# CHRIST THEKING

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

## SUNDAY, MARCH 1, 2020 10:00 AM MORNING WORSHIP

#### Prelude

#### Amanda Holley

We all desire life; but in seeking it we foolishly and perversely wander about in digressions; and even when it is set before us, the most part reject it as distasteful. For who does not invent for himself a life outside of Christ? And how many are satisfied with Christ alone? It is no superfluous repetition, then, for Christ to state so frequently that He alone suffices to give life. For He claims the title of bread for Himself to tear from our hearts all fictitious hopes of living. — John Calvin, New Testament Commentaries

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. 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 Worship**

Leader: Oh, taste and see that the LORD is good! Blessed is the man who takes refuge in him!

Congregation: Come, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and he who has no money, come, buy and eat!

Leader: Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which does not satisfy? Listen diligently to the LORD, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food.

Congregation: Seek the LORD while he may be found; call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the LORD, that he may have compassion on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

- from Psalm 34:8; Isaiah 55:1-2,6-7

#### Invocation

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# Call to Worship

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

#### **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: "Yet even now," declares the Lord, "return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; and rend your hearts and not your garments." Return to the Lord your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love; and he relents over disaster. — *Joel 2:12-13* 

#### **Prayer of Confession**

All: Awesome and compassionate God, you have loved us with unfailing, self-giving mercy, but we have not loved you. You constantly call us, but we do not listen. You ask us to love, but we walk away from neighbors in need, wrapped in our own concerns. We condone evil, prejudice, and greed. God of grace, as you come to us in mercy, we repent in spirit and in truth, admit our sin, and gratefully receive your forgiveness through Jesus Christ, our Redeemer. Amen.

#### **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: The Lord is merciful and gracious,

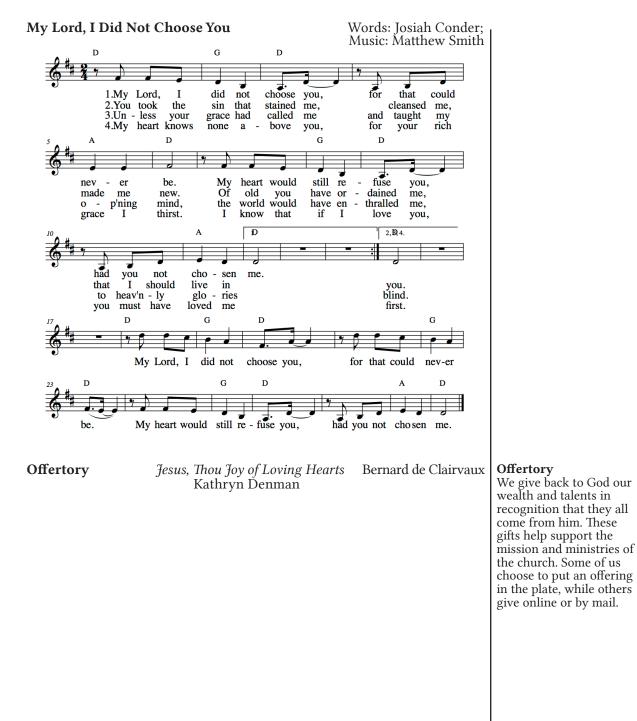
Congregation: slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness.

Leader: Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good,

Congregation: for his steadfast love endures forever.

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.





#### **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.

#### Dismissal of Children and Passing of the Peace

#### I Hunger and I Thirst Words: John S.B. Monsell; Music: Kathryn Baldanza С G/B Am F hun-ger and I thirst: Je - sus, 1.Imy man - na be: ye 2.Thou true life-giv-ing Vine, let me thy sweet-ness prove; re \_ 3.For still the des-ert lies 0 my thirst - ing soul be - fore; G/B C F С Am liv ing wa - ters, burst out of the rock for me. Thou with thine. re - fresh mv soul with love. Rough new mv life liv ing wa - ters rise with - in me ev \_ er - more. For G C Am2 bruised and bro - ken Bread. life-long needs sup-ply; my as mv feet have trod. since first their course be-gan; feed paths still the des - ert lies mv thirst-ing soul be-fore: 0 Am G/B С F G $\mathbf{C}$ 8 Ð fed. feed liv ing souls are Ο me. or T die. thou Bread of God. help me, thou Son of Man. me, with - in liv - ing wa - ters rise me ev er more. -Ambrose Huang Scripture Reading John 6:32-51 pages 891-2 in pew Bible The public reading of God's Word is integral whenever Reader: So faith comes from hearing, God's people gather to wor-Congregation: and hearing through the word of Christ.

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 relation-

ships with each other. We encourage kids remaining in the service to use the Sermon Worksheet available at the front of the sanctuary.

#### **Scripture Reading**

Sermon

# Rev. Rick Downs

ship. 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. 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.

Elders are available to pray with anyone who desires it at the front of the sanctuary near either of the hallway exits.

#### Lord's Supper

Invitation

Minister: God's Word has much to say to us, and there are many things we are called upon to believe. Yet in this meal that we share together we proclaim what is essential. We proclaim our faith as signed and sealed in this sacrament:

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

All: Most gracious God, we praise you for what you have given and for what you have promised us here. You have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. You have fed us with the bread of life, and renewed us for your service. Now we give ourselves to you; and we ask that our daily living may be part of your kingdom, and that our love may be your love reaching out into the life of the world; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



#### 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

**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 at the Welcome Table in the back Social Hall, 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 are held downstairs, and Middle/High School meets in the office in the balcony.

