

CHRIST THE KING

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2017 10:00 AM MORNING WORSHIP

Prelude

Late have I loved you, beauty so old and so new: late have I loved you. And see, you were within and I was in the external world and sought you there, and in my unlovely state I plunged into those lovely created things which you made. You were with me, and I was not with you. The lovely things kept me far from you, though if they did not have their existence in you, they had no existence at all. You called and cried out loud and shattered my deafness. You were radiant and resplendent, you put to flight my blindness. You were fragrant, and I drew in my breath and now pant after you. I tasted you, and I feel but hunger and thirst for you. You touched me, and I am set on fire to attain peace which is yours. - Augustine, Confessions

To me there is no greater consolation given to mankind than this, that Christ became man, a child, a babe, playing in the lap and at the breasts of his most gracious mother. Who is there whom this sight would not comfort? Now is overcome the power of sin, death, hell, conscience, and guilt, if you come to this gurgling Babe and believe that he is come, not to judge you, but to save. - Martin Luther

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.

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.

Invocation

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Words: Latin hymn, trans. J.M. Neale;
Music: 13th Century Plainsong, arr. T. Helmore

1.O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive
 2.O come, O come, thou Lord of might, who to thy tribes, on
 3.O come, thou Rod of Jes - se, free thine own from Sa - tan's
 4.O come, thou Day - spring, come and cheer our spir - its by thine
 5.O come, thou Key of Da - vid, come and o - pen wide our

6
 Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - - - ile
 Si - nai's height, in an - cient times didst give - - - the
 tyr - an - ny, from depths of hell thy peo - - - ple
 ad - vent here; dis - perse the gloom - y clouds of
 heav'n - ly home; make safe the way that leads on

10
 here, un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
 law in cloud and maj - es - - ty and awe.
 save, and give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave. Re - joice! Re -
 night, and death's dark shad - ows o'er the to
 high, and close the path to put mis - er - y. flight.

15
 joice! Em - man - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el.

Come, Oh Redeemer, Come

Words and Music: Fernando Ortega

Em D C
Fa - ther en - throned on high, ho - ly, ho - ly,
Lord save us from the dark of our stri - ving,
Look now up - on our need; Lord, be with us.

Em D 1. Em
an - cient, e - ter - nal light, hear our prayer.
faith - less and troub - led hearts, weighed
Heal us and make us free from our

2, 3. Em Am Em
Come, oh Re-deem-er, come, grant us mer-cy.
down.
sin.

Am D Em
Come, oh Re-deem-er, come, grant us peace.

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: Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin! For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me. Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight, so that you may be justified in your words and blameless in your judgment.
– *Psalm 51:1-4*

Prayer of Confession

Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, maker of all things, judge of all men: We acknowledge and bewail our manifold sins and wickedness, which we from time to time most grievously have committed, by thought, word, and deed, against your divine Majesty, provoking most justly your wrath and indignation against us. We do earnestly repent, and are heartily sorry for these our misdoings; the remembrance of them is grievous unto us, the burden of them is intolerable. Have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; for your Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, forgive us all that is past; and grant that we may ever hereafter serve and please you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ 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: 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.

What Child Is This

Words: Traditional English carol;

Music: William C. Dix

1. What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mar-y's lap is
2. Why lies he in such mean es-tate, where ox and ass are
3. So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh; come, peas-ant, king, to

5 sleeping? Whom an - gels greet with anthems sweet, while shep-herds watch are
feed-ing? Good Christian, fear, for sin - ners here the si - lent Word is
own him; the King of kings sal - va-tion brings, let lov - ing hearts en-

9 keep - ing? This, this is Christ the King, whom shep-herds guard and
plead - ing. Nails, spear, shall pierce him through; the cross be borne for
throne him. Raise, raise the song on high, the vir - gin sings her

13 an - gels sing; haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mar - y.
me, for you; hail, hail the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Mar - y.
lul - la - by; joy, joy for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mar - y.

Offertory

Laura Bullock

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.

Doxology

Words: Thomas Ken;
Music: Louis Bourgeois' *Genevan Psalter*

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. A- men.

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

O Little Town of Bethlehem

Words: Phillips Brooks;
Music: Lewis H. Redner

1. O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, how still we see thee lie; a -
2. For Christ is born of Mar - y; and gath - ered all a - bove, while
3. How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly, the won - drous gift is giv'n! So
4. O ho - ly child of Beth - le - hem, de - scend to us, we pray; cast

bove thy deep and dream less sleep the si - lent stars go by; yet
mor - tals sleep, the an - gels keep their watch of won - d'ring love. O
God im - parts to hu - man hearts the bless - ings of his heav'n. No
out our sin and en - ter in; be born in us to - day. We

in thy dark streets shin - eth the ev - er - last - ing Light; the
morn - ing stars, to - geth - er pro - claim the ho - ly birth! And
ear may hear his com - ing, but in this world of sin, where
hear the Christ - mas an - gels the great glad tid - ings tell; O

hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee to - night.
prais - es sing to God the King, and peace to men on earth.
meek souls will re - ceive him still, the dear Christ en - ters in.
come to us, a - bide with us, our Lord Em - man - u - el.

