

CHRIST
THE REDEEMER
-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH-

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER
April 12, 2026

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 – 1st grade are welcome to go to Children's Church. They will re-join their families after the sermon.

→ You may use this QR code to link to the lyrics in our worship service today.



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

[P R A I S E]

CALL TO WORSHIP

[L] Do not fear, for the Lord has redeemed you.

[P] **He has called us by name; we are his.**

[L] When you pass through the waters, he is with you;
when you walk through fire, you shall not be burned.

[All] **For he is the Lord our God,
the Holy One of Israel, our Savior!**

-based on Isaiah 43:1-3

SONG

ALL PEOPLE THAT ON EARTH DO DWELL

GOD SANCTIFIES

[R E N E W A L]

CONFESSION OF SIN

[P] **Lord God, you have called us to yourself and made us into a people. We belong to you, and we belong to one another. But in our self-focused lives, we have forgotten that. We have lived for ourselves. Sometimes we have ignored others whom we have deemed unworthy. Sometimes we have ignored your gifts to us and deemed ourselves unworthy. O Lord, by the power of your Spirit, increase our gratitude for your gifts and for our life together. We pray this in the name Jesus who is head of the Body. Amen.**

TIME OF SILENT REFLECTION AND CONFESSION

WORDS OF COMFORT AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON

[L] Receive the good news of the gospel:

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy. You are God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

-based on 1 Peter 2:10, 9

[P] **Thanks be to God.**

SONG

ON JORDAN'S STORMY BANKS

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.**

After the blessing each week, children aged 4 – 1st grade are welcome to go to Children's Church downstairs in The Commons. They will re-join their families after the sermon.

SONG

THE GOODNESS OF JESUS

G O D S P E A K S

[W O R D]

S C R I P T U R E

Isaiah 43:1-21 ESV

Israel's Only Savior

43 But now thus says the Lord,
he who created you, O Jacob,
he who formed you, O Israel:
“Fear not, for I have redeemed you;
I have called you by name, you are mine.
² When you pass through the waters, I will be with you;
and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you;
when you walk through fire you shall not be burned,
and the flame shall not consume you.
³ For I am the Lord your God,
the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.
I give Egypt as your ransom,
Cush and Seba in exchange for you.
⁴ Because you are precious in my eyes,
and honored, and I love you,
I give men in return for you,
peoples in exchange for your life.
⁵ Fear not, for I am with you;
I will bring your offspring from the east,
and from the west I will gather you.
⁶ I will say to the north, Give up,
and to the south, Do not withhold;
bring my sons from afar
and my daughters from the end of the earth,
⁷ everyone who is called by my name,

whom I created for my glory,
whom I formed and made.”

⁸ Bring out the people who are blind, yet have eyes,
who are deaf, yet have ears!

⁹ All the nations gather together,
and the peoples assemble.

Who among them can declare this,
and show us the former things?

Let them bring their witnesses to prove them right,
and let them hear and say, It is true.

¹⁰ “You are my witnesses,” declares the Lord,
“and my servant whom I have chosen,
that you may know and believe me
and understand that I am he.

Before me no god was formed,
nor shall there be any after me.

¹¹ I, I am the Lord,
and besides me there is no savior.

¹² I declared and saved and proclaimed,
when there was no strange god among you;
and you are my witnesses,” declares the Lord, “and I am God.

¹³ Also henceforth I am he;
there is none who can deliver from my hand;
I work, and who can turn it back?”

¹⁴ Thus says the Lord,
your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel:
“For your sake I send to Babylon
and bring them all down as fugitives,
even the Chaldeans, in the ships in which they rejoice.

¹⁵ I am the Lord, your Holy One,
the Creator of Israel, your King.”