**Being Human**: Nathan Barczi is teaching a class developing a biblical and theological understanding of what it means to be human, with application to many of the ethical questions covered in our summer "hot topics" series. We will explore how complex issues of identity, desire, and vocation are drawn together and addressed in the Christian doctrines of the trinity, creation, incarnation, resurrection, the church, and the image of God. Come with your questions!

## 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 1s are upstairs and 2s and 3s 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. Please sign-in children then drop off in room 3 & 4; pick-up from adjoining rooms with your parent tag.

**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**

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 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.

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 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 worshipping in Cambridge, Dorchester, Jamaica Plain, Wakefield 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

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

CAMBRIDGE :: NORTH CAMBRIDGE :: 6P Rick & T Downs (cardadowns@gmail.com)

SOMERVILLE :: UNION SQ. :: 7P Tyler & Amanda Holley (tylerbholley@gmail.com)

#### TUESDAYS

ALLSTON :: BRIGHTON :: BROOKLINE :: 7:30P James & Sarah Goodman (ssgoodman617@gmail.com )

#### WEDNESDAYS

SOMERVILLE :: UNION/SPRING HILL :: 6P Nathan & Leann Barczi (nbarczi@gmail.com)

BOSTON :: NORTH END/BEACON HILL :: 7P Taylor & Audra Wallace (wallacetaylor89@gmail.com)

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

#### THURSDAYS

CAMBRIDGE :: MIT/KENDALL SQ. :: 6P Ben Hoover & Jenn Marlow(benhoover34@gmail.com)

#### THURSDAYS (cont'd)

WATERTOWN :: 6P Matt & Cat Sherrill (sherrillmatt@hotmail.com)

SOMERVILLE :: PORTER/DAVIS SQ. :: 6:30P Michael & Anna Whitham (michael.whitham@ruf.org)

SOMERVILLE :: DAVIS/POWDERHOUSE SQ. :: 7P Sam & Steffi Beswick (sam.beswick@auckland.ac.nz)

MALDEN :: 7P Andy & Emily Stuntz (astuntz@gmail.com)

CAMBRIDGE :: CENTRAL/INMAN SQ. :: 7:30P Susanne van Veluw (susannevanveluw@gmail.com)

#### FRIDAYS

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

#### SATURDAYS

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

## Fellowship Groups and Ministries

Men's Fellowship Groups: Rev. Rick Downs (rickdowns@ctkcambridge.org)

Women's Ministry: Laura Martin (laura.a.martin87@gmail.com)

Youth Community Group: Dana Russell (dana@ctkcambridge.org)

Vocational Fellowship Groups: Rev. Nathan Barczi (nathan@ctkcambridge.org)

College Students can join Reformed University Fellowships on nearby campuses. BU: nathan.dicks@ruf.org, Harvard: michael.whitham@ruf.org, or MIT: solomon.kim@ruf.org.

Meals Ministry: Erin Ward (meals@ctkcambridge.org)

Overseas Partner Liaison: Miriam Kreher (mkreher13@gmail.com)

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.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS:

For daily readings to follow along as we go through this sermon series in John, visit ctkcambridge.org/ daily-bible-readings.

Next Sunday, March 8, is the beginning of **Daylight Saving**. Don't forget to set your clocks forward!

Christ the Redeemer Quincy is launching this afternoon with weekly worship services every Sunday at 4 pm at 136 Rawson Rd. in Quincy. The church is just 1/2 mile from the Wollaston stop on the Red Line. Let's be an encouragement to Matt Owens and this new church plant by attending a service sometime in March or April. You can check out their website at ctrquincy.org.

SAVE THE DATE: On Friday, **May 8th**, **Caroline Cobb Smith will be giving a concert at CTK**. Many of you will remember Caroline from last year's Getaway. Please put this concert on your calendar and plan to join us!

# UPCOMING EVENTS:

Sun, 3/8, 12p :: Second Sunday Eat & Meet :: Social Hall ctkcambridge.org/eat-and-meet (Laura Bullock, laura@ctkcambridge.org)

Fri, 3/27, 5:30p :: Fourth Fridays :: Beat Brew Hall ctkcambridge.org/fourth-fridays (Susanne van Veluw, susannevanveluw@gmail.com)

Fri, 3/27, 7:30p :: Artist Fellowship :: Somerville ctkcambridge.org/artist-fellowship (Aseneth Castaneda, arts@sevenhillschurch.org)

Sat, 3/28, 8a :: Men's Breakfast :: Social Hall ctkcambridge.org/mens-breakfast (Rick Downs, rickdowns@ctkcambridge.org)

Mon, 3/9, 6p :: **Women's Evening Bible Study** :: CTK Office ctkcambridge.org/women (Laura Martin, laura.a.martin87@gmail.com)

# WEEKLY EVENTS AT CTK:

For more details, see ctkcambridge.org/weekly-events

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

Wed, 12p :: **Men's Fellowship Group** :: Harvard Sq. (Mike Poor, pcpoor@hotmail.com)

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

Fri, 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 rickdowns@ctkcambridge.org nathan@ctkcambridge.org office@ctkcambridge.org dana@ctkcambridge.org lara@ctkcambridge.org amanda@ctkcambridge.org bookkeeper@ctkboston.org

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