# CHRIST THE KING

# Sunday, May 7, 2017 10:00 am Morning Worship

#### **Prelude**

Don't start chasing applause and acclaim. That way lies madness.

- Ron Swanson, Parks and Recreation

While all men seek after happiness, scarcely one in a hundred looks for it from God.

O Lord, calm the waves of this heart; calm it's tempests! Calm thyself, O my soul, so that the divine can act in thee. - Soren Kierkegaard

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

Rev. Sean Sawyers

Leader: O God, you are our God, earnestly we seek you;

Congregation: Our souls thirst for you, our flesh faints for you,

All: In a dry and weary land where there is no water.

Leader: We have looked upon you in the sanctuary, beholding your power and your glory.

Congregation: Because your steadfast love is better than life, our lips will praise you.

Leader: We will bless you as long as we live, and in your name we will lift up our hands.

All: Our souls will be satisfied as with fat and rich food; and our mouths will praise you with joyful lips. — Psalm 63:1-5

#### Invocation

Preparation

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

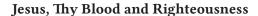
Call to Worship

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.





Words: Nikolaus von Zinzendorf, Translated by John Wesley; Music: William Gardiner



#### 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: Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

— Hebrews 4:14-16

## **Prayer of Confession**

All: Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, maker of all things, judge of all men: We acknowledge and bewail our manifold sins and wickedness, which we from time to time most grievously have committed, by thought, word, and deed, against your divine Majesty, provoking most justly your wrath and indignation against us. We do earnestly repent, and are heartily sorry for these our misdoings; the remembrance of them is grievous unto us, the burden of them is intolerable. Have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; for your Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, forgive us all that is past; and grant that we may ever hereafter serve and please you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

- From the *Book of Common Prayer* 

#### **Declaration of Absolution**

Leader: The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit. God does not despise a broken and a contrite heart. Jesus said: "Whoever comes to me I will never drive away." The Lord is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations. May the Lord, who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. 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. Some of us choose to put an offering in the plate, while others give online or by mail.



**Baptism** Rachel Zhang

## **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.

# **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.

# Dismissal of Children and Passing of the Peace



**Scripture Reading** 

Gi Yoon-Huang

Ephesians 1:3-14, page 976 in pew Bible

Reader: The grass withers and the flower fades.

Congregation: But the word of our God will stand forever.

**Sermon** Rev. Rick Downs

**Scripture Reading**So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ. *Romans* 10.17

#### 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.

We encourage kids remaining in the service to use the Sermon Worksheet available in the foyer. 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 gluten-free bread on the right for those who desire such. Please hold the elements until all can partake together.

#### Lord's Supper

*Invitation* 

Minister: God's Word has much to say to us, and there are many things we are called upon to believe. Yet in this meal that we share together we proclaim what is essential. We proclaim our faith as signed and sealed in this sacrament:

## 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

All: Most gracious God, we praise you for what you have given and for what you have promised us here. You have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. You have fed us with the bread of life, and renewed us for your service. Now we give ourselves to you; and we ask that our daily living may be part of your kingdom, and that our love may be your love reaching out into the life of the world; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

#### And Can It Be



Daniel Chen, Greg Russell, Matthew Hunter, Natalie Hunter, Nora Watson, Roger White, Sam Watson, Shiyun Chen

Words: Charles Wesley; Music: Thomas Campbell



### Benediction

#### Benediction

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

# WELCOME

Christ the King is a multi-congregational church with an English-speaking congregation that meets in Cambridge on Sunday mornings (ctkcambridge.org) and a mostly Brazilian congregation meeting in Portuguese in Cambridge on Sunday afternoons, as well as congregations that meet in Dorchester, Newton, Pembroke, Roslindale, Jamaica Plain and Somerville (ctkboston.org).

**Welcome visitors!** Please visit the welcome table in the foyer and fill out a visitor card so we can get to know you better. Also, find out more about us by talking with one of the pastors or our lead greeter, who will be standing in the back of the sanctuary. For more information about Christ the King, contact office@ctkcambridge.org.

# **SUNDAY MORNINGS**

# Adult Education & Sunday School Classes

Every Sunday morning at 8:45am, Christ the King offers classes for adults, youth and children. The topics of these classes reflect the desire of the church to equip its members with a better understanding of God's Word. Adult Education classes are taught in the social hall, classes for children toddler-5th grade are held downstairs, and Middle/High School meets in the office in the balcony.

Our current class will be up front about how our sins as humans get in the way of **relationships** and how God can heal that brokenness through his Word and his Spirit. Each class will focus on a different relationship (some in the workplace, some in the home, some between friends), with the spiritual dynamics that underlie them all being an important focus. We will also ask why God has placed us in these relationships, and look for answers that are both temporal (for particular blessing or sanctification now) and eternal (for revealing Himself to us and glorifying Himself through our relationships).

# CHILDREN DURING THE SERVICE

Children are always welcome in our service. Parents may opt to bring children to the programs below or to the social hall as needed where audio of the service plays and an area is partitioned for nursing mothers.

