CHRIST THEKING

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

First Sunday of Christmas December 26, 2021 10:30 Am Morning Worship

Prelude

The Lord willingly and freely reveals himself in his Christ. For in Christ, he offers all happiness in place of our misery, all wealth in place of our neediness; in him he opens to us the heavenly treasures that our whole faith may contemplate his beloved Son, our whole expectation depend upon him, and our whole hope cleave to and rest in him. This, indeed, is that secret and hidden philosophy which cannot be wrested from syllogisms. But they whose eyes God has opened surely learnt it by heart, that in his light they may see light.

– John Calvin, Institutes of the Christian Religion

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

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.

Call to Worship

Leader: Glory to God!

Congregation: Glory to God in the highest!

Leader: And on earth peace!

Congregation: Peace among those with whom he is pleased!

Leader: Lord, we have seen your salvation,

Congregation: That you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,

Leader: A light of revelation to the Gentiles,

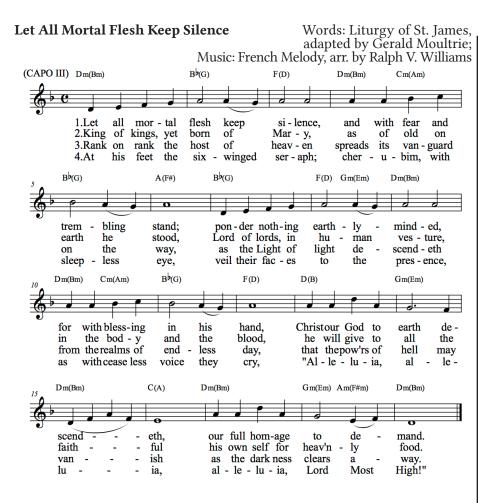
Congregation: And for glory to your people Israel.

Invocation

Go, Tell It on the Mountain Words and Music: American Spiritual вþ **C**7 Go, tell it on the moun-tain, o-ver the hills and ev-ery - where; F Вþ F Dm F/C **C**7 F tell it on the moun - tain that Je-sus Christ is 1.While go, born. 2.The 3.Down F С F **C**7 Dm С F watch-ing shep-herds kept their o'er si - lent flocks by night, be rang shep-herds feared and trem-bled when. lo! a - bove the earth low - ly man - ger our hum-ble Christ was born, and in a F С F Gm G7 **C**7 hold, through out the ho - ly light. heav-ens there shone a out the an - gel cho-rus that hailed our Sav - ior's birth. God us sal - va-tion that bless - ed Christ mas sent morn.

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

Leader: Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. — *Hebrews* 4:14-16

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.

Prayer of Confession

All: Lord, great God, all holy, Father most gracious, filled with mercy and steadfast love, we are embarrassed to come before you, for we have preferred the ways of this world to your ways, for we have rebelled against your wisdom and we have gotten into trouble, for we have rejected your fatherly guidance and have gotten lost altogether. To you belongs righteousness, O Lord, and to us confusion of face. O Lord, great God, all holy, filled with awe, Father, most gracious, filled with mercy and steadfast love, incline your ear to our troubles. Hear us when we pour out our sorrows before you. Forgive us, not on the ground of our own righteousness, but on the ground of your great mercy. On the ground of your great mercy in the gift of your Son, Jesus Christ. It is in his name that we pray, for he is our Savior and the mediator of the covenant of grace. Amen. — based on *Daniel 9:4-19*

Declaration of Absolution

Leader: Almighty God, our Heavenly Father, has had mercy on us and has given his only Son to die for us and for his sake forgives us all our sins. God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved. Whoever believes in him is not condemned. God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. 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;

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. 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*

Come Behold the Wondrous Mystery Words and Music: Matt Papa, Matt Boswell, and Michael Bleecker E A hold the won drous 1.Come be in the mys tery, 2.Come be hold the won drous mys tery; He the 3.Come be _ hold the won drous mys tery; Christ the 4.Come be hold the won drous mys tery; slain by C#m C#m Bsus theme dawn ing of the King. He, the of heav-en's per fect Son of Man, In his liv ing, in his --In the stead ru - ined Lord up on the tree. of God death, the of life. But no grave could e'er re -E/G F#m7 /B Е A prais es, robed in frail hu man - i ty. In our See suf - fering, nev - er trace nor stain of sin. the sin ners hangs the Lamb in vic - tor y! See the live! strain him; praise the Lord, he is a -What a G♯m C∦m /B A long - ing, in our dark - ness, the light of life now has and true bet-ter A dam, come to save the hell - bound price of our re demp - tion, see the Fath - er's plan un fore taste of de liv ` _ 'rance, how un wav er - ing our E/G# A Ε A come! Look to Christ who con - de - scend - ed, took on Christ the and sure ful - fill - ment of the man, great fold. bring - ing man sons to glo _ ry; ed, grace un y hope. Christ in pow ēr re - sur rect as we F#m7 **/B** Ε . flesh to ran som us. law; in him we stand. meas ured love un told! will be when he comes.

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





Life Together

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.

Life Together

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

Prayers of the People

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

Word for the Kids

Dismissal of Children and Passing of the Peace

Leader: May the peace of Christ be with you.

Congregation: And also with you!

O Savior of Our Fallen Race

Words: 6th Century Latin hymn; Music: Keith Getty



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.

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 glutenfree bread on either aisle for those who desire such. Please hold the elements until all can partake together.

Scripture Reading

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

Congregation: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Rev. Bradley Barnes

Lord's Supper

Invitation

Minister: What is your only comfort in life and death?

All: That I with body and soul, both in life and death, am not my own, but belong to my faithful Savior Jesus Christ; who, with his precious blood, has fully satisfied for all my sins, and delivered me from all the power of the devil; and so preserves me that without the will of my heavenly Father, not a hair can fall from my head; yea, that all things must be subservient to my salvation, and therefore, by his Holy Spirit, He also assures me of eternal life, and makes me sincerely willing and ready, henceforth, to live unto him. – Heidelberg Catechism Q&A 1

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

Deacons' Fund Offering

Owen Andrews, Emily Lints, Lucas Lints, Tyler Holley



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 ctk-cambridge.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 and children's Sunday school on Zoom.

For the month of 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 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 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. 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.

Please note, there will be no Sunday school or Adult Education on Sunday, January 2. there also will not be prayer meeting on Tuesday, December 28th.

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

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