¹⁶ Thus says the Lord,
who makes a way in the sea,
a path in the mighty waters,

¹⁷ who brings forth chariot and horse,
army and warrior;
they lie down, they cannot rise,
they are extinguished, quenched like a wick:
¹⁸ “Remember not the former things,
nor consider the things of old.
¹⁹ Behold, I am doing a new thing;
now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?
I will make a way in the wilderness
and rivers in the desert.
²⁰ The wild beasts will honor me,
the jackals and the ostriches,
for I give water in the wilderness,
rivers in the desert,
to give drink to my chosen people,
²¹ the people whom I formed for myself
that they might declare my praise.

[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.**

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

Apr 12, 2026

Sermon Series:
FORMED FOR MISSION

Sermon:
GATHERED FOR GLORY

Rev. Alden D. Groves
Associate Pastor

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Apostles' Creed

[L] Christian, what do you believe?

[P] **I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.**

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended to heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE

Led by Laura Wiersma

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father who art 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 forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil:
For yours is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

SONG

MESSENGER DOXOLOGY #1

G O D S T R E N G T H E N S

[T A B L E]

CELEBRATING HOLY COMMUNION

A Word about Communion: 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 follow the directions given by the pastor in how to come to the front to receive the elements and then return to your seat.*
- *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 as you leave today. Thank you!*

WORDS OF INVITATION & INSTITUTION

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

PARTAKING OF THE ELEMENTS

SONG

THE SANDS OF TIME ARE SINKING

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.

G O D S E N D S

[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.



SONG

O GOD OUR HELP IN AGES PAST

B E N E D I C T I O N a n d S E N D I N G

[L] Go forth into the world in peace, confident that all authority in heaven and on earth has been given to our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to obey everything he has commanded. And take heart, for he is with you always, to the very end of the age. Amen.

-based on Matthew 28:19-20

[P] **Amen.**

HIGHLIGHTS

April 12, 2026

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.



1 ON THE CALENDAR

+ CTRKids CHRISTIAN FORMATION CLASSES

SUNDAYS beginning APRIL 12 – 9:00 AM | 61 Neal Street, Portland

Group	Age	Class Location	Curriculum
Ram Island	Potty-Trained – PreK	Nursery	Show Me Jesus
Bug Light	K-1 st Grade	The Corner Room [old nursery]	The Biggest Story
Two Lights	2 nd -4 th Grade	The Commons [large room downstairs]	The Biggest Story
Head Light	5 th Grade – Middle School	Downstairs Foyer	New City Catechism

FMI, please contact Abby Reid @ areid@ctrportland.org or 404.723.4448.

PLEASE USE THIS QR CODE TO REGISTER YOUR CHILD FOR THESE CLASSES!



ON THE CALENDAR

INQUIRERS' CLASS

SUNDAYS - 9 AM | 61 Neal Street, Portland

Are you new to our church? If you're interested in learning more about CTR's history, vision, values, and practices, come join us for our upcoming Inquirers' Class. This is a great opportunity to learn more about who we are, to ask questions, and to meet and engage with other newcomers, as well as key leaders and staff. This class is also a prerequisite for church membership, for those interested.

The class takes place on Sunday mornings at 9 am -- before the service.

Questions? Contact Pastor Alden Groves at agroves@ctrportland.org or 215-704-0132.

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

MONDAYS – 6:00 PM | 29 Lilac Lane, New Gloucester

Our winter/spring Women's Bible Study has begun. Supper will be provided as we gather each week. Together we'll walk through God's Word and encourage one another in faith.

Questions? Contact Laura Wiersma at lwiersma@ctrportland.org or 603.566.7746.

BOOKS & BUBBLY

WEDNESDAY, April 15 – 7:00 PM | 64 Brook Road, Portland

Join the women of CTR for Books & Bubbly on Wednesday, April 15 @ 7 PM for an evening of fellowship, refreshments, and book discussion.

We'll gather at 64 Brook Road, Portland as we enjoy time together and talk about Iona Iverson's Rules for Commuting [by Clare Pooley], a witty and heartwarming novel about an unlikely group of commuters whose lives become unexpectedly intertwined.

Whether you've finished the book or are still making your way through it, come for a relaxed and welcoming night with other women.

