

# CHRIST THE KING

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

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 27, 2020  
10:30 AM MORNING WORSHIP

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## **Prelude**

*Christmas, therefore, is the most unsentimental, realistic way of looking at life... The Bible never counsels indifference to the forces of darkness, only resistance, but it supports no illusions that we can defeat them ourselves... The message of Christianity is, instead, 'Things really are this bad, and we can't heal or save ourselves. Things really are this dark — nevertheless, there is hope.' The Christmas message is that 'on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned.' Notice that it doesn't say from the world a light has sprung, but upon the world a light has dawned. It has come from outside. There is light outside of this world, and Jesus has brought that light to save us; indeed, he is the Light. — Tim Keller, Hidden Christmas*

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: Glory to God!

**Congregation: Glory to God in the highest!**

Leader: And on earth peace!

**Congregation: Peace among those with whom he is pleased!**

Leader: Lord, we have seen your salvation,

**Congregation: That you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,**

Leader: A light of revelation to the Gentiles,

**Congregation: And for glory to your people Israel.**

## **Invocation**

# Go, Tell It on the Mountain

Words and Music: American Spiritual



Go, tell it on the moun-tain, o-ver the hills and ev-ery - where;



go, tell it on the moun - tain that Je - sus Christ is born.   
 1. While  
 2. The  
 3. Down



shep-herds kept their watch-ing o'er si - lent flocks by night, be -  
 shep-herds feared and trem-bled when, lo! a - bove the earth rang  
 in a low - ly man - ger our hum-ble Christ was born, and



hold, through out the heav-ens there shone a ho - ly light.  
 out the an - gel cho - rus that hailed our Sav - ior's birth.  
 God sent us sal - va - tion that bless - ed Christ mas morn.

## Call to Confession

Leader: This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. If we say we have fellowship with him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us. — 1 John 1:5-10

## Prayer of Confession

All: Lord, great God, all holy, Father most gracious, filled with mercy and steadfast love, we are embarrassed to come before you, for we have preferred the ways of this world to your ways, for we have rebelled against your wisdom and we have gotten into trouble, for we have rejected your fatherly guidance and have gotten lost altogether. To you belongs righteousness, O Lord, and to us confusion of face. O Lord, great God, all holy, filled with awe, Father, most gracious, filled with mercy and steadfast love, incline your ear to our troubles. Hear us when we pour out our sorrows before you. Forgive us, not on the ground of our own righteousness, but on the ground of your great mercy. On the ground of your great mercy in the gift of your Son, Jesus Christ. It is in his name that we pray, for he is our Savior and the mediator of the covenant of grace. Amen. — based on *Daniel 9:4-19*

## Declaration of Absolution

Leader: 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. God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved. Whoever believes in him is not condemned. God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. 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.**

# Angels From the Realms of Glory

Words: James Montgomery;  
Music: Henry Smart

1. An - gels, from the realms of glo - ry, wing your flight o'er  
2. Shep - herds in the fields a - bid - ing, watch - ing o'er your  
3. Sa - ges, leave your con - templa - tions, bright - er vi - sions  
4. All cre - a - tion, join in prais - ing God the Fa - ther,

4  
all the earth; ye who sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry,  
flocks by night, God with man is now re - sid - ing,  
beam a - far, seek the great De - sire of na - tions;  
Spir - it, Son; ev - er - more your voic - es rais - ing

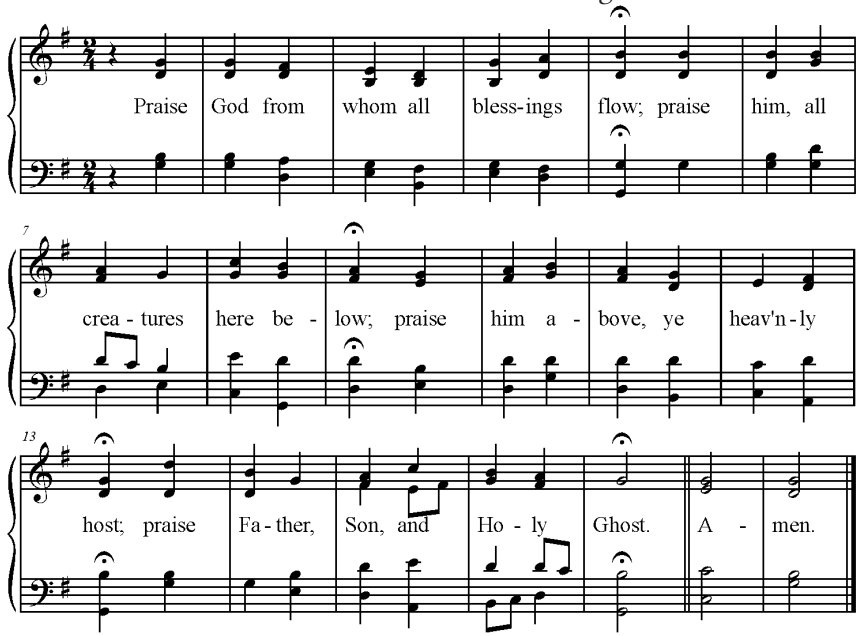
7  
now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth: Come and wor - ship,  
yon - der shines the in - fant Light: na - tal star:  
ye have seen his na - tal star: Three in One:

10  
come and wor - ship, wor - ship Christ, the new - born King.

## 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.

### 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

# Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

Words: Liturgy of St. James,  
adapted by Gerald Moultrie;

Music: French Melody, arr. by Ralph V. Williams

(CAPO III) Dm(Bm)

B $\flat$ (G)

F(D)

Dm(Bm)

Cm(Am)



1. Let all mor - tal flesh keep si - lence, and with fear and  
2. King of kings, yet born of Mar - y, as of old on  
3. Rank on rank the host of heav - en spreads its van - guard  
4. At his feet the six - winged ser - aph; cher - u - bim, with

B $\flat$ (G)

A(F#)

B $\flat$ (G)

F(D)

Gm(Em)

Dm(Bm)



trem - bling stand; pon - der noth - ing earth - ly - mind - ed,  
earth he stood, Lord of lords, in hu - man ves - ture,  
on the way, as the Light of light de - scend - eth  
sleep - less eye, veil their fac - es to the pres - ence,

10

Dm(Bm)

Cm(Am)

B $\flat$ (G)

F(D)

D(B)

Gm(Em)



for with bless - ing in his hand, Christ our God to earth de -  
in the bod - y and the blood, he will give to all the  
from the realms of end - less day, that the pow'rs of hell may  
as with cease less voice they cry, "Al - le - lu - ia, al - le -

15

Dm(Bm)

C(A)

Dm(Bm)

Gm(Em)

Am(F#m)

Dm(Bm)



scend - - - eth, our full hom - age to de - mand.  
faith - - - ful his own self for heav'n - ly food.  
van - - - ish as the dark ness clears a - way.  
lu - - - ia, al - le - lu - ia, Lord Most High!"

## Scripture Reading

Luke 2:22-40

Reader: This is the word of the LORD.

Congregation: Thanks be to God.

## Sermon

Rev. Nathan Barczi

# Deacons' Fund Offering

## Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

Words and Music: Medieval Latin Carol,  
trans. by John Mason Neale

1. Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice, with heart and soul and  
2. Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice, with heart and soul and  
3. Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice, with heart and soul and

5  
voice; give ye heed to what we say; Je - sus Christ is born to - day;  
voice; now ye hear of end - less bliss; Je - sus Christ was born for this!  
voice; now ye need not fear the grave; Je - sus Christ was born to save!

10  
earth and heav'n be - fore him bow, and he is in the man - ger now.  
He hath o - pened heav en's door, and man is blessed for - ev - er more.  
Calls you one and calls you all to gain his ev - er - last - ing hall.

14  
Christ is born to - day! Christ is born to - day!  
Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!  
Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

## 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™,*

©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](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:

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".

**End-of-Year Giving:** If you're considering a year-end gift and want it to be recorded in 2020, here are some tips:

- If you donate online, please initiate your gift on or before Thursday, December 31.
- If you donate through your bank's bill pay service, please initiate your gift several days before December 31 so that the check is dated on or before December 31. (Mail checks to CTK, P.O. Box 390699, Cambridge, MA 02139.)
- If you send a gift by mail, please be sure your envelope is postmarked December 31 or earlier. (Mail checks to CTK, P.O. Box 390699, Cambridge, MA 02139.)
- To make a gift of stock, please contact [giving@ctkboston.org](mailto:giving@ctkboston.org) for instructions.

**2020 Giving Statements:** To ensure that you receive your 2020 giving statement in a timely manner, please make sure we have your current contact information. To check or edit your information visit CTK Boston's Church Center site, enter your phone number or email address to log in, then select Profile and scroll down to Contact Information. If you prefer, you can email [giving@ctkboston.org](mailto:giving@ctkboston.org) with any changes to your information.

While there, you can also see your giving history. Select Profile then My Giving then scroll down.

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