Scripture Reading

Matthew 1:18-25, page 807 in pew Bible

Reader: The grass withers and the flower fades.

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

Sermon

Rev. Sean Sawyers

Trey Nation

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

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.

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 and 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.

*Albert Cheng, Alecia Augspurg, Allison de Jesus, Brent Boswell,
Justin Augspurg, Nydia Boswell, Trey Nation, Tyler Holley*

Joy to the World

Words: Isaac Watts;
Music: George Frederick Handel

1. Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re-
2. Joy to the earth, the Sav-ior reigns! Let men their
3. No more let sins and sor-rows grow, nor thorns in-
4. He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the

6
ceive her King; let ev-'ry heart pre- pare him
songs em- ploy; while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and
fest the ground; he comes to make his bless- ings
na- tions prove the glo- ries of his righ- teous -

11
room and heav'n and na- ture sing, and heav'n and na- ture
plains re- peat the sound- ing joy, re- peat the sound- ing
flow far as the curse is found, far as the curse is
ness and won- ders of his love, and won- ders of his

15
sing, and heav'n, and heav'n and na- ture sing.
joy, re- peat, re- peat the sound ing joy.
found, far as, far as the curse is found.
love, and won- ders, won- ders of his love.

Benediction

Benediction

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

Please join us in the social hall for refreshments immediately following the service.

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! Please visit the welcome table in the foyer and fill out a visitor card 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 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.

Sundays, December 24 and 31, there will be **no Adult Education classes or Children's Sunday School**. Classes will resume on Sunday, January 7.

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.

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 on the clipboard outside the room and take a visual pager number card.

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.

For more information about children's ministry, please see ctkcambridge.org/kids or email dana@ctkcambridge.org.

BULLETINS

Bulletins are available on the church website (<http://www.ctkcambridge.org/sermons/>) each Thursday before the service, allowing for download for use during the service on a smartphone or tablet.

WAYS TO GET INVOLVED

CTK READER

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

COMMUNITY GROUPS

Community groups are central to our life together at CTK, as we seek to live as followers of Jesus in relationship to one another. 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. All are invited to join a group. To find a group near you, visit www.ctkcambridge.org or email office@ctkcambridge.org.

MEN'S AND WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP GROUPS

Men's and women's fellowship groups meet throughout the city to provide opportunities for fellowship, discipling, and growing in faith. For a listing of groups, visit www.ctkcambridge.org. If you would like a group started near you, email nathan@ctkcambridge.org (men) or Emily DeBaun Stuntz at emilydebaun@gmail.com (women).

WOMEN'S MINISTRY

To connect with women in the church and learn about women's events throughout the year, contact hannah@ctkcambridge.org.

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Thursdays, 9:30-11:30am in the church social hall. Childcare provided. The group does not meet the first Thursday of each month. Contact Becky Williams (john.n.becky@gmail.com).

VOCATIONAL GROUPS

Vocational groups offer times of fellowship and discussion for those in the CTK congregations throughout the city who work in similar fields. Contact nathan@ctkcambridge.org.

PRAYER MEETINGS

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

Missions & Church Planting Prayer: Periodically there is a time of prayer for the missionaries CTK Cambridge supports and for church planting in Boston. Contact laura.a.martin87@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.

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.

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.

Our annual candlelight **Lessons and Carols service** will be held on Christmas Eve at 6:00pm.

Sundays, December 24 and 31, there will be **no Adult Education classes or Children's Sunday School**. Classes will resume on Sunday, January 7.

East End House's Holiday Programs provide a great way for individuals, families, and community groups to give back to our Cambridge community during the holiday season. Whether by volunteering, participating in the Holiday Drive, or "Adopting a Family", there are many ways that you can help contribute. For more information please contact camille@eastendhouse.org.

Mark your calendars! The **Winter Getaway** will be held February 3-5 at Camp Brookwoods. More information to come!

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 (while also drinking hot chocolate). 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 deacons@ctkcambridge.org. We would love to have you join us.

Discovering CTK is a class for those interested in membership or in learning more about our church and denomination (PCA). The next class will be offered Saturday, January 27, from 9:00 am-3:00 pm. Please email office@ctkcambridge.org to RSVP.

We use an **online giving platform** called Church Center Online. It's straightforward to use, is secure, and has more features in development which promise to improve the online giving experience. Try Church Center Online by visiting <https://ctkboston.church-centeronline.com/giving>. Questions? Email giving@ctkboston.org.

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

Pastor	Rev. Richard Downs	rickdowns@ctkcambridge.org
Associate Pastor	Rev. Nathan Barczi	nathan@ctkcambridge.org
Church Administrator	Laura Bullock	office@ctkcambridge.org
Director of Children's Ministry	Dana Russell	dana@ctkcambridge.org
Bookkeeper	Laura Cheng	bookkeeper@ctkboston.org
Music Director	Amanda Holley	amanda@ctkcambridge.org