctkcambridge.org/community-groups for a full listing with contact information.

FELLOWSHIP GROUPS AND MINISTRIES

Men's Fellowship Groups: Church Office (office@ctkcambridge.org)

Women's Ministry: Martha Olson (women@ctkcambridge.org)

Youth Ministry: Ariana Smartt (ariana@ctkcambridge.org)

Vocational Fellowship Groups: Church Office (office@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 continue to ask that folks please register to attend on Sunday mornings. Whether you choose distanced or open, registering allows staff to know how many seats of each type we need. **Registering by Friday is most helpful.**

When registering for the service, you may also **register children for either nursery** (ages 6 months through 3 years) **or children's worship** (age 4 and Kindergarten). Space is limited, but wait lists are available.

As we have in past several years, **CTK will be partnering with St. Mary's Orthodox Church, staff members of the former Starlight ministry, and First Lutheran Church of Boston to prepare and serve a Christmas meal for those in need** or without housing in the Cambridge area. The event will take place Saturday, December 18, at St. Mary's. If you are interested in volunteering that day or the evening before, please speak to Morgan Crago or Mike Poor. Look for a link for sign-ups in the CTK Reader this week.

Join us on **Christmas Eve at 6pm with a family-friendly service of Lessons and Carols**, in person or livestreamed. Invite friends and neighbors as we read through the Christmas story Genesis through the Gospels and sing Christmas hymns that celebrate the coming of our Lord. As with Sunday morning services, please register to attend. Also, please note, there is no childcare available during this service, but the upstairs nursery and social hall will be open to children and their parents as needed.

Please note, there will be no Sunday school or Adult Education on Sunday, December 26 or Sunday, January 2.

THIS WEEK AT CTK:

For more details, see ctkcambridge.org/weekly-events, or email office@ctkcambridge.org

Sun, 9a :: **Adult Education** :: Online
ctkcambridge.org/adulteducation

Tue, 7a :: **Morning Prayer** :: Online
ctkcambridge.org/prayer

Women's Bible Studies (Morning & Evening) are on hiatus for the rest of December

Please contact the following staff members by calling our office at (617) 354-8341 or by email:

Interim Pastor	Rev. Clyde Godwin	cgodwin@ctkcambridge.org
Church Administrator	Laura Bullock	office@ctkcambridge.org
Music Director	Amanda Holley	amanda@ctkcambridge.org
Director of Children's Ministry	Dana Russell	dana@ctkcambridge.org
Nursery Coordinator	Lara Kastelein	lara@ctkcambridge.org
Youth Intern	Ariana Smartt	ariana@ctkcambridge.org

For questions about the CTK Pastoral Search Committee, please visit ctkcambridge.org/psc or email psc@ctkcambridge.org

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