Nursery (0–3 years): Our nursery rooms provide safe care and are open throughout the service. Infants and non-walkers are upstairs and our 1's, 2's and 3's rooms are in the basement (exit through the right-side door for all rooms). Please sign your child in on the clipboard outside the room and take a visual pager number card.

**Children's Worship (4 years–2nd Grade):** Children are dismissed before the sermon to classes designed to engage God in a manner more suitable to young hearts and minds. All kids begin together in room 3/4 but may be picked up from adjoining rooms.

Children/Youth (3rd Grade & up): Our older children attend the entire service, and a worksheet is provided to aid in the instruction during the sermon.

For more information about children's ministry, please see the ministry leaflet in the church foyer or email dana@ctkcambridge.org.

# **BULLETINS**

Bulletins are available on the church website (http://www.ctkcambridge.org/sermons/) each Thursday before the service, allowing for download for use during the service on a smartphone or tablet.

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

# CTK READER

Visit ctkcambridge.org/ctk-reader/ to sign up for our weekly CTK Reader (electronic newsletter) with notes from our pastors, church announcements and community classifieds.

# COMMUNITY GROUPS

Community groups are central to our life together at CTK, as we seek to live as followers of Jesus in relationship to one another. We encourage people to join a group near where they live, to gather over a meal and study, pray, and serve one another and our neighborhoods together. All are invited to join a group. To find a group near you, visit www.ctkcambridge.org or email office@ctkcambridge.org.

# Men's and Women's Fellowship Groups

Men's and women's fellowship groups meet throughout the city to provide opportunities for fellowship, discipling, and growing in faith. For a listing of groups, visit www.ctkcambridge.org. If you would like a group started near you, email nathan@ctkcambridge.org (men) or Emily DeBaun Stuntz at emilydebaun@gmail.com (women).

# Women's Bible Study

Thursdays, 9:30-11:30am in the church social hall. Childcare provided. Contact Becky Williams (john.n.becky@gmail.com).

# VOCATIONAL GROUPS

Vocational groups offer times of fellowship and discussion for those in the CTK congregations throughout the city who work in similar fields. Contact nathan@ctkcambridge.org.

# Prayer Meetings

**Morning Prayer:** Tuesdays, 6:30am-8:30am for prayer at the church building in the social hall. Coffee and snacks are provided. Please contact office@ctkcambridge.org with questions.

**Missions & Church Planting Prayer:** Periodically there is a time of prayer for the missionaries CTK Cambridge supports and for church planting in Boston. Contact laura.a.martin87@gmail.com.

# SECOND SATURDAYS

A monthly gathering to connect with friends or make new ones. Events take place the second Saturday of each month at Meadhall (4 Cambridge Center, Cambridge) from 5:30-7:30pm. *The next event is May 13.* 

# College Students

CTK supports Reformed University Fellowship on nearby campuses. Contact our campus ministers at BU: nathan.dicks@ruf.org, Harvard: jeremy.mullen@ruf.org, and MIT: solomon.kim@ruf.org.

# International Ministry

CTK's international ministry offers English classes on Monday evenings during the school year and a post-worship time of fellowship and discovery on Sunday afternoons. To connect with the church as an international member of the community or to volunteer, contact hannah@ctkcambridge.org.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please join us in the social hall after the service as **we celebrate our dedicated volunteers** with cake and small tokens of our appreciation.

**Second Saturdays** is a monthly gathering to connect with friends or make new ones. The next event will take place Saturday, May 13, 5:30-7:30pm at Meadhall (4 Cambridge Center, Cambridge). Drop in any time, bring friends, or meet new ones!

Mark your calendars! A **CTK All-Church Picnic** will be held on Saturday, June 10th from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., location TBD. We'll have plenty of food, fun and games for all ages. Drop in for a little while or stay the whole time. More details coming soon.

The **Boston Fellows** is a nine-month fellowship for young professionals at CTK to cultivate the worldview, in prayer and in the community of the local church, necessary for meaningful vocation, in a cohort of peers, spiritual leaders, and professional mentors. Applications are being accepted now through June 1 for the 2017-18 cohort, which will begin in September. See www.BostonFellows.com to apply or for more information, or contact nathan@ctkcambridge.org or 617-320-1346.

We use an **online giving platform** called Church Center Online. It's straightforward to use, is secure, and has more features in development which promise to improve the online giving experience. Try Church Center Online by visiting https://ctkboston.church-centeronline.com/giving. Questions? Email giving@ctkboston.org.

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

**Pastor** Rev. Richard Downs rickdowns@ctkcambridge.org Associate Pastor Rev. Nathan Barczi nathan@ctkcambridge.org Church Administrator Cara Pardo office@ctkcambridge.org dana@ctkcambridge.org Director of Children's Ministry Dana Russell Bookkeeper Laura Cheng bookkeeper@ctkboston.org Music Director Amanda Holley amanda@ctkcambridge.org International Ministry Coordinator Hannah Nation hannah@ctkcambridge.org