

# CHRIST THE KING

CHRISTMAS SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25, 2022 11:00 AM

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## Prelude

*The Almighty appeared on earth as a helpless human baby, needing to be fed and changed and taught to talk like any other child... The more you think about it, the more staggering it gets. Nothing in fiction is so fantastic as is this truth of the Incarnation.*

– J.I. Packer, *Knowing God Devotional Journal*

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

Rev. Travis Drake

Leader: Blessed be the Lord God of Israel,

**Congregation: For he has looked favorably on his people and redeemed them.**

Leader: By the tender mercy of our God, the dawn from on high has broken upon us,

**Congregation: To give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace.**

Leader: For unto us a Child is born,

**Congregation: Unto us a Son is given.**

Leader: God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

**Congregation: Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.**

**All: Thanks be to God for this gift beyond words!**

– Adapted from *Luke 1, Isaiah 9, and John 3*

## 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.

### O Come, All Ye Faithful

Words: Latin hymn, attr. to John F. Wade,  
trans. by Frederick Oakeley;  
Music: John Francis Wade

1. O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant, O  
2. Sing choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,  
3. Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap - py morn - ing;

6  
come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem; come and be -  
sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heav'n a - bove; glo - ry to  
Je - sus, to thee be all glo - ry giv'n; Word of the

11  
hold him born the King of an - gels;  
God, all glo - ry in the high - est; O come, let us a - dore him, O  
Fa - ther, now in flesh ap - pear - ing!

16  
come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord.

## Confession of Sin

**All:** Saving God, we confess to you our sinfulness. We are consumed with greed and with self, instead of loving you as we ought. Too often we are indifferent to those for whom this season is not a time of joy. You call us to the simple life, but we engage in extravagance, which directs our hearts away from you and from those in need. Forgive us, and renew us, gracious Savior. Amen.

## Assurance of Grace

**Leader:** God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. – *Ephesians 2:4-7*

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:** My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,

**Congregation:** For he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant.

**Leader:** Surely, from now on all generations will call us blessed; for the Mighty One has done great things for us, and holy is his name.

**Congregation:** His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation.

**Leader:** He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts.

**Congregation:** He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly;

**Leader:** He has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty.

**All:** He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and his descendants forever. – Adapted from *Luke 1:46-55*

## 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.

## 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.

# Hark! the Herald Angels Sing

Words: Charles Wesley;  
Music: Felix Mendelssohn,  
arr. by William H. 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 Righteous-ness!

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."

## Prayers of the People

Leader: Glory be to you, Lord our God; you have chosen us in Jesus Christ, our Lord, before the founding of the world.

**Congregation: You have given us such love, Father, that we should be called the children of God!**

Leader: You have blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places.

**Congregation: You have rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of your beloved Son.**

Leader: You have redeemed us through Jesus Christ, your Incarnate Son.

**Congregation: For the sake of the great love with which you love us, make us alive in Christ, our Lord.**

Leader: Holy Child of Mary, Savior of the world,

**Congregation: Reveal yourself to us.**

Leader: By your holy incarnation, by your human birth,  
By your pure and blameless childhood,  
By your obedience and diligence,  
By your humility, meekness, and patience,  
By your extreme poverty, by your griefs and sorrows,  
By your prayers and tears,  
By your having been despised and rejected,  
By your cross and suffering, by your death and burial,  
By your triumphant resurrection and ascension,

**All: Help us and save us.**

Leader: For the poor, the abused, and the sick,  
For prisoners and the homeless,  
For victims of natural disaster and war,  
For those who are in danger, misery, or distress,  
For those who minister to human need in your name,  
For all who share your good news,  
For your whole church on earth,

**All: We pray for your blessing, strength, and encouragement.**

Leader: God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

**All: May we all be transformed into the image of Christ from one degree of glory to another. Amen.**

## Prayers of the People

We cry out together for 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.

**Lighting of the Advent Wreath and Passing of the Peace**

**Of the Father's Love Begotten**

Words: Marcus Aurelius C. Prudentius, 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,  
 2. O that birth for - ev - er bless - ed, when the Vir - gin, full of grace,  
 3. O ye heights of heav'n, a - dore him, an - gel hosts, his prais - es sing,  
 4. Christ, to thee with God the Fa - ther, and, O Ho - ly Ghost, to thee,

3 he is Al - pha and 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;

5 of the things that are, that have been, and that fu - ture years shall see,  
 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,

7 ev - er - more and ev - er - more!  
 ev - er - more and ev - er - more!  
 ev - er - more and ev - er - more!  
 ev - er - more and ev - er - more!

