CHRIST THEKING

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

Sunday, August 30, 2020 10:30 Am Morning Worship

Prelude

Grace first inscribed my name, In God's eternal book: 'Twas grace that gave me to the Lamb Who all my sorrows took.

Grace taught my soul to pray, And pardoning love to know; 'Twas grace that kept me to this day, And will not let me go. – Phillip Doddridge, 'Grace! 'Tis a Thrilling Sound'

The grace of God is love freely shown toward guilty sinners, contrary to their merit and indeed in defiance of their demerit. It is God showing goodness to persons who deserve only severity and had no reason to expect anything but severity... Once a person is convinced that his state and need are as described, the New Testament gospel of grace cannot but sweep him off his feet with wonder and joy. For it tells how our Judge has become our Savior.

- J.I. Packer, Knowing God

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

Leader: Let us worship God.

Congregation: He is our refuge and our fortress, our God, in whom we trust.

Leader: Let us confess with our mouths, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in our hearts that God raised him from the dead.

Congregation: Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.

Leader: Let us call upon our true God, believing him in our hearts,

Congregation: confessing him with our mouths, worshiping him in spirit and in truth. – *Psalm 91:2; Romans 10:9,13*

Invocation

All Creatures of Our God and King

Words: St. Francis of Assissi; Music: *Geistliche Kirchengesänge*



Call to Confession

Leader: The proof of God's amazing love is this: While we were sinners, Christ died for us. Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. Trusting in God's faithfulness and compassion, let us confess our sin before God and one another. — based on *Romans 5:8; Hebrews 4:16*

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 Lord is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations. Just as a father has pity on his children, so the Lord has pity on those who fear him. 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. 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,

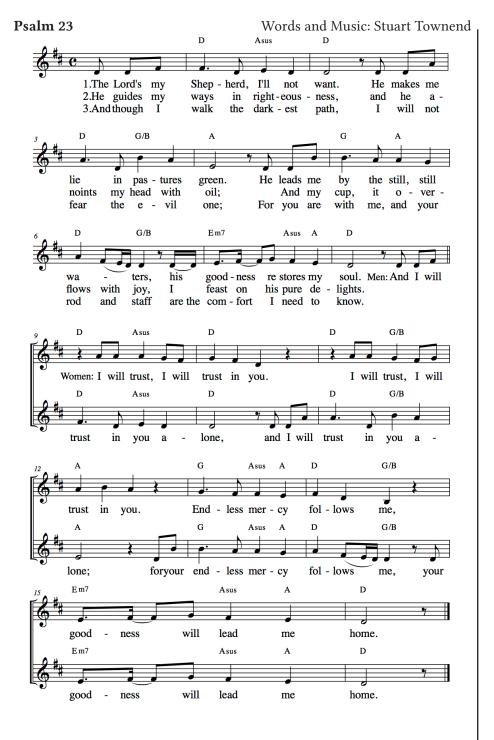
Congregation: slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness.

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

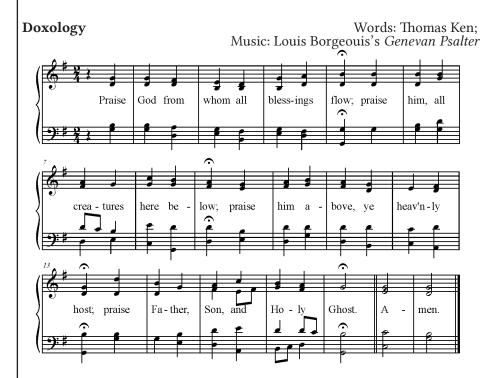
Congregation: for his steadfast love endures forever.

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.



