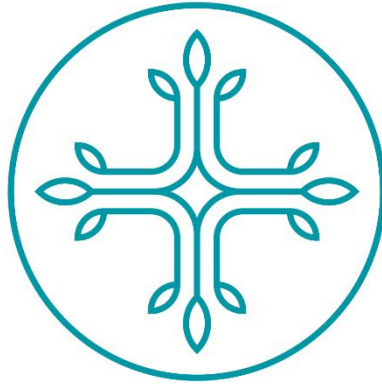




CHRIST
THE REDEEMER
—PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH—

NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
July 26, 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

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] Show us your ways, O Lord;

[P] **teach us your paths.**

[L] Guide us in your truth,

[P] **and teach us,**

[L] for you are the God of our salvation;

[All] **we wait for you all day long.**

from Psalm 25:4-5

S O N G

GUIDE ME, O THOU GREAT JEHOVAH

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] **Great Provider, you say in your word, “Cast your bread upon the waters,” but we would rather eat it. You tell us that we “will find it after many days,” but we would rather hang onto it than listen to you. Help us, O Lord.**

We confess living by faith is hard. We want to know where we are going before we go, to have all the answers before we say yes. But this is the truth: we want to know all those things because we don’t really trust you—not fully, not yet. We would rather lean on our own understanding than trust in the Lord. Forgive us, O God.

Grant us faith. Assure us of the things hoped for. Give us the conviction of things not seen. Help us trust you—more now and more fully. We believe, Holy Spirit; help our unbelief.

Hear us as we continue our confession in silence...

TIME OF SILENT REFLECTION AND CONFESSION

WORDS OF COMFORT AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON

[L] Psalm 70:4, which is a prayer for deliverance, says this:

“May all who seek you rejoice and be glad in you! May those who love your salvation say evermore, 'God is great!'”

Sisters and brothers, Jesus grants us forgiveness, love, and salvation.
In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! God is great!

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

SONG

COME BEHOLD THE WONDROUS MYSTERY

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

TEACH US YOUR WAYS

G O D S P E A K S

[W O R D]

S C R I P T U R E

[found on **pages 52 - 54** in the pew Bible]

Selections from Exodus 13 and 14 ESV

Read by Gabriel Wiechert

The Deliverance

13 ¹⁷ When Pharaoh let the people go, God did not lead them by way of the land of the Philistines, although that was near. For God said, “Lest the people change their minds when they see war and return to Egypt.” ¹⁸ But God led the people around by the way of the wilderness toward the Red Sea. And the people of Israel went up out of the land of Egypt equipped for battle ²¹ And the LORD went before them by day in a pillar of cloud to lead them along the way, and by night in a pillar of fire to give them light, that they might travel by day and by night.

14 Then the LORD said to Moses, ² “Tell the people of Israel to turn back and encamp in front of Pi-hahiroth, between Migdol and the sea, in front of Baal-zephon; you shall encamp facing it, by the sea. ³ For Pharaoh will say of the people of Israel, ‘They are wandering in the land; the wilderness has shut them in.’ ⁴ And I will harden Pharaoh's heart, and he will pursue them, and I will get glory over Pharaoh and all his host, and the Egyptians shall know that I am the LORD.” And they did so.

⁵ When the king of Egypt was told that the people had fled, the mind of Pharaoh and his servants was changed toward the people, and they said, “What is this we have done, that we have let Israel go from serving us?” ⁸ And the LORD hardened the heart of Pharaoh king of Egypt, and he pursued the people of Israel while the people of Israel were going out defiantly. ⁹ The Egyptians pursued them, all Pharaoh's horses and chariots and his horsemen and his army, and overtook them encamped at the sea, by Pi-hahiroth, in front of Baal-zephon.

¹⁰ When Pharaoh drew near, the people of Israel lifted up their eyes, and behold, the Egyptians were marching after them, and they feared greatly. And the people of Israel cried out to

the LORD. ¹¹ They said to Moses, “Is it because there are no graves in Egypt that you have taken us away to die in the wilderness? What have you done to us in bringing us out of Egypt? ¹² Is not this what we said to you in Egypt: ‘Leave us alone that we may serve the Egyptians’? For it would have been better for us to serve the Egyptians than to die in the wilderness.” ¹³ And Moses said to the people, “Fear not, stand firm, and see the salvation of the LORD, which he will work for you today. For the Egyptians whom you see today, you shall never see again. ¹⁴ The LORD will fight for you, and you have only to be silent.”

¹⁵ The LORD said to Moses, “Why do you cry to me? Tell the people of Israel to go forward. ¹⁶ Lift up your staff, and stretch out your hand over the sea and divide it, that the people of Israel may go through the sea on dry ground. ¹⁷ And I will harden the hearts of the Egyptians so that they shall go in after them, and I will get glory over Pharaoh and all his host, his chariots, and his horsemen.

²¹ Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and the LORD drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night and made the sea dry land, and the waters were divided. ²² And the people of Israel went into the midst of the sea on dry ground, the waters being a wall to them on their right hand and on their left. ²³ The Egyptians pursued and went in after them into the midst of the sea, all Pharaoh's horses, his chariots, and his horsemen. ²⁴ And in the morning watch the LORD in the pillar of fire and of cloud looked down on the Egyptian forces and threw the Egyptian forces into a panic, ²⁵ clogging their chariot wheels so that they drove heavily.

²⁶ Then the LORD said to Moses, “Stretch out your hand over the sea, that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots, and upon their horsemen.” ²⁷ So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and the sea returned to its normal course when the morning appeared. And as the Egyptians fled into it, the LORD threw the Egyptians into the midst of the sea.