## Scripture Reading

Revelation 1:9-20, p1048 in pew Bible

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

**Congregation: Thanks be to God.**

## Sermon

*Meeting the Long-Expected King*

Rev. Travis Drake

## Lord's Supper

*Invitation and 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*

## 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.

## 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.*

# Ancient of Days

Words and Music: Gary Sadler  
and Jamie Harvill

C Dm/C C C Dm/C C

Bless - ing and hon - or, glo - ry and pow - er

3 C G2/B Am G2/B C Dm/C C

be un-to the An - cient of Days; from ev - 'ry na - tion,

6 C Dm/C C C G2/B Am Am/G

all of cre - a - tion bow before the An - cient of Days.

F Dm7 G C/E

Ev - 'ry tongue in heav - en and earth shall declare your glo - ry,

11 F Dm7 G C/E Em7 F Dm7

ev 'ry knee shall bow at your throne in wor ship; you will be exalted, O God,

14 G C/E F Dm7 G F/G

and your king - dom shall not pass a - way, O An - cient of Days.

17 1. 2. C

Your king - dom shall reign o - ver

22 Bb/C F/C Gm/C Bb/C C

all the earth, Sing un - to the An - cient of Days; for

25 C

none can com - pare to your match - less worth,

sing un - to the An - cient of Days.



## Words of Response

Leader: Lord, now you are letting your servants depart in peace, according to your word;

Congregation: For our eyes have seen your salvation that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,

Leader: A light for revelation to the Gentiles,

All: And for glory to your people Israel. — *Luke 2:29-32*

## 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](http://ctkcambridge.org/visit) so we can get to know you better. Find out more by contacting [office@ctkcambridge.org](mailto: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. A new Adult Education and High School Sunday school class will begin in the New Year.

Jesus knew how to pray. The disciples asked, "Lord teach us to pray." We say prayers. But, do we know how to pray? Come join the discussion in Adult Ed on how we might pray better using selected topics from Paul Miller's *A Praying Life*. Please register in advance of the class, which starts on January 8th.

## 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](mailto: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](mailto: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 NIV available at [biblegateway.com](http://biblegateway.com).
- Discuss the parts of the service as a family using the worship guide ([ctkcambridge.org/worship-kids](http://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](http://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](http://ctkcambridge.org/community-groups) for a full listing with contact information.

## FELLOWSHIP GROUPS AND MINISTRIES

**Men's Bible Study:** Andy Stuntz ([astuntz@gmail.com](mailto:astuntz@gmail.com))

**Women's Ministry:** Martha Olson ([women@ctkcambridge.org](mailto:women@ctkcambridge.org))

**Youth Ministry:** Ariana Smartt ([ariana@ctkcambridge.org](mailto:ariana@ctkcambridge.org))

**College Students** can join Reformed University Fellowships

BU: [nathan.dicks@ruf.org](mailto:nathan.dicks@ruf.org), [serena.jones@ruf.org](mailto:serena.jones@ruf.org)

Harvard: [michael.whitham@ruf.org](mailto:michael.whitham@ruf.org), [catherine.cook@ruf.org](mailto:catherine.cook@ruf.org)

MIT: [solomon.kim@ruf.org](mailto:solomon.kim@ruf.org)

**Meals Ministry:** Erin Ward ([meals@ctkcambridge.org](mailto:meals@ctkcambridge.org))

**Overseas Partner Liaison:** Morgan Crago ([missions@ctkcambridge.org](mailto: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](http://ctkcambridge.org/songs).

For **online giving**, visit [ctkcambridge.org/giving](http://ctkcambridge.org/giving).

**Sermon recordings and Adult Ed classes** can be found on the website at [ctkcambridge.org/sermons](http://ctkcambridge.org/sermons) and [ctkcambridge.org/adulteducation](http://ctkcambridge.org/adulteducation), respectively.

For recommended **daily Bible reading plans** selected by pastoral staff, visit [ctkcambridge.org/daily-bible-readings](http://ctkcambridge.org/daily-bible-readings).

To sign up for the **CTK Reader**, our weekly e-newsletter, visit [ctkcambridge.org/reader](http://ctkcambridge.org/reader).

# LIFE TOGETHER

## ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Please note, the nursery will be open this morning if parents need to take children out of the service.

Hear ye, hear ye! **Registration is now open for the 2023 CTK Getaway**, taking place January 27 thru January 29! Our speaker this year will be Rev. Glenn Hoburg, pastor at Grace Downtown in Washington, D.C. Visit [ctkcambridge.org/getaway](http://ctkcambridge.org/getaway) for more information and to register!

## UPCOMING EVENTS AT CTK:

*For more details, see [ctkcambridge.org/calendar](http://ctkcambridge.org/calendar), or email [office@ctkcambridge.org](mailto:office@ctkcambridge.org)*

Fri, Jan 27 - Sun, Jan 29 :: **CTK Getaway** :: Brookwoods  
[ctkcambridge.org/getaway](http://ctkcambridge.org/getaway)

## LINKS

GIVING:



READER:



VISITOR CARD:



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*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

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