



CHRIST  
THE REDEEMER  
—PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH—

EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME  
August 3, 2025

## 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 – 1<sup>st</sup> 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*

## 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] The Lord Jesus who calls us to worship him today is the same Jesus who refused the temptation to worship the evil one. Rather than receive the glorious kingdoms of this world, he endured the shame of the cross, and today is Lord of lords and King of kings.

Now are gathered in him all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge, glory, and power.

With the saints of all ages we say,

[P] **“Worthy is the Lamb, who was slain,  
to receive power and wealth and wisdom  
and strength and honor and glory and praise!”**

### SONG

JESUS SHALL REIGN

## 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

[All] **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. Amen.**

TIME OF SILENT REFLECTION AND CONFESSION

WORDS OF COMFORT AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON

[L] Blessing and honor and glory and might belong to Christ—the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world. He has turned our mourning into dancing and clothed us with joy.

Know that you are forgiven by the blood of the Lamb, and sing praises to the Lord, giving thanks to his holy name.

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

SONG

YET NOT I BUT THROUGH CHRIST IN 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 – 1<sup>st</sup> grade are welcome to go to Children's Church downstairs in Fellowship Hall. They will re-join their families after the sermon.*

## SONG

BEFORE THE THRONE OF GOD ABOVE

**G O D   S P E A K S**

[ W O R D ]

## S C R I P T U R E

Revelation 3:20-22; 4:1-8; 5:1-10

Read by Landon Kepler

<sup>20</sup> Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and eat with him, and he with me. <sup>21</sup> The one who conquers, I will grant him to sit with me on my throne, as I also conquered and sat down with my Father on his throne. <sup>22</sup> He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.”

*The Throne in Heaven*

<sup>4</sup> After this I looked, and behold, a door standing open in heaven! And the first voice, which I had heard speaking to me like a trumpet, said, “Come up here, and I will show you what must take place after this.” <sup>2</sup> At once I was in the Spirit, and behold, a throne stood in heaven, with one seated on the throne. <sup>3</sup> And he who sat there had the appearance of jasper and carnelian, and around the throne was a rainbow that had the appearance of an emerald. <sup>4</sup> Around the throne were twenty-four thrones, and seated on the thrones were twenty-four elders, clothed in white garments, with golden crowns on their heads. <sup>5</sup> From the throne came flashes of lightning, and rumblings and peals of thunder, and before the throne were burning seven torches of fire, which are the seven spirits of God, <sup>6</sup> and before the throne there was as it were a sea of glass, like crystal. And around the throne, on each side of the throne, are four living creatures, full of eyes in front and behind: <sup>7</sup> the first living creature like a lion, the second living creature like an ox, the third living creature with the face of a man, and the fourth living creature like an eagle in flight. <sup>8</sup> And the four living creatures, each of them with six wings, are full of eyes all around and within, and day and night they never cease to say,

“Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord God Almighty,  
who was and is and is to come!”

*The Scroll and the Lamb*

5 Then I saw in the right hand of him who was seated on the throne a scroll written within and on the back, sealed with seven seals. <sup>2</sup> And I saw a mighty angel proclaiming with a loud voice, “Who is worthy to open the scroll and break its seals?” <sup>3</sup> And no one in heaven or on earth or under the earth was able to open the scroll or to look into it, <sup>4</sup> and I began to weep loudly because no one was found worthy to open the scroll or to look into it. <sup>5</sup> And one of the elders said to me, “Weep no more; behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has conquered, so that he can open the scroll and its seven seals.”

<sup>6</sup> And between the throne and the four living creatures and among the elders I saw a Lamb standing, as though it had been slain, with seven horns and with seven eyes, which are the seven spirits of God sent out into all the earth. <sup>7</sup> And he went and took the scroll from the right hand of him who was seated on the throne. <sup>8</sup> And when he had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each holding a harp, and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints. <sup>9</sup> And they sang a new song, saying,

“Worthy are you to take the scroll  
and to open its seals,  
for you were slain, and by your blood you ransomed people for God  
from every tribe and language and people and nation,  
<sup>10</sup> and you have made them a kingdom and priests to our God,  
and they shall reign on the earth.”

