# CHRIST THEKING

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

# Fifteenth Sunday After Pentecost September 5, 2021 10:30 am Morning Worship

#### Prelude

[I]n the presence of the beautiful... we act like someone who is all ears and eyes: beauty has something to say to us. — Friedrich Nietzsche, Unpublished Fragments

No matter how long beautiful things endure, they cannot out-endure our longing for them.

— Elaine Scarry, On Beauty and Being Just

Beautiful Savior! Lord of all the nations; Son of God and Son of Man. Glory and honor, praise, adoration now and forevermore be thine.

— Anonymous, Fairest Lord Jesus

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: Awake, we will awaken the dawn.

Congregation: We will praise you, Lord, among the nations; we will sing of you among the peoples.

Leader: For great is your love, higher than the heavens; your faithfulness reaches to the skies.

Congregation: Be exalted, O God, above the heavens; let your glory be over all the earth. — from Psalm 108:2-5

#### Preparation

We focus our hearts and minds in preparation to enter into the life-giving presence of God.

Tyler Holley | 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.



#### My Soul Finds Rest In God Alone Words and Music: Stuart Townend and Aaron Keyes, based on Psalm 62 Am7 G C F/A C 1.My soul finds rest in God alone, my rock and my sal - va - tion, 2. Find rest, my soul, in God alone a mid the world's temp-ta-tions. When 3.I'll set my gaze on God a lone and trust in him complete-ly, with F/A C Am7 G C Ι for tress strong a - gainst my foes, and will not be shak-en. e - vil seeks to take a hold, I'11 Though cling to my sal - va-tion. day pour out my soul, and he will prove his mer-cy. Though C I'11 lips may bless and hearts may curse, lies, like ar - rows, pierce me, rich-es come and rich - es go, don't set your heart up - on them. The life is but a fleet-ing breath, a sigh too brief to meas - ure, my $\mathbf{C}$ C F/A A m7 G I'11 fix heart on righ - teous-ness; look to him who hears my in which fields of hope Ι sow are har - vest - ed in heav -King has crushed the curse of death, and am his for - ev -

C

D<sub>m</sub>

my Re - deem - er,

G

C

God.

praise him, hal le-lu - jah, my De-light and my Re - ward.

G

C/E

nev-er - fail

me. en. er.

G

last - ing,

C/E

ing;

F

#### 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: Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.

Blessed is the man against whom the Lord counts no iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit.

For when I kept silent, my bones wasted away through my groaning all day long.

For day and night your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer.

I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not cover my iniquity;

I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord," and you forgave the iniquity of my sin. — *Psalm 32:1-5* 

# **Prayer of Confession**

All: Almighty and merciful God, we have erred and strayed from your ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts. We have offended against your holy laws. We have left undone those things which we ought to have done; and we have done those things which we ought not to have done. O Lord, have mercy upon us. Spare those who confess their faults. Restore those who are penitent, according to your promises declared to the world in Christ Jesus, our Lord. And grant, O merciful God, for his sake, that we may live a holy, just, and humble life to the glory of your holy name. Amen. — from the Book of Common Prayer

#### **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

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.





## Life Together

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

#### **Pastoral Prayer**

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.

# Life Together

# **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.

# Passing of the Peace

Leader: May the peace of Christ be with you.

Congregation: And also with you!



Words: *Münster Gesangbuch*; Music: Silesian Folk Melody



# **Scripture Reading**

Matthew 11:25-30; 1 John 4:7-21

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

Congregation: Thanks be to God.

**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.

#### Word for the Kids

#### 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.

#### Sermon

Rev. Clyde Godwin

# Lord's Supper

Invitation

Minister: The Lord be with you.

Congregation: And also with you.

Minister: Lift up your hearts.

Congregation: We lift them up to the Lord.

Minister: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

Congregation: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Minister: Let us proclaim the mystery of faith.

All: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Words of Institution

Distributing of Elements

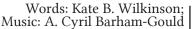
Prayer for Those Searching for Truth

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









## Benediction

## 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. During the summer, we will be offering Adult Education, but our children's Sunday school gatherings are on hiatus until the Fall.

