

CHRIST THE REDEEMER

-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH-

FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT March 26, 2023

Welcome to CHRIST THE REDEEMER...

We're glad you've joined us. Whether you have followed Jesus your whole life or you can't remember the last time you stepped foot in a church, we want you to feel welcome to come as you are and worship with our church family. If you have any questions about our church or where to find something, please don't hesitate to ask. We're excited about what God is doing among us as we seek to live, grow and serve as followers of Jesus in Portland and in our surrounding neighborhoods. So, welcome to CTR, we'd love to have you as part of our family.

During our service, our nursery is open for babies who are crawlers through 3-year-olds. If you need help finding the nursery area, please ask any of our greeters!

Children's Church is in session. After the blessing each week, children age 4 and up are welcome to go to Children's Church. They will re-join their families after the sermon.

THE RHYTHM OF OUR WORSHIP

On the road to Emmaus (Luke 24), when Jesus' disciples found themselves troubled and confused, Jesus met them along the way. When they confessed their troubles and doubts to Him, His words and presence began to change them. He unfolded God's Word to them, pointing to His own person and work. He dined with them, giving thanks and breaking bread. The disciples recognized their Lord's presence with them and hurried to tell others the good news.

In the Emmaus story, we recognize the pattern of historic Christian worship as it began to take shape. Our worship liturgy at Christ the Redeemer moves through a specific rhythm: God **SUMMONS** us as His people, God **SANCTIFIES** us to Himself, God **SPEAKS** to us in His Word, God **STRENGTHENS** us at His table, and God **SENDS** us into the world to share His grace.

The emphasis throughout our worship is upon God's action and our appropriate response. In worship, we rehearse the gospel message of Jesus' death and resurrection and are caught up into the mission of the Triune God. The flow of our liturgy aims at drawing us further into the life of the Trinity as children of God and then impelling us outward into our world.

-adapted from City Church Philadelphia Guide to Our Worship

GOD SUMMONS

[PRAISE]

CALL TO WORSHIP

- [L] Let us worship God, for whom our souls thirst and our bodies long.
- [P] Listen, listen to me, and your soul will delight in the richest of fare.
- [L] We have come to hear the Word God has sent.
- [P] God's Word will not return empty but will accomplish through us his holy purpose.
- [L] Let us worship God in spirit and in truth.
- [P] Then we will go out with joy and be led forth in peace; the mountains and the hills will sing; the trees of the field will clap their hands.

SONG

BLESSED BE YOUR NAME

GOD SANCTIFIES

[RENEWAL]

CONFESSION OF SIN

[All] Gracious God, you have called us to be a unified body, working together that which you have willed for the world. In our apathy, we fail to participate in the work you have called us to do. In our division, we refuse to work with others to accomplish your will. Please give us a passion to serve you alongside one another. We confess to you these and other sins.

TIME OF SILENT REFLECTION AND CONFESSION

S O N G HAVE MERCY

WORDS OF COMFORT AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON

[L] The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners. He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that we, free from sins, might live for righteousness; by his wounds we have been healed.

from I Timothy 1:15; I Peter 2:24

[P] Thanks be to God.

S O N G HOW FIRM A FOUNDATION

LIFE OF THE PEOPLE [ANNOUNCEMENTS]

NEW TO CTR? Welcome! If you would like to connect, learn more about our church or subscribe to our weekly announcement email, please use this QR code.



THE PEACE OF GOD and THE BLESSING OF THE CHILDREN

- [L] May the peace of the Lord be always with you.
- [P] And also with you.
- [L] People of God, what is our prayer for these and all our children?
- [All] May the Lord be with you.