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

Isaiah 40:8

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

EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

August 3, 2025

Sermon Series:  
THE RETURN OF CHRIST

Sermon:  
THE LAMB ON THE THRONE

Austin Watson  
*CTR Summer Pastoral Intern*

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Nicene Creed

[L] Christian, what is it that we believe?

[P] **We believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father; by whom all things were made; who for us and for our salvation came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary, and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate; He suffered and was buried; and the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures, and ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father; and He shall come again, with glory, to judge both the living and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end.**

**And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son; who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified; who spoke by the prophets; and we believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church; we acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins; and we look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE

Led by Abby Watson

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.



**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 approach the servers by coming up the middle aisle and returning to your seat via the outside aisles.*
- *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 [Jude 23-24]

## W O R D S   O F   I N V I T A T I O N   &amp;   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

## SONG

BEHOLD THE LAMB

## 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

I N C H R I S T   A L O N E

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

[L]     We who have been given new birth into a living hope, are sent now into the world  
-to look, live and love more like Jesus.

Go in peace to serve the Lord!

[P]     **Thanks be to God.**

# HIGHLIGHTS

August 1, 2025

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.



## ON THE CALENDAR

### SUMMER STUDY: WHAT IS THE CHURCH?

*TODAY – 9 AM*

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Ever wondered about what exactly the church is? Or who it is? Or what it's for?

Come join us on Sundays at 9 AM from June 15 – August 3 for an overview study of why God made the church and what being the church means for our everyday lives.

### WOMEN'S DROP-IN

*THURS, AUG 7 – 7-8:30 PM | Foundation Brewing, 1 Industrial Way #7, Portland*

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Ladies, we'd love for you to join us for a relaxed evening at Foundation Brewing. It's an easygoing time to connect, enjoy good conversation, and simply be together. Come as you are, drop in when you can, and stay as long as you like.

### DEACONS FUND SUNDAY

*SUN, AUG 10*

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Each quarter, we set aside a Sunday to prayerfully consider giving above and beyond our regular offering to support the Deacons Fund. These gifts go directly toward caring for individuals and families in our church and community who are facing financial hardship. If you feel led to contribute, mark your gift "Deacons Fund" or select that option when giving online. Thank you for being part of this quiet, faithful work of care and compassion.

## ON THE CALENDAR

### MEN'S DROP-IN

*TUES, AUG 12 – 5-6:30 PM | Foundation Brewing, 1 Industrial Way, #7, Portland*

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Sometimes you just need a casual space to unwind, catch up, and connect. Join us for our next Men's Drop-In at Foundation Brewing—no agenda, just good conversation, great local brews, and a chance to build community. Come when you can, and bring a friend!

### BOOKS & BUBBLY

*WED, SEPT 10 – 7:00 PM | 64 Brook Road, Portland*

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September's pick: *Wild Dark Shore* by Charlotte McConaghy

Join us in September for *Books & Bubbly*! This month we're reading *Wild Dark Shore* by Charlotte McConaghy—a haunting, beautifully written novel set on a remote island where a fractured family guards a global seed vault. When a mysterious woman washes ashore, long-buried secrets surface, testing trust, grief, and resilience. Come enjoy thoughtful conversation, community, and a little bubbly and savory and sweet bites as we reflect on this powerful story together!

**Questions?** Contact Claire Roberts at [clerkus@gmail.com](mailto:clerkus@gmail.com) or 956-270-2565.



TO PLEDGE  
ONLINE

# 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.

# 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 .....Abby 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

MISSIONS COORDINATOR.....Kathi Favre  
Phone: 207.298.2089  
E-mail: klfavre@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 15 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.