For more information, please contact Claire Roberts @ clerkus@gmail.com or 956.270.2565.

📅 ON THE CALENDAR

🏠 NEW TO CTR DESSERT NIGHT

THURSDAY, APR 16 – 7:00 PM | 64 Brook Road, Portland

If you're new to Christ the Redeemer [whether that's 6 weeks or 6 months], we'd love to get to know you better! Join us for a relaxed New to CTR Dessert Night at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Pastor Sean and Claire Roberts. This is a great opportunity to meet our pastors and other leaders, hear a bit about the heart of our church, and enjoy conversation together over dessert. Plan to join us!



DEEP ROOTS CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

As part of our **Deep Roots Capital Campaign**, we've invited everyone in our community to prayerfully consider how they can support the next chapter of our church's life together.

If you would prefer to make a pledge online, please visit our **online pledge form**—and feel free to share the link with friends, family, or others in your circle who believe in the mission of our church.

Every gift, every conversation, and every step of faith helps us put down deep roots for generations to come.



TO
PLEDGE
ONLINE

COMMUNITY GROUPS

Belong. Lean in. Launch out.

Whether you're brand new to CTR or have been here for years, **community groups are for you!**

These smaller gatherings meet regularly in homes throughout Greater Portland. Together we:

- Form friendships
- Share meals
- Pray for and engage one another throughout the week
- Encourage one another to live on mission in our everyday contexts

Why join a group?

Community groups are the primary way we care for and grow with one another at CTR. No matter your age, stage, or point in your faith journey, you'll find a place to belong, be challenged, and grow as a disciple of Jesus. We'll learn to keep asking each other: *Where has Christ placed you to serve him this time tomorrow?*

For any questions or concerns, email: amckrell@ctrportland.org.

New to CTR or to community groups? We would love you to join us!

Scan the QR code to sign up or email amckrell@ctrportland.org.



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 MINISTRIESAbby Reid
Phone: 404.723.4448
E-mail: areid@ctrportland.org

GREETER MINISTRY Abby Reid
Phone: 404.723.4448
E-mail: areid@ctrportland.org

MEALS MINISTRY Tammy Locke
Phone: 207.671.0936
E-mail: tam74maine@gmail.com

MUSIC..... Kendra Hollen
Phone: 207.272.4104
E-mail: khollen@ctrportland.org

SET-UP EJ Kruse
Phone: 814-392-4810
E-mail: ejkruse89@gmail.com

SPECIAL EVENTS.....Claire Roberts
Phone: 956.270.2565
E-mail: clerkus@gmail.com

How Do I Get and Stay Connected at CTR?

At CTR we long for clear communication and deep bonds. We are excited that you're interested in being more connected and involved. The following is a list of our communication channels and their purpose in the life of our body:

1. EMAIL NEWSLETTER (*Keeping in Touch*)

This is the primary vehicle by which we communicate regarding the life of our church. Most weeks you will receive an email with announcements and upcoming events. From time to time, our elders will also use this vehicle for church-wide or members only correspondence. **NOTE:** *If you are not regularly checking your email from CTR, it will be difficult to feel and be connected in the life of our church.* [Use this QR code to sign up for the email.]



2. CTR APP & TEXT MESSAGES

The CTR App is designed to help those in our church interact with each other. It is largely crowd sourced and includes information on informal meetups, prayer requests, live and past sermons/services, different hobby groups, ways to give, etc. [See page 17 to download the App.]

Text Messages are sent exclusively as reminders about events in the days/hours immediately beforehand.

3. SUNDAY MORNINGS

Sunday mornings employ several communication methods, including written **announcements in our Order of Worship**, verbally highlighted **announcements**, and (new) **projected announcements** running before and after the service. Sunday Morning announcements are focused on pointing people to events and ministries that help them explore or integrate more fully into the life of our church. Given the diverse backgrounds and circumstances of those attending Sunday Morning Worship, only on rare and exceptional occasions will these vehicles be used by leadership for information that is primarily member focused.