³⁰ Thus the LORD saved Israel that day from the hand of the Egyptians, and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. ³¹ Israel saw the great power that the LORD used against the Egyptians, so the people feared the LORD, and they believed in the LORD and in his servant Moses.

[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.**

NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

July 26, 2026

Sermon Series:
LEAVING EGYPT, FINDING HOME

Sermon:
FEAR AND THE GOD WHO DELIVERS

Rev. Alden D. Groves
Associate Pastor

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Heidelberg Catechism Q & A's #1 and 52

[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.

[L] What comfort is it to you that Christ “shall come to judge the living and the dead”?

[P] **That in all my sorrows and persecutions, I, with uplifted head, look for the very One who offered Himself for me to the judgment of God, and removed all curse from me, to come as Judge from heaven, who shall cast all His and my enemies into everlasting condemnation, but shall take me with all His chosen ones to Himself into heavenly joy and glory.**

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE

Led by Marcela Wiechert

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

DOXOLOGY [OLD 100TH]

GOD STRENGTHENS

[TABLE]

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

JESUS, I COME

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

O LORD, MY ROCK AND MY REDEEMER

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

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

Numbers 6:24-26

[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

July 26, 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

SUMMER IN THE PSALMS

*Sundays, June 21 – August 9
9 AM in The Commons*

As you heard at the end of our Liturgy Sermon Series, God has made us to sing to him. And to that end, one of the greatest gifts he has given us is the Book of Psalms. This collection of ancient Hebrew poetry is timeless in its relatability and reliability to direct us to bring the full range of our emotions before the Lord.

Come, join us for this 8-week summer study taught by our interns. The Psalms are a rich treasury of God's word and we will learn how each of these songs points us to God through Christ.

MEN'S DROP-IN

***THURSDAY, JULY 30 – 5:00 PM | Rising Tide Brewing, 103 Fox St.,
Portland***

Men, join us for a relaxed evening of good conversation and fellowship at Rising Tide. Whether you're new to CTR or have been here for years, we'd love to have you come. No agenda—just come as you are!

ON THE CALENDAR

BOOKS & BUBBLY

WEDNESDAY, AUG 12 – 7:00 PM | 64 Brook Road, Portland

Join the women of CTR for an evening of friendship, conversation, and a good book at our next Books & Bubbly gathering! We'll be discussing *Theo of Golden* by Allen Levi—a heartwarming story about the power of kindness, generosity, and truly seeing the people around us.

Set in the small town of Golden, the novel follows Theo, a mysterious newcomer who begins purchasing portraits of local residents from a coffee shop and returning them to the people they represent. Along the way, he invites people to share their stories, creating unexpected moments of connection, healing, and friendship. It's a beautiful reminder of how small acts of compassion can make a lasting impact.

Whether you're a longtime book club participant or joining us for the first time, you're warmly invited. Come ready to share your thoughts, enjoy meaningful conversation, and spend a relaxed evening connecting with other women from CTR.

We'd love to have you join us—and feel free to bring a friend!

POOL PARTY @ THE LOCKE'S

*SATURDAY, AUG 15 – 11 AM – 2 PM | 18 Mitchell Hill Road,
Scarborough*

Join us for a fun afternoon at the pool at the Locke's house from **11:00am — 2pm** on August 15! We'll have a lifeguard on duty and lunch will be provided. There will be plenty of time to swim, connect, and enjoy time together. Just bring your towel—we'll take care of the rest! We'd love to see you there!



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 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

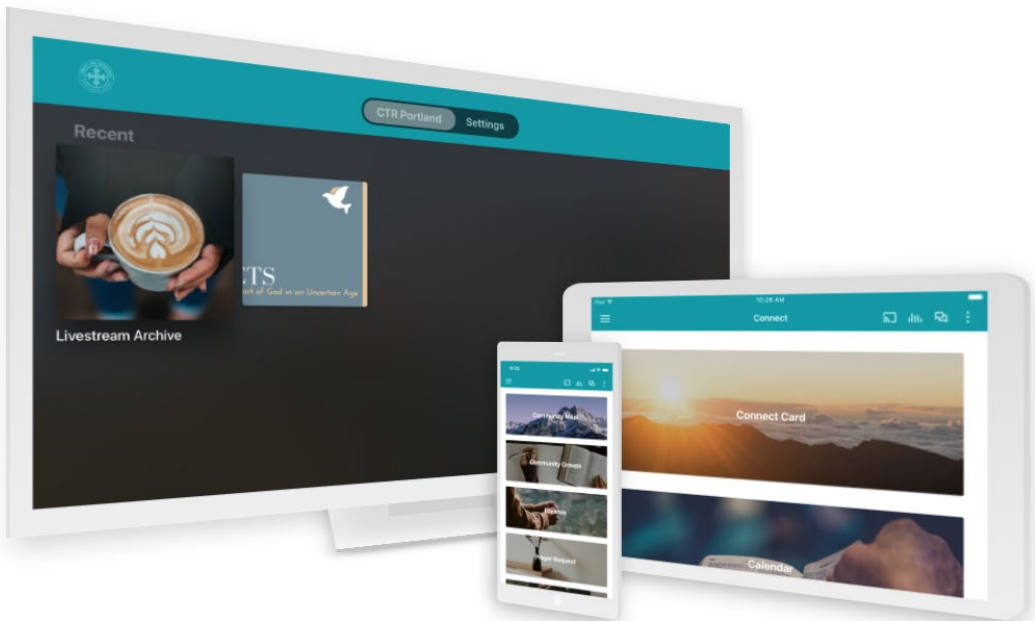
Both mediums are designed to be primarily outward facing.

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. 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>