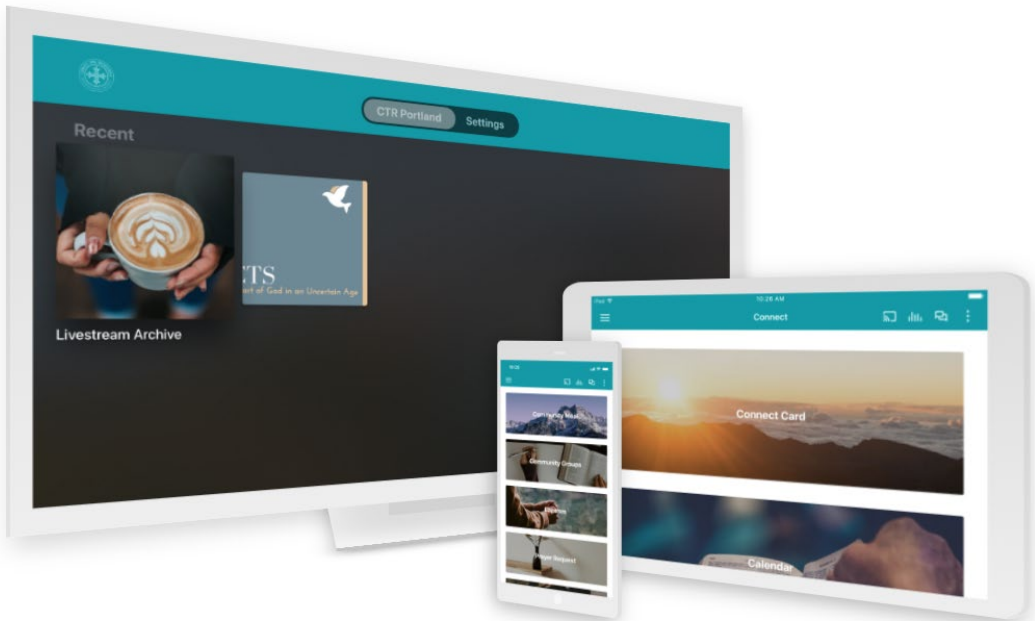
**The CTR Website** [ctrportland.org] is designed to be our front door— a welcoming place for new people to discover and learn about our church. It is minimal in announcements and church life information.

**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](mailto: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](mailto:SRoberts@CTRPortland.org)  
Tel. 956.207.1398

### **Reverend Alden D. Groves, Assistant Pastor**

E-mail: [AGroves@CTRPortland.org](mailto:AGroves@CTRPortland.org)  
Tel. 215.704.0132

### **Kendra Hollen, Music Ministry Director**

[E-Mail: [khollen@CTRPortland.org](mailto:khollen@CTRPortland.org)]

### **Amanda McKrell, Director of Community Development**

[E-mail: [amckrell@CTRPortland.org](mailto:amckrell@CTRPortland.org)]

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

[E-Mail: [areid@CTRPortland.org](mailto:areid@CTRPortland.org)]

### **Cheryl Sullivan, Administrator**

[E-Mail: [ctr@CTRPortland.org](mailto:ctr@CTRPortland.org)]

### **Laura Wiersma, Ministry Intern**

[E-Mail: [lwiersma@CTRPortland.org](mailto:lwiersma@CTRPortland.org)]

### **Landon Kepler Summer Ministry Intern**

[E-Mail: [lckeppler1@gmail.com](mailto:lckeppler1@gmail.com)]

### **Austin Watson Summer Pastoral Intern**

[E-Mail: [abetteraddress@gmail.com](mailto:abetteraddress@gmail.com)]

### **Abby Watson Summer Ministry Intern**

[E-Mail: [abby.g.cooke@gmail.com](mailto:abby.g.cooke@gmail.com)]

## *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](mailto:deacons@ctrportland.org). All inquiries will remain confidential, and you will receive a reply within twenty-four hours.

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

CTR is co-located at the  
WHITE MEMORIAL SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH  
97 Allen Avenue | Portland, ME 04103  
207.878.1211 | <https://ctrportland.org>