

# CHRIST THE KING

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT  
DECEMBER 10, 2023 10:30 AM MORNING WORSHIP

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## Prelude

*We have never encountered love, hope, peace, and joy as they really are. Even in our best moments and relationships, we can find only dim reflections of what God offers in His perfect character. — David Damico*

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

Matt Sherrill

Leader: The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;

**Congregation: The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.**

Leader: For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder,

**Congregation: And his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God...**

Leader: For in Christ all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him to reconcile to himself all things

**Congregation: Whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.**

Leader: Let us hear what God the LORD will speak,

**Congregation: For he will speak peace to his people, to his saints!**  
— from *Isaiah 9:2,6; John 1:9; Colossians 1:19-20; Psalm 85:8*

## Invocation

## 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.

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.

## O Come, All Ye Faithful

Words: Latin hymn, attr. to John F. Wade,  
trans. by Frederick Oakeley;  
Music: John Francis Wade

1. O come, all ye faith-ful, joy-ful and tri-um-phant, O  
 2. Sing choirs of an-gels, sing in ex-ul-ta-tion,  
 3. Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap-py morn-ing;

6  
 come ye, O come ye to Beth-le-hem; come and be-  
 sing, all ye cit-i-zens of heav'n a-bove; glo-ry to  
 Je-sus, to thee be all glo-ry giv'n; Word of the

11  
 hold him, born the King of an-gels;  
 God, all glo-ry in the high-est; O come, let us a-dore him, O  
 Fa-ther, now in flesh ap-pear-ing!

16  
 come, let us a-dore him, O come, let us a-dore him, Christ the Lord.

## Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

Words: Charles Wesley and Mark Hunt;  
Music: Rowland H. Prichard

1. Come, thou long-ex-pect-ed Je-sus, born to set thy  
 2. Joy to those who long to see thee, Day-spring from on  
 3. Come to earth to taste our sad-ness, he whose glo-ries  
 4. Born thy peo-ple to de-liv-er, born a child and

7

peo - ple free; from our fears and sins re - lease us;  
 high, ap - pear; come, thou prom - ised Rod of Jes - se,  
 knew no end; by his life he brings us glad - ness,  
 yet a king, born to reign in us for ev - er,

13

let us find our rest in thee. Is - rael's strength and  
 of thy birth we long to hear! O'er the hills the  
 our Re - deem - er, Shep - herd, Friend. Leav - ing rich - es  
 now thy gra - cious king - dom bring. By thine own e -

19

con - so - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art,  
 an - gels sing - ing news, glad tid - ings of a birth;  
 with - out num - ber, born with in a cat - tle stall;  
 ter - nal Spir - it rule in all our hearts a - lone;

25

dear De - sire of ev - 'ry na - - tion,  
 "Go to him, your prais - es bring - ing;  
 this the ev - er - last - ing won - der,  
 by thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it,

29

joy of ev - - 'ry long - ing heart.  
 Christ the Lord has come to earth."  
 Christ was born the Lord of all.  
 raise us to thy glo - rious throne.

### Confession of Sin

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.

### Assurance of Grace

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.

### Confession of Sin

Leader: Laboring God, you clear a holy space where hurt and destruction have no place, and a little child holds sway.

**Congregation: Clear our lives of hatred and despair, sow seeds of joy and peace, that shoots of hope may spring forth and we may live in harmony with one another.**

Leader: Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation:

**Congregation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer;**

**All: who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.**

– from *Revised Common Lectionary and Book of Common Prayer*

### Assurance of Grace

Leader: Now hear this promise of grace and forgiveness from the word of God, from Galatians 2, verses 16 and 19:

*We know that a person is not justified by works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ, so we also have believed in Christ Jesus, in order to be justified by faith in Christ and not by works of the law, because by works of the law no one will be justified... For through the law we died to the law, so that we might live to God.*

Leader: To those who repent of their sin and look to Jesus Christ for salvation, the forgiveness of sins is fully yours, by the grace of God the Father, the Son and 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.**

# His Mercy Is More

Words and Music: Matt Papa  
and Matt Boswell

(CAPO 4) E(C) A(F) E(C)

1. What love could re - mem - ber no wrongs we have done? Om -  
pa - tience would wait as we con - stant - ly roam? What  
rich - es of kind - ness he lav - ished on us. His

3 B(G) C#m(Am) A(F) B sus(Gsus)

nis - cient, all - know - ing, he counts not their sum. Thrown  
Fa - ther so ten - der is cal - ling us home? He  
blood was the pay - ment, his life was the cost. We

5 E(C) F#m7(Dm7) E(C) A(F) E(C)

in - to a sea with - out bot - tom or shore. Our  
wel - comes the weak - est, the vil - est, the poor. Our  
stood 'neath a debt we could nev - er af - ford. Our

8 A(F) E(C) B sus(Gsus) 1. E(C) A(F) E(C) B(G) C#m(Am)

sins, they are man - y, his mer - cy is more.  
sins, they are man - y, his mer - cy is  
sins, they are man - y, his mer - cy is

13 A(F) B(G) 2, 3. E(C) Esus(Csus) E(C) C#m(Am) B sus(Gsus) A(F) E(C)

2. What more. Praise the Lord, his mer cy is more.

18 B sus(Fsus)B(F) A(F) E(C) B(G) C#m(Am)

Strong - er than dark - ness, new ev - 'ry morn. Our

21 A(F) E(C) B(G) E(C) A(F)E(C) B(G) C#m(Am) A(B)G

sins, they are many, his mer cy is more. 3. What

### 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

Words: Thomas Ken;  
Music: Louis Bourgeois's *Genevan Psalter*

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all  
crea - tures here be - low; praise him a - bove, ye heav'n - ly  
host; praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

### Lighting of the Advent Wreath

### Dismissal of Children and Passing of the Peace

Leader: May the peace of Christ be with you.

**Congregation: And also with you!**

### 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

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

### Life Together

### Offering Collectors:

*Anna Read-Cressman, Cat Sherrill, Emily Stuntz, Rebekah Tsang*

# Scripture Reading

Matthew 1:18-25, page 807 in pew Bible

# 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.

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

Congregation: Thanks be to God.

# Sermon

Rev. Travis Drake

# 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

# Jesus, I Am Resting, Resting

Words: Jean S. Pigott;  
Music: Kathryn Baldanza

(Capo III) F(D) Csus(Asus) C(A) Bb(G)

1. Je - sus, I am rest - ing, rest - ing in the joy of  
 2. O, how great thy lov - ing kind - ness, vast - er, broad - er  
 3. Sim - ply trust - ing thee, Lord Je - sus, I be - hold thee  
 4. Ev - er lift thy face up - on me, as I work and

4. what thou art; I am find - ing out the great - ness  
 than the sea! O, how mar - vel - ous thy good - ness,  
 as thou art, and thy love, so pure, so change - less,  
 wait for thee; rest - ing 'neath thy smile, Lord Je - sus,

7. of thy lov - ing heart. Thou hast bid me gaze up - on thee,  
 lav - ished all on me! Yes, I rest in thee, be - lov - ed,  
 sat - is - fies my heart. Sat - is - fies its deep - est long - ings,  
 Earth's dark shad - ows flee. Bright - ness of my Fa - ther's glo - ry,

11. and thy beau - ty fills my soul, for by thy trans - form - ing pow - er,  
 know what wealth of grace is thine, know thy cer - tain - ty of prom - ise,  
 meets, sup - plies its ev - ry need, com - passeth me round with blessings;  
 sun - shine of my Fa - ther's face, keep me ev - er trust - ing, rest - ing,

15. thou hast made me whole. Jesus, I am rest ing, rest ing in the  
 and have made it mine.  
 thine is love in - - - deed!  
 fill me with thy grace.

20. joy of what thou art; I am find - ing out the great - ness of thy heart.

## **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, followed by those on the main floor, starting in the back row.*

*Grape juice is available in the center of each wine tray and gluten-free wafers are in the center of each bread tray for those who desire such. Please hold the elements until all can partake together.*

*At the end of the service, please dispose of your cup as you exit the sanctuary.*

## **Lord's Supper**

*Invitation*

*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.*

*Partaking of the Elements*

### **Communion Servers:**

*Anna Read-Cressman, Cat Sherrill, Emily Stuntz, Rebekah Tsang*



# Hark! the Herald Angels Sing

Words: Charles Wesley;  
Music: Felix Mendelssohn,  
arr. by William H. Cummings

1.Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new-born King;  
2.Christ, by high - est heav'n a - dored, Christ, the ev - er last - ing Lord!  
3.Hail the heav'nborn Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Righteous-ness!

5  
peace on earth, and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!"  
Late in time be - hold him come, off - spring of the Vir - gin's womb,  
Light and life to all he brings, ris'n with heal - ing in his wings.

9  
Joy - ful all ye na - tions, rise, join the tri - umph of the skies;  
Veiled in flesh the God-head see; hail th'in - car - nate De - i - ty,  
Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that man no more may die,

13  
with th'an gel - ic host pro claim, "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!"  
pleased as man with men to dwell, Je - sus, our Em - man - u - el.  
born to raise the sons of earth, born to give them sec - ond birth.

17  
Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new-born King."

## Benediction

## Benediction

We depart with this 'good word' of God's calling upon our lives in the world.

*Please dispose of your communion cups as you exit the sanctuary. Thank you!  
Please join us in the social hall for refreshments immediately following the service.*

# WELCOME

**Welcome visitors!** We're glad you could join us. Please fill out a digital visitor card at [ctkcambridge.org/visit](http://ctkcambridge.org/visit) so we can get to know you better. Find out more by contacting [office@ctkcambridge.org](mailto:office@ctkcambridge.org).

## SUNDAYS

### ADULT EDUCATION & SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES

Kindergarten through High School Sunday school classes and Adult Education are currently offered Sunday mornings from 9:15a-10:15a. The Adult Education class meets in the social hall.

## FOR FAMILIES

### Nursery

- Open during the service for children ages 6 months (and sitting) to 3 years. The room is behind the sanctuary through the doors on the right.
- Please contact [children@ctkcambridge.org](mailto:children@ctkcambridge.org) with questions.

### Children's Worship

- Children 4 years through Grade 2 are dismissed from the service prior to the sermon to classes with teaching suited to their age. Parents must escort kids to class in order to check them in.
- Parents may pick up children during the song after the sermon. Please head to the back foyer (4y-Grade K) and Social Hall (Grades 1 & 2) and be sure to have your security tag with you.
- Please contact Dana Russell ([dana@ctkcambridge.org](mailto:dana@ctkcambridge.org)) with any questions.

### 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.
- There are 'Pew Pouches' containing writing and drawing supplies in the front foyer of the church, and sermon worksheets available for kids to pick up during the Passing of the Peace to the right of the stage.

### 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 NIV available at [biblegateway.com](http://biblegateway.com).
- Discuss the parts of the service as a family using the worship guide ([ctkcambridge.org/worship-kids](http://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](http://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. Some groups are meeting in person and some are meeting virtually. Please visit [ctkcambridge.org/community-groups](http://ctkcambridge.org/community-groups) for a full listing with contact information.

