



CHRIST  
THE REDEEMER  
—PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH—

NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME  
August 10, 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] Who can stand before the glory of God?  
Who can see His face and live?

[All] **Only those who are given pardon by Christ, our Great High Priest.**

[L] Let us then approach God's throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.

### S O N G

BEHOLD OUR GOD

## 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] **Almighty God, too often we settle for brokