

# CHRIST THE KING

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

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2020  
10:30 AM MORNING WORSHIP

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## **Prelude**

*Of his mercy God sends his Son in the flesh, that therein he may bear the whole human race and bring it to himself. The Son of God takes to himself the whole human race bodily, that race which in its hatred of God, and in the pride of its flesh had rejected the incorporeal, invisible Word of God. Now this humanity, in all its weakness is, by the mercy of God, taken up in the Body of Jesus in true bodily form... the Body of Jesus Christ, in which we are taken up with the whole human race, has become the ground of our salvation.*

— Dietrich Bonhoeffer, *The Cost of Discipleship*

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: 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, Everlasting Father...**

Leader: Christ has come from the Father and has come into the world,

**Congregation: Now he has left the world and gone to the Father – having overcome the world.**

**All: Praise the Alpha and the Omega, the first and last, the beginning and the end, who is and who was and who is to come!**

– from *Isaiah 9:2,6; John 1:9; 16:28,33; Revelation 1:8; 22:13*

## **Invocation**

# Joy Has Dawned

Words and Music: Keith Getty and Stuart Townend

F G m F/A B<sup>b</sup> C D m G m7 F/C C

1. Joy has dawned up - on the world, prom - ised from cre - a - tion;  
 2. Sounds of won - der fill the sky with the songs of an - gels;  
 3. Shep - herds bow be - fore the Lamb, gaz - ing at the glo - ry;  
 4. Son of A - dam, Son of heav'n, giv - en as a ran - som

5 F G m F/A B<sup>b</sup> C D m B<sup>b</sup> C F

God's sal - va - tion now un - furled, hope for ev - 'ry na - tion.  
 as the might - y Prince of Life shel - ters in a sta - ble.  
 gifts of men from dis - tant lands pro - phe - sy the stor - y.  
 re - con - cil - ing God and man, Christ our might - y Cham - pion!

9 F/A B<sup>b</sup> F/A G m7 C D m G m7 F/C C

Not with fan - fares from a - bove, not with scenes of glo - ry,  
 Hands that set each star in place, shaped the earth in dark - ness.  
 Gold, a King is born to - day, in - cense, God is with us;  
 What a Sav - ior, what a friend, what a glo - rious mys - tery,

13 F G m F/C B<sup>b</sup> C D m7 G m7 C F

but a hum - ble gift of love: Je - sus, born of Mar - y.  
 Cling now to a moth - er's breast, vul - n'ra - ble and help - less.  
 myrrh, his death will make a way, by his blood he'll win us.  
 once a babe in Beth - le - hem, now the Lord of his - t'ry.

## 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: Gracious God, our sins are too heavy to carry, too real to hide, and too deep to undo. Forgive what our lips tremble to name, what our hearts can no longer bear, and what has become for us a consuming fire of judgment. Set us free from a past that we cannot change; open to us a future in which we can be changed; and grant us grace to grow more and more in your likeness and image, through Jesus Christ, the light of the world. Amen. — from the *Book of Common Worship*

## Declaration of Absolution

Leader: Christ has entered, not into holy places made with hands, which are copies of the true things, but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God on our behalf. Nor was it to offer himself repeatedly, but as it is, he has appeared once for all at the end of the ages to put away sin by the sacrifice of himself. 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.**

# Thou Who Was Rich Beyond All Splendor

Words: Frank Houghton;  
Music: French Carol melody,  
arr. by Charles H. Kitson

1. Thou who wast rich be-yond all splen - dor, all for love's sake be-  
2. Thou who art God be-yond all prais - ing, all for love's sake be-  
3. Thou who art love be-yond all tell - ing, Sa - vior and King, we

camest poor, thrones for a man - ger didst sur - ren - der,  
camest poor, man; stoop - ing so low, but sin - ners rai - sing,  
worship thee. Em - man - u el, with in us dwell - ing,

13 sap - phire-paved courts for sta - ble floor. Thou who wast rich be -  
heav'n ward by thine e - ter - nal plan. Thou who art God be -  
make us what thou wouldst have us be. Thou who art love be -

19 yond all splen - dor, all for love's sake be - cam - est poor.  
yond all prais - ing, all for love's sake be - cam - est man.  
yond all tell - ing, Sa - vior and King, we wor ship thee.

## Offertory

### Doxology

Words: Thomas Ken;  
Music: Thomas Tallis

Praise God from whom all bless - ings 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.

### 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.**

### Lighting of the Advent Wreath

### Scripture Reading

*Luke 1:39-56*

Reader: This is the word of the LORD.

Congregation: Thanks be to God.

### Sermon

Rev. Nathan Barczy

# Joy to the World

Words: Isaac Watts;  
Music: George Frederick Handel

1. Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re-  
2. Joy to the earth, the Sav-ior reigns! Let men their  
3. No more let sins and sor-rows grow, nor thorns in-  
4. He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the

6  
ceive her King; let ev-'ry heart pre- pare him  
songs em- ploy; while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and  
fest the ground; he comes to make his bless- ings  
na- tions prove the glo-ries of his righ- teous -

11  
room and heav'n and na- ture sing, and heav'n and na- ture  
plains re- peat the sound- ing joy, re- peat the sound- ing  
flow far as the curse is found, far as the curse is  
ness and won- ders of his love, and won- ders of his

15  
sing, and heav'n, and heav'n and na- ture sing,  
joy, re- peat, re- peat the sound ing joy.  
found, far as, far as the curse is found.  
love, and won- ders, won- ders of his love.

## Benediction

# WELCOME

**Welcome visitors!** We're glad you could join us online. 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 about us by contacting [office@ctkcambridge.org](mailto:office@ctkcambridge.org). For more information on CTK's response to the coronavirus, visit [ctkcambridge.org/coronavirus](http://ctkcambridge.org/coronavirus).

## 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](http://ctkcambridge.org/worship-kids).
- 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](http://biblegateway.com).
- Discuss the service and sermon as a family using the worship guide (at [ctkcambridge.org/worship-kids](http://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](http://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™,*

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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](http://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](http://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 Barczy ([nathan@ctkcambridge.org](mailto:nathan@ctkcambridge.org))

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

**Youth Community Group:** Dana Russell ([dana@ctkcambridge.org](mailto:dana@ctkcambridge.org))

**Vocational Fellowship Groups:** Rev. Nathan Barczy ([nathan@ctkcambridge.org](mailto:nathan@ctkcambridge.org))

**College Students** can join Reformed University Fellowships

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

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

## ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Join us on **Christmas Eve for a Lessons & Carols service** held online. While this service will be different than years past, one tradition we will be maintaining is the lighting of candles for the last two songs of the service. There will be candles available at the church for those who attend in person on Sundays to pick up; otherwise, you can sign up for a candle at [ctkcambridge.org/candles](http://ctkcambridge.org/candles).

A critical part of the pastoral transition process is prayerfully considering the history, mission, and vision for the church. Following a series of interviews, surveys, and interactions with a sample of the CTK congregation, including some staff, officers, and a variety of members, McGowan and Associates have compiled an assessment and a list of recommendations for CTK to consider as a congregation. **The elders would invite the congregation to read these assessments and recommendations, as well as provide their feedback in a survey**, all of which can be found at [ctkcambridge.org/assessment](http://ctkcambridge.org/assessment). This information is also linked on the Transition web page, found on the CTK website under "About".

## THIS WEEK AT CTK:

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

Sun, 9a :: **Adult Education** :: Online  
[ctkcambridge.org/adulteducation](http://ctkcambridge.org/adulteducation)

Mon, 7:30p :: **Women's Evening Bible Study** :: Online  
[ctkcambridge.org/women](http://ctkcambridge.org/women)

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

Fri, 4p :: **Theology Reading Group** :: Online

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*To contact staff or officers, please visit [ctkcambridge.org/staff-officers](http://ctkcambridge.org/staff-officers)*