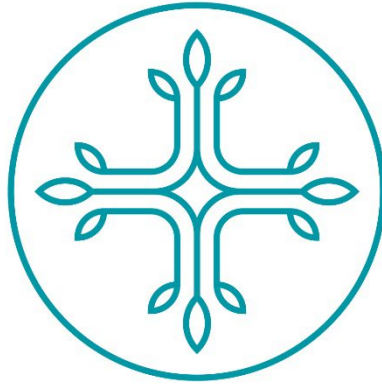




CHRIST
THE REDEEMER
—PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH—

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
September 27, 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.

→ 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



CTRKids

Gospel-centered, Nurturing, Fun, Safe

Welcome to CTRKids!

We are glad you are here! At CTR, we believe that children are not just the future of the church but are integral members of our church family right now. Below is a quick guide to how you can expect to see children welcomed and invited to participate throughout our worship service.

For more information about our Children's Ministry, feel free to visit our CTRKids table in the foyer, visit our website at the QR code below, or email our CM Director, Abby Reid, at areid@ctrportland.org.

Where do my kids go?



Infants

We have an infant care area in the downstairs foyer with space for feeding, settling little ones, and changing babies in both restrooms.



Nursery

Babies who can crawl- 3 years old are cared for in a safe and nurturing environment where they experience the love of Christ through attentive care. Follow signs down the stairs to the lower level.



Children's Church

4 years old-1st grade children are dismissed during the sermon to learn about the Elements of Worship in age-appropriate ways. Visiting families should accompany children to check them in.



2nd Graders and up

Kids remain with their families for the entirety of the worship service. Kids may pick up a CTRKids Order of Worship and activity pages at our table in the foyer.

Kids in the worship service? Yes!

Worship is something we learn by doing *together*. Children are welcome here, and we want them to grow up knowing they have a place to worship God and fellowship with his church. **We expect wiggles, whispers, and questions!** All children are welcome to join us in our kids' programs, or families can choose to keep their children in the service- whatever works best for your family.

What are the graphics on the screen?

The simple graphics on the screen are visual cues to help children recognize the different parts of our worship service and liturgy. These are the symbols they encounter every Sunday in the Nursery and Children's Church. They give children (and adults!) an easy way to follow along and participate together. Worship graphics are adapted from Teach Us to Worship curriculum developed by the PCA, created to help congregations engage more fully in the rhythms of corporate worship.

Over time, these rhythms become familiar. Our hope is that children will not simply watch worship happen but will grow in confidence and a sense of belonging as they learn to worship God alongside our whole congregation.

G O D S U M M O N S

[P R A I S E]

C A L L T O W O R S H I P

[L] Praise the Lord!
Praise the Lord from the heavens!

[P] **Kings of the earth and all peoples,**

[L] princes and all rulers of the earth!

[P] **Young men and women alike,
old and young together!**

[L] Let them praise the Lord!

[P] **Praise the Lord!**

from Psalm 148

SONG

ALL CREATURES OF OUR GOD AND KING

G O D S A N C T I F I E S

[R E N E W A L]

C O N F E S S I O N O F S I N

[P] **Heavenly Father, we come before your throne of grace to confess our sin. We have been selfish instead of generous; we have been proud instead of humble; we have held grudges instead of forgiving; we have proven over and over again that we cannot be good enough on our own. We need more of you, and less of ourselves. Gracious God, we ask for your forgiveness and receive it with joyful hearts. Renew our minds so that we may discern what is good. Fill us with your Spirit so that we may be your witnesses in the world. Comfort our hearts, that we may know that we have complete redemption by your grace alone. In Jesus' name, we pray.**

T I M E O F S I L E N T R E F L E C T I O N A N D C O N F E S S I O N

W O R D S O F C O M F O R T A N D A S S U R A N C E O F P A R D O N

[L] Thanks be to God, who has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

Brothers and Sisters, believe the good news of the gospel! In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

[All] **Alleluia! Amen!**

S O N G

BEFORE THE THRONE OF GOD ABOVE

SERVICE OF BAPTISM OF COVENANT CHILDREN

Lucy Nicole Groves

Covenant Child of Alden and Taylor Groves

Darcey Joanna Way

Boaz Charles Brian Way

Ezra Harvey Andrew Way

Covenant Children of Brian and Emily Way

Darcy James Trout

Margot Mae Trout

Wren Louise Trout

Covenant Children of Corey and Danielle Trout

VOWS for the PARENTS:

Do you acknowledge your children's need of the cleansing blood of Jesus Christ, and the renewing grace of the Holy Spirit?

Do you claim God's covenant promises on their behalf, and do you look in faith to the Lord Jesus Christ for their salvation, as you do for your own?

Do you now unreservedly dedicate your children to God, and promise, in humble reliance upon divine grace, that you will endeavor to set before them a godly example, that you will pray with and for them, that you will teach them the doctrines of our holy religion, and that you will strive, by all the means of God's appointment, to bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord?

VOW for the CONGREGATION:

Do you as a congregation undertake the responsibility of assisting the parents in the Christian nurture of these children?

PRAYER OF BLESSING

Led by Elder Nate Pillsbury

SONG

JESUS LOVES ME

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

SHOW US CHRIST

G O D S P E A K S

[W O R D]

S C R I P T U R E[found on **page 928** in the pew Bible]

Ephesians 1:15-23 ESV

Read by Haylee Freeman

Thanksgiving and Prayer

¹⁵ For this reason, because I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, ¹⁶ I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers, ¹⁷ that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of him, ¹⁸ having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, ¹⁹ and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe, according to the working of his great might ²⁰ that he worked in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, ²¹ far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come. ²² And he put all things under his feet and gave him as head over all things to the church, ²³ which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

[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 Series:

A MATURING CHURCH: PAUL'S LETTER TO THE
EPHESIANS

Sermon:

PRAYING FOR ONE ANOTHER

Rev. Sean J.S. Roberts

Lead Pastor

A F F I R M A T I O N O F F A I T H

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.

SONG

TRINITY SONG

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

[T A B L E]

C E L E B R A T I N G H O L Y C O M M U N I O N

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!*

W O R D S O F I N V I T A T I O N & I N S T I T U T I O N

P R A Y E R O F T H A N K S G I V I N G

P A R T A K I N G O F T H E E L E M E N T S

S O N G

O LORD, MY ROCK AND MY REDEEMER

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]

R E S P O N S E S O F J O Y

O F F E R I N G O U R L I V E S A N D R E S O U R C E S

[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

THE CHURCH'S ONE FOUNDATION

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

[L] May you may be filled with the knowledge of his will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, that you may walk worthily of the Lord, to please him in all respects, bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God, strengthened with all power, according to the might of his glory, for all endurance and perseverance with joy, giving thanks to the Father, who made us fit to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light.

from Colossians 1:9-12

[All] **Thanks be to God!**

[L] Go now, and be a diverse people, who having gathered around the table of God's grace, extend his grace to others.

[All] **Amen.**

HIGHLIGHTS

September 27, 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

INQUIRERS’ CLASS

SUNDAYS – 9 AM in the Meeting Room

Interested in learning more about CTR or considering church membership? Our Inquirers’ Class has begun, but we’d still love to hear from you. Reach out to us if you’d like to join the current class or be contacted when the next one is offered.

The class is a chance to learn about CTR’s heart and history, meet our leaders and other newcomers, and ask your questions. Attending does not commit you to membership, but the class is required if you decide to join.



CONTACT US HERE

Questions? Contact Pastor Alden Groves at agroves@ctrportland.org or 215.704.0132.

IN-DEPTH BIBLE STUDIES

Beginning SEPTEMBER 26 – In The Commons

Do you desire to go deeper in God’s word in community with others? Join us for a weekly bible study at the church. This fall, we will begin going through the book of Galatians, diving into Scripture together as we learn what it means to experience freedom through our identity in Christ. Be sure to sign up so we can make sure we have materials and discussion table placements for all.

Men’s Study	Saturdays, 6:45 AM , beginning September 26, in The Commons
Women’s Study	Thursdays, 6:15 PM , beginning October 1, in The Commons

Questions? Contact Pastor Sean Roberts (SRoberts@CTRPortland.org) or Director of Community Development, Amanda McKrell (AMcKrell@CTRPortland.org).



SIGN UP HERE

BOOKS & BUBBLY

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

Join us for our next **Ladies' Books & Bubbly** gathering on **Wednesday, October 7, at 7:00 PM!** This meeting's selection is *Magpie Murders* by Anthony Horowitz—a clever mystery within a mystery. This book is full of twists, puzzles, and classic whodunit charm--it should give us plenty to talk about!

Whether you finish every page or simply want to enjoy a relaxed evening of conversation and connection, we'd love to have you join us!