[Children] **And also with you.**

GOD SPEAKS

[WORD]

S O N G TEACH US YOUR WAYS

S C R I P T U R E Acts 16:11-34 Read by Matt Reid

The Conversion of Lydia

¹¹ So, setting sail from Troas, we made a direct voyage to Samothrace, and the following day to Neapolis, ¹² and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony. We remained in this city some days. ¹³ And on the Sabbath day we went outside the gate to the riverside, where we supposed there was a place of prayer, and we sat down and spoke to the women who had come together. ¹⁴ One who heard us was a woman named Lydia, from the city of Thyatira, a seller of purple goods, who was a worshiper of God. The Lord opened her heart to pay attention to what was said by Paul. ¹⁵ And after she was baptized, and her household as well, she urged us, saying, "If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come to my house and stay." And she prevailed upon us.

Paul and Silas in Prison

¹⁶ As we were going to the place of prayer, we were met by a slave girl who had a spirit of divination and brought her owners much gain by fortune-telling. ¹⁷ She followed Paul and us, crying out, "These men are servants of the Most High God, who proclaim to you the way of salvation." ¹⁸ And this she kept doing for many days. Paul, having become greatly annoyed, turned and said to the spirit, "I command you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her." And it came out that very hour.

¹⁹ But when her owners saw that their hope of gain was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the marketplace before the rulers. ²⁰ And when they had brought them to the magistrates, they said, "These men are Jews, and they are disturbing our city. ²¹ They advocate customs that are not lawful for us as Romans to accept or practice." ²² The crowd joined in attacking them, and the magistrates tore the garments off them and gave orders to beat them with rods. ²³ And when they had inflicted many blows upon them, they threw them

into prison, ordering the jailer to keep them safely. ²⁴ Having received this order, he put them into the inner prison and fastened their feet in the stocks.

The Philippian Jailer Converted

²⁵ About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them, ²⁶ and suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken. And immediately all the doors were opened, and everyone's bonds were unfastened. ²⁷ When the jailer woke and saw that the prison doors were open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself, supposing that the prisoners had escaped. ²⁸ But Paul cried with a loud voice, "Do not harm yourself, for we are all here." ²⁹ And the jailer called for lights and rushed in, and trembling with fear he fell down before Paul and Silas. ³⁰ Then he brought them out and said, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" ³¹ And they said, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household." ³² And they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all who were in his house. ³³ And he took them the same hour of the night and washed their wounds; and he was baptized at once, he and all his family. ³⁴ Then he brought them up into his house and set food before them. And he rejoiced along with his entire household that he had believed in God.

[L] The grass withers and the flower fades, but the Word of God stands forever.

Isaiah 40:8

The Word of the Lord.

[P] Thanks be to God.

Sermon: UNITY IN DIVERSITY

Rev. Josh Henderson Assistant Pastor

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Heidelberg Catechism Q & A #1

- [L] What is your only comfort in life and in death?
- [P] That I am not my own, but belong—body and soul, in life and in death—to my faithful Savior Jesus Christ.

He has fully paid for all my sins with his precious blood and has set me free from the tyranny of the devil. He also watches over me in such a way that not a hair can fall from my head without the will of my Father in heaven: in fact, all things must work together for my salvation.

Because I belong to him, Christ, by his Holy Spirit, assures me of eternal life and makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready from now on to live for him.

PRAYER for the HENDERSON FAMILY

Led by Elders Rick Hollen and Tim Yagel

GOD STRENGTHENS

[TABLE]

CELEBRATING HOLY COMMUNION

<u>A Word about Communion</u>: Communion is the family meal of Christians. Baptized believers actively looking to Jesus as their hope for salvation are warmly invited to share in this meal with us as our brothers and sisters.

- Please approach the servers by <u>coming up the middle aisle</u> and returning <u>to your seat via the outside</u> <u>aisles</u>.
- Once you receive the bread and wine/juice, please hold on to it as you return to your seat. We will partake together as one body after everyone has received the elements.
- Children and those who are not partaking are also welcome to approach the servers for a prayer or word of God's blessing. We ask that you fold your hands as you approach so the server is aware.
- Please dispose of your communion cups and any other trash in the wastebasket located at the back of the sanctuary or the one near the exit at the front of the sanctuary as you leave today. Thank you!

SONG: DOXOLOGY (Old 100th)

WORDS OF INVITATION & INSTITUTION

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

- [L] Lift up your hearts.
- [P] We lift them up to the Lord.
- [L] Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- [P] It is right for us to give thanks and praise.

PARTAKING OF THE ELEMENTS

PRAYERS OF REFLECTION

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 undaunted by the cost of following you as I consider the reasons for doing so. Give me an understanding for you that is coherent, convincing, and that leads to the life that you promise. Amen.

Prayer of Belief

Lord Jesus, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever before believed, but through you, I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared to hope. I thank you for paying my debt, bearing my punishment on the cross and offering forgiveness and new life. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sins and receive you as my Savior. Amen.

Prayer for Those Struggling with Sin

Lord Jesus, grant that I may see in you the fulfillment of all my needs, and may turn from every false satisfaction to feed on you, the true and living bread. Enable me to lay aside the sin that clings so closely, and run with perseverance the race set before me, looking only to you, the author and finisher of my faith. Amen.

Prayer of Commitment

Lord Jesus, you have called us to follow you in baptism and in a life of committed discipleship in your church. Grant that I may take the necessary steps to be one with your people, and live in the fullness of your Spirit. Amen.

COMMUNION SONG GOD'S HIGHWAY

GOD SENDS
[MISSION]
RESPONSES OF JOY

OFFERING OUR LIVES AND RESOURCES

[our tithes and offerings]

If you would like to give online, please use this QR code: This takes you to our online giving portal.



S O N G
THE CHURCH'S ONE FOUNDATION

BENEDICTION AND SENDING

[L] [May] the Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.

Numbers 6:24-26

[All] Thanks be to God.

March 26, 2023

HIGHLIGHTS

NEW TO CTR? Welcome! If you would like to connect, learn more about our church or subscribe to our weekly announcement email, please use this QR code.



COMMUNITY GROUPS:

Community groups are one of the primary places that we get to know one another, care for another, and help one another grow in the gospel. If you are interested in joining a group, please contact the church office (ctr@ctrportland.org).

There are currently groups in the following communities:

PORTLAND (2 groups) SCARBOROUGH SOUTH PORTLAND FREEPORT/DURHAM LAKES REGION NEW GLOUCESTER

CTR KIDS LENDING LIBRARY

We are so excited about our CTR Kids Lending Library! Before and after church, please visit the library cart in the back of the sanctuary and choose a Gospel-centered book to take home with you for the week! There are books available for all age groups, and some parenting resources as well!

ON THE CALENDAR:

SUN, MAR 26

TEEN BIBLE STUDY – 9 AM

This study will be held at CTR every other Sunday.

For more information, please contact Emma Holloway @ 207.737.9691 or unmemiriamemma@gmail.com

FAREWELL EVENT for the **HENDERSON FAMILY** – 5-8 PM

@ First Baptist Portland, 360 Canco Road

MON, MAR 27

WOMENS' WEEKLY BIBLE STUDY – 6 PM

@ the home of Laura Wiersma, 29 Lilac Lane, New Gloucester (GPS does not recognize this address so please use 54 N Pownal Road - that will get you to Lilac Lane). A light meal will be served.

Curriculum: "Romans: At His Feet" (Blanton/Gordon)

FRI, MAR 31

FRIDAY PLAY GROUP - 10 AM - 1 PM

Calling all stay-at-home moms or dads! Plan to join us at playgroup every Friday at 10am. We are at a different location every week, so keep a lookout on Instagram (@ctrportlandkids) for more information! Any and everyone is welcome with their children. It has been a joy to fellowship with parents from CTR and also meet other parents from the greater Portland area! Please contact Abby Reid if you have any questions.

FRI, APR 7

GOOD FRIDAY TENEBRAE SERVICE – 6:30 PM

Join us for this very special service in Holy Week. Tenebrae is a specific service that focuses on the cross and the death of Jesus. You will be invited into the story through scripture readings, times of meditation, and sacred music to truly feel the sadness and sorrow of Christ's death, so that together we may rejoice in his resurrection all the more on Easter Sunday.

(There will be childcare provided for nursery-age children.)

SUN, APR 9

EASTER WORSHIP SERVICE – 10 AM

SUN, APR 16

NEW TO CTR LUNCH – after the Worship Service

If you have been visiting CTR and would like to get to know us better and explore membership here, we would love for you to join us for lunch. Whether you have been here for a week or two or a few months - if you have questions, plan to come! [in Fellowship Hall in the lower level of the church]

Please let us know you are coming by emailing the office: ctr@ctrportland.org

MISSIONS SPOTLIGHT

Greg and Bonnie Harrison

Hearts of Hope Ministries Ukraine/Romania

In September 2018, the Harrison family moved to Ukraine and created a home for orphans who were aging out of the local orphanage where our 3 adopted children had grown up. At "Hearts of Hope, Ukraine" we long to see many orphans find a home, a family, and a respite from their many burdens. Their ministry is to help these



young people grow physically, emotionally, and spiritually. Greg and Bonnie point them to the Heavenly Father and teach them about what it means to live in a family, love their sisters and brothers, and about having their own families one day. In February 2022, the Harrison's (including all the young adults) fled to Romania to escape the war.

Prayer Requests from the Harrison's:

- Peace in Ukraine.
- For the gospel and LOVE of Jesus Christ to touch the hearts of the many orphans and refugees we serve.
- For wisdom and courage as we make decisions about possibly purchasing some land/house here in Romania for another "arm" of Hearts of Hope.
- For the disabled young adults that live with us here in Romania to learn a trade that will allow them some semi-independence.
- Pray for Pastor Slava and Ruslan who take care of our home in Kiliya, Ukraine, and as they minister to refugees who live in our home there.
- For our son Alex, and his bride, Dasha as they spend a year in the states applying for a "green card" for Dasha.
- For the 17 orphan boys we minister to who moved from Ukraine to Romania as refugees, and the possibility that a few of them could come and live with us at some point.

CTR PRAYER CHAIN:

If you have a prayer request or would like to join the prayer chain at CTR, please send an email to prayer@ctrportland.org. The coordinators, Carol Fecteau or Megan Lafuta, will be happy to help.

SERVE...

At CTR, we believe that part of what makes the church a beautiful place is that it draws people with various passions and gifts into one body. Below are some opportunities to use your passions and gifts to serve one another and our local community.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES
GREETER MINISTRY
MUSICKendra Hollen
Phone: 207.272.4104
E-mail: khollen@ctrportland.org
MEALS MINISTRY Tammy Locke Phone: 207.671.0936
E-mail: tam74maine@gmail.com
SET-UP
E-mail: ctr@ctrportland.org
PRAYER COORDINATOR
MISSIONS COORDINATOR
E-mail: klfavre@gmail.com



Christ the Redeemer Presbyterian Church longs to be a diverse people who gather around and extend the table of God's grace.

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE at 10:00 AM

Reverend Sean J.S. Roberts, Senior Pastor

E-mail: SRoberts@CTRPortland.org Tel. 956.207.1398

Sue Miller, Director of Community Care

E-mail: SMiller@CTRPortland.org Tel. 207.459.6797

Kendra Hollen, Music Ministry Director [E-Mail: khollen@CTRPortland.org]
Abby Reid, Children's Ministry Director [E-Mail: areid@CTRPortland.org]
Abby Reid, Connections Coordinator [E-mail: areid@CTRPortland.org]

Cheryl Sullivan, Administration [E-Mail: ctr@CTRPortland.org]

Offices located at North Deering Congregational Church, 1364 Washington Avenue, Portland

CTR is co-located at the
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