## FELLOWSHIP GROUPS AND MINISTRIES

**Men's Bible Study:** Andy Stuntz ([astuntz@gmail.com](mailto:astuntz@gmail.com))

**Women's Ministry:** Martha Olson ([women@ctkcambridge.org](mailto:women@ctkcambridge.org))

**Youth Ministry:** Ariana Smartt ([ariana@ctkcambridge.org](mailto:ariana@ctkcambridge.org))

**College Students** can join Reformed University Fellowships

BU: [nathan.dicks@ruf.org](mailto:nathan.dicks@ruf.org), [serena.jones@ruf.org](mailto:serena.jones@ruf.org)

Harvard: [michael.whitham@ruf.org](mailto:michael.whitham@ruf.org), [catherine.cook@ruf.org](mailto:catherine.cook@ruf.org)

MIT: [solomon.kim@ruf.org](mailto:solomon.kim@ruf.org)

**Meals Ministry:** Erin Ward ([meals@ctkcambridge.org](mailto:meals@ctkcambridge.org))

**Overseas Partner Liaison:** Morgan Crago ([missions@ctkcambridge.org](mailto: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](http://ctkcambridge.org/songs).

For **online giving**, visit [ctkcambridge.org/giving](http://ctkcambridge.org/giving).

**Sermon recordings and Adult Ed classes** can be found on the website at [ctkcambridge.org/sermons](http://ctkcambridge.org/sermons) and [ctkcambridge.org/adulteducation](http://ctkcambridge.org/adulteducation), respectively.

For recommended **daily Bible reading plans** selected by pastoral staff, visit [ctkcambridge.org/daily-bible-readings](http://ctkcambridge.org/daily-bible-readings).

To sign up for the **CTK Reader**, our weekly e-newsletter, visit [ctkcambridge.org/reader](http://ctkcambridge.org/reader).

# LIFE TOGETHER

## ANNOUNCEMENTS:

*For any verbal announcements you may have missed, please visit [ctkcambridge.org/this-week](http://ctkcambridge.org/this-week).*

Please note, because **Christmas Eve falls on a Sunday** this year, we'll be doing one service instead of two -- it will be a hybrid of our regular service and our Christmas Eve Lessons & Carols service, at **4p on December 24th**.

The annual **CTK Winter Getaway is coming up in January** (more info at [ctkcambridge.org/getaway](http://ctkcambridge.org/getaway)). This year, we're looking for some more help with planning, especially with free-time activities. If you'd be interested in helping to plan group activities, please reach out to [laura@ctkcambridge.org](mailto:laura@ctkcambridge.org).

## UPCOMING EVENTS AT CTK:

*For more details, see [ctkcambridge.org/calendar](http://ctkcambridge.org/calendar), or email [office@ctkcambridge.org](mailto:office@ctkcambridge.org)*

Sun, Dec 24, 4p :: **Christmas Eve Service** :: Sanctuary  
[ctkcambridge.org/calendar](http://ctkcambridge.org/calendar)

**Save the Date** :: Jan 26-28 :: **CTK Winter Getaway**  
[ctkcambridge.org/getaway](http://ctkcambridge.org/getaway)

## WEEKLY EVENTS AT CTK:

*For more details, see [ctkcambridge.org/weekly-events](http://ctkcambridge.org/weekly-events), or email [office@ctkcambridge.org](mailto:office@ctkcambridge.org)*

Tue, 7a :: **Morning Prayer** :: Online  
[ctkcambridge.org/prayer](http://ctkcambridge.org/prayer)

Thu, 9:30a :: **Women's AM Bible Study** :: Social Hall  
[ctkcambridge.org/women](http://ctkcambridge.org/women)

Fri, 6:15a :: **Men's Morning Bible Study** :: Online  
[ctkcambridge.org/men](http://ctkcambridge.org/men)

## LINKS

VISITOR CARD:



READER:



KIDS' SUNDAY SUMMARY:



GIVING:



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*Please contact the following staff members by calling our office at (617) 864-5464 or by email:*

Senior Pastor  
Church Administrator  
Music Director  
Children's Ministry Director  
Youth Ministry Intern

Rev. Travis Drake  
Laura Bullock  
Amanda Holley  
Dana Russell  
Ariana Smartt

[travis@ctkcambridge.org](mailto:travis@ctkcambridge.org)  
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