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

TRUNK OR TREAT @ CTR

SATURDAY, OCT 31 – 4 – 5:15 PM | 61 Neal Street, Portland

Join us for our very first **Trunk or Treat!**

We're looking for people to decorate and fill their trunks with treats for families to enjoy as they make their way through the parking lot on October 31. Go big, keep it simple, get creative — we just want a parking lot full of fun and welcoming faces!

This is a great opportunity to invite your neighbors, friends, and families to come hang out, enjoy some treats, and experience a little of what makes our church community special.

Want to host a trunk? Sign up using this QR code!



CTR KIDS

Our **Christian Formation classes** use The Gospel Project curriculum, helping kids of every age see how the whole Bible points to Jesus. With age-appropriate lessons and **resources to help parents continue the conversation at home**, we will grow together in knowing and loving God and his great story of redemption!

Please reach out to Abby Reid if you have questions about anything CTRKids!

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



CF Classes

Sundays from 9:00-9:45

Ram Island	Potty Trained-Kindergarten	Nursery	The Gospel Project
Bug Light	1st-2nd grade	The Corner Room (old nursery)	The Gospel Project
Two Lights	3rd-5th grade	The Commons (large room downstairs)	The Gospel Project
Head Light	6th grade+	Downstairs Foyer	The Gospel Project

CTR COMMUNITY GROUPS

Groups are launching this month. If you have not asked to be added to a group, reach out today!
We'd love to reserve a place for you!

WHAT IS A COMMUNITY GROUP?

Community Groups are smaller, regular gatherings in one another's homes — a place to share meals, open Scripture, and pray for each other as we learn to follow Christ in our everyday lives: our workplaces, schools, neighborhoods, and friendships.

HOW DO I RESPOND?

It's simple: **Fill out the form** (use the QR code): We'll be in touch soon!

- Or email Amanda McKrell, Director of Community Development, at amckrell@ctrportland.org.





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.



TO
PLEDGE
ONLINE

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.

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

WELCOME TEAM 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

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

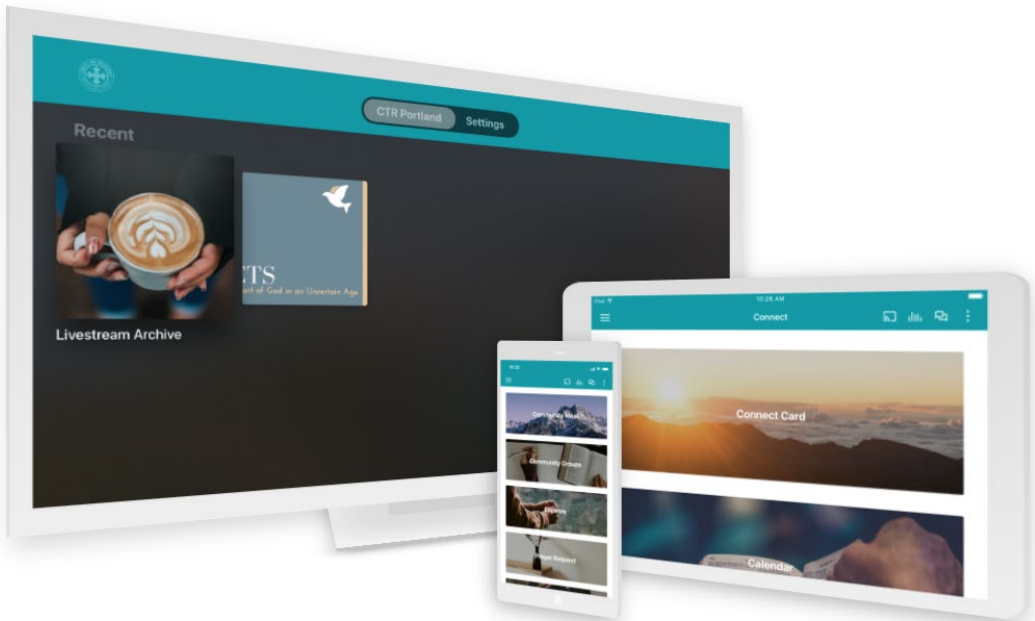
Both mediums are designed to be primarily outward facing.

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

Austin Watson, Pastoral Ministry Resident

E-mail: AustinWatson@CTRPortland.org
Tel. 850.728.8853

**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**

[E-Mail: areid@CTRPortland.org]

Cheryl Sullivan, Administrator

[E-Mail: ctr@CTRPortland.org]

**Abby Watson
Ministry Resident**

[E-Mail: AbbyWatson@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>