# CHRIST THEKING

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

# EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST SEPTEMBER 26, 2021 10:30 AM MORNING WORSHIP

#### **Prelude**

The bleak landscapes of Gethsemane and Golgotha map out the strange topography of God's inner life. At the real heart of things are kenosis, crucifixion, resurrection - in other words, tragedy and its transfiguration. Christian hope is not a cosmic optimism, not a denial of tragedy. It is the vision of a lamb standing amid the ruins of history, 'looking as if it had been slain'.

— Benjamin Myers, *Christ the Stranger* 

#### Preparation

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

Leonard Layne

Leader: The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone. This is the Lord's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes.

Congregation: This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Leader: Save us, we pray, O Lord! O Lord, we pray, give us success!

Congregation: Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! We bless you from the house of the Lord.

Leader: The Lord is God, and he has made his light to shine upon us.

All: Oh give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever! — *Psalm 118:20-29* 

#### Invocation

Call to Worship

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

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: Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.

Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin!

For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me.

Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight, so that you may be justified in your words and blameless in your judgment. — Psalm 51:1-4

#### **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: There is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death. For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do. By sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. 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: Our help is in the name of the Lord,

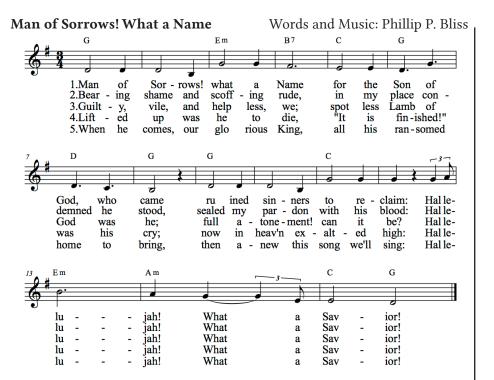
Congregation: the Maker of heaven and earth.

Leader: O Lord, open our lips,

Congregation: and our mouths will declare your praise.

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

#### 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.

#### Doxology Words: Thomas Ken; Music: Thomas Tallis Praise from whom all bless - ings flow; praise him, all crea - tures here be - low; praise a - bove, ye Son, Fa - ther, Но heav'n - lv host: praise and 1v Ghost.

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.

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

## Prayers of the People

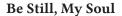
All: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

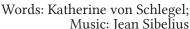
#### Word for the Kids

## Dismissal of Children and Passing of the Peace

Leader: May the peace of Christ be with you.

Congregation: And also with you!







## **Scripture Reading**

Matthew 4:23-5:12

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.

#### 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

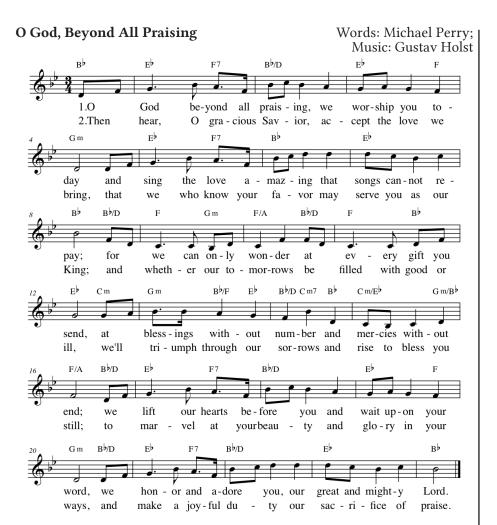
Prayer for Those Searching for Truth

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

## **Deacons' Fund Offering**



#### **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. Currently, we are offering Adult Education on Zoom, but our children's Sunday school gatherings are on hiatus.

In our Adult Education classes, we've been tracking with the themes of Micah 6:8, "to do justice, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God." In the coming weeks, we'll be doing a study on *Generous Justice*, using Tim Keller's book of the same name.

#### 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 pre view 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:** 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.

Children's Worship is now open for children 4 and 5 years! Our maximum capacity right now is 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.

We're excited to announce that we've hired **Ariana Smartt as the new Youth Intern at CTK.** Ariana is a sophomore undergrad and a leader in Harvard's RUF ministry. She's looking forward to getting to know and serve CTK's youth!

**Discovering CTK** is a class for those interested in learning more about our church and denomination (PCA) and what it means to become a member. The next class will be offered the first weekend in October. Registration is now open at ctkcambridge.org/discovering-ctk.

Save the Date: Put Saturday, October 16th on the calendar for CTK's Great Pumpkin Event. A church-wide pumpkin carving and decorating event. All are welcome for food, fun, contests and prizes! Details to come.

## 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, 9:30a :: Women's Morning 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