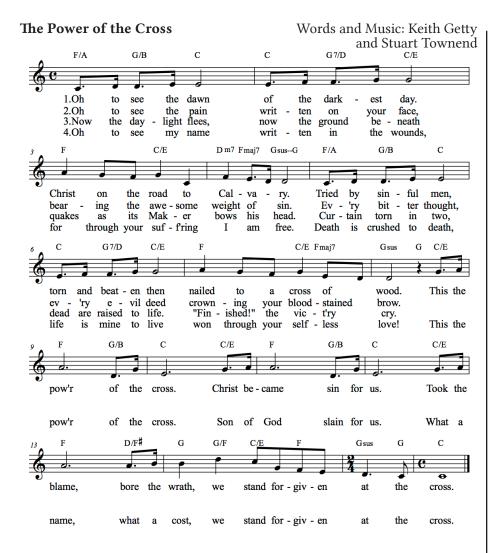
Offertory



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.

A Word for the Kids



Sermon

Rev. Rick Downs

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

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Prayer for Rick and T Downs



Benediction

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.

SUNDAYS

Adult Education & Sunday School Classes

Typically, Christ the King offers classes for adults, youth, and children every Sunday morning. During this hiatus from public gathering, we will be offering Adult Education and Sunday school gatherings on Sunday mornings via Zoom:

Our Only Comfort: A Study of The Heidelberg Catechism. Since its publication in 1563, the Heidelberg Catechism has become one of the most widely circulated books in the world, and it's not hard to see why. Alongside its clear presentation of Christian doctrine, it's truly beloved for its pastoral spirit and its emphasis on the tremendous consolation and encouragement to be found in the gospel. This will be an excellent opportunity to learn and be refreshed - come join the discussion on Zoom! We recommend that you purchase Kevin DeYoung's excellent guide to the Catechism, *The Good News We Almost Forgot*.

For Families

Parents, you might try some of these ideas to help your child(ren) understand and better connect with our worship service.

During the service

• Encourage children to participate in each part of the service. During the sermon, children might then complete one of the worship activities provided at ctkcambridge.org/worship-kids.

 \cdot For non-readers, place your arms around your child and point to the words in the bulletin as they are read.

After the service / 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.

 \cdot Discuss the service and serm on as a family using the worship guide (at ctkcambridge.org/

worship-kids) to help children understand each part. Have everyone recall a part of the service that stood out to them.

 \cdot 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).

CTK is a member of Presbyterian Church in America (PCA). Scripture texts are from The Holy Bible, English Standard Version™, ©2001 Crossway Bibles, a division of Good News Publishers, Wheaton, IL 60187, CCLI #912939.

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

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

Currently there are no groups meeting in person, but some ministries and groups are still meeting virtually. Please reach out to the listed contact person to learn more.

Men's Fellowship Groups: Rev. Nathan Barczi (nathan@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 BU: nathan.dicks@ruf.org, Harvard: michael.whitham@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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

After two decades of faithful service at CTK, **our beloved pastor Rick Downs is stepping away as senior pastor at the end of August**. To learn more about this transition and what comes next for CTK, please visit ctkcambridge.org/transition.

For more information on **CTK's response to the coronavirus** – both what we are actively doing now and what we are preparing for in the future – visit ctkcambridge.org/coronavirus.

Time Change: the Adult Education class on the Heidelberg Catechism is now meeting at 9am on Sundays via Zoom.

If children would like to share their completed Sunday morning coloring page with the congregation, email us a photo or scanned copy and we'll include it in the announcements slideshow that airs just prior to the livestream service.

Newcomers! Welcome to CTK! We know this is a strange time to be joining a new church and we want to encourage you to get connected insofar as you are able. We have weekly Community Groups, most of which meet online. We will also have a newcomers class called Discovering CTK later in the fall. For more information on these or other ways to get involved, please email office@ctkcambridge.org.

WEEKLY EVENTS AT CTK:

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

- Sun, 9a :: Adult Education :: Online ctkcambridge.org/adulteducation (Nathan Barczi, nathan@ctkcambridge.org)
- Tue, 7a :: Morning Prayer :: Online ctkcambridge.org/prayer (Laura Bullock, laura@ctkcambridge.org)
- Fri, 5p :: **Theology Reading Group** :: Mystic River State Reservation (Nathan Barczi, nathan@ctkcambridge.org)

DAILY PRAYER ONLINE:

Visit ctkboston.org/prayer for more information

Mon, Wed, 6:30a :: Morning Prayer

Tue, Thu, 8a :: Morning Prayer