In continuation of our study of *hesed*, or God's lovingkindness, and in preparation for our subsequent study on the theme of God's justice, the **Adult Ed class will be going through a 2-week study of US Presbyterian history, focusing on the history of our tradition's response to issues of justice, particularly in the area of race and ethnicity. The class will look at teachings about race in the 20th century southern Presbyterian church, the role of African Americans in these churches, the cultural forces at play in the formation of the PCA in the 1970s, and more recent 21st-century denominational statements about race and corporate repentance.** 

# FOR FAMILIES

## Nursery

- · Nursery is open for children ages 6 months 3 years. Children must be able to sit on their own independently.
- The room will be open to 8 registered participants, with a waitlist available as well. Please recognize that we have limited space available and if you sign up and are unable to make it, please contact us as soon as you can. If you have any questions or if you need to cancel your registration, please contact our nursery coordinator, Lara Kastelein (lara@ctkcambridge.org).

# 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 might complete one of the worship activities provided at ctkcambridge. org/worship-kids or available in the church foyer along with "Pew Pouches" containing writing and drawing supplies.

# 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.
- · Discuss the service and sermon 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.
- · 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

Christ the King is a multi-congregational church worshipping in Cambridge, Dorchester, 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

Men's Fellowship Groups: Church Office (office@ctkcambridge.org)

Women's Ministry: Martha Olson (women@ctkcambridge.org)

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

Vocational Fellowship Groups: Church Office (office@ctkcambridge.org)

College Students can join Reformed University Fellowships

BÜ: 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.

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.

# LIFE TOGETHER

# **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**Registration Reminder:** With COVID numbers on the rise, 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.

Nursery is now open for children ages 6 months - 3 years. Children must be able to sit on their own independently. The room will be open to 8 registered participants, with a waitlist available as well. Please contact our nursery coordinator, Lara Kastelein (lara@ctkcambridge.org), if you have any questions.

Children's Worship is starting soon for children 4 and 5 years! Parents and children are invited to join us after the service on Sunday, September 12 for an Open House. Come tour the classroom in our newly renovated basement, preview our curriculum, and familiarize yourself with the class schedule and procedures. Class will then open on Sunday, September 19 for up to 10 registered students (with a waitlist available). Kids will be dismissed from the service prior to the sermon and parents must escort children to class in order to check them in. Please contact Dana Russell (dana@ctkcambridge.org) with any questions.

There are **two women's Bible studies starting up this fall**. One group will meet on **Thursday evenings every other week from 7-8:30p starting on September 9**, going through a study on Luke and Acts, led by Morgan Crago (mcrago@bu.edu) and Valerie Godwin. The other group will meet on **every Thursday morning from 9:30-11am starting on September 16** in the social hall, going through *What's She Doing Here? The Messy Women in Jesus's Genealogy.* Please contact Kelly Sawyer (bostonkelly@gmail.com) with questions for the morning group.

Save the Date! CTK's 25th Anniversary party will be Saturday, September 18th from 5-8p. In addition, there are other ways to participate, including video and photo submissions. Please visit ctkcambridge.org/ctk-anniversary for more details.

# This Week at CTK:

For more details, see ctkcambridge.org/weekly-events, or email office@ctkcambridge.org

Sun, 9a :: **Adult Education** :: Online ctkcambridge.org/adulteducation

Tue, 7a :: Morning Prayer :: Online ctkcambridge.org/prayer

Thu, 8:15p :: Women's Evening Bible Study :: Social Hall

ctkcambridge.org/women

Thu, 8:15p :: Evening Prayer :: Online

ctkcambridge.org/prayer

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

Interim PastorRev. Clyde Godwincgodwin@ctkcambridge.orgChurch AdministratorLaura Bullockoffice@ctkcambridge.orgDirector of Children's MinistryDana Russelldana@ctkcambridge.orgNursery CoordinatorLara Kasteleinlara@ctkcambridge.orgMusic DirectorAmanda Holleyamanda@ctkcambridge.org

For questions about the CTK Pastoral Search Committee, please visit ctkcambridge.org/psc or email psc@ctkcambridge.org