4. CTR WEBSITE & SOCIAL MEDIA

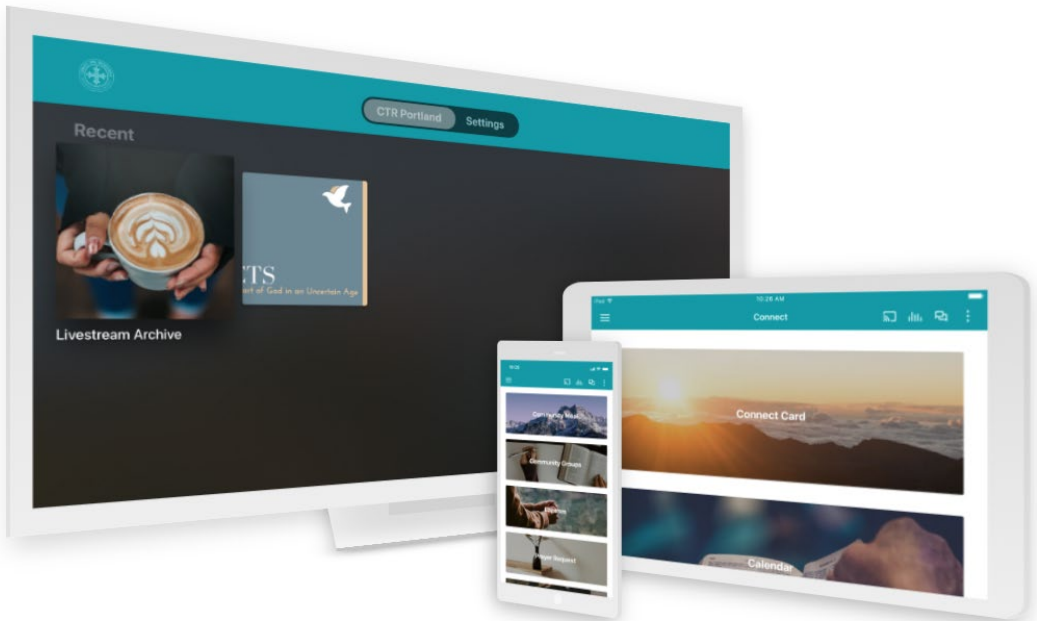
Both mediums are designed to be primarily outward facing.

The CTR Website [ctrportland.org] is designed to be our front door— a welcoming place for new people to discover and learn about our church. It is minimal in announcements and church life information.

Social Media [Instagram & Facebook] is used for promotion of church events. People are encouraged to “re-post” as a way of sharing with and inviting their friends. [@ctrportland]

If you would like to access or have had difficulty accessing any of these vehicles, please contact ctr@ctrportland.org. Our admin, Cheryl Sullivan, is happy to help you get integrated into our communication systems.

DOWNLOAD THE CTR APP!





**CHRIST
THE REDEEMER**
-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH-

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, Lead Pastor

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

Reverend Alden D. Groves, Associate Pastor

E-mail: AGroves@CTRPortland.org
Tel. 215.704.0132

**Kendra Hollen,
Music Ministry Director**

[E-Mail: khollen@CTRPortland.org]

**Amanda McKrell,
Director of Community Development**

[E-mail: amckrell@CTRPortland.org]

**Abby Reid,
Children's Ministry Director &
Connections Coordinator**

[E-Mail: areid@CTRPortland.org]

Cheryl Sullivan, Administrator

[E-Mail: ctr@CTRPortland.org]

In need of assistance?

If you're experiencing a material need beyond what you can manage, the CTR Deacons may be able to help. Please call them at 207-331-1304 or email deacons@ctrportland.org. All inquiries will remain confidential, and you will receive a reply within twenty-four hours.

CTR is located at
61 NEAL STREET, PORTLAND, ME 04102
207.878.1211 | <https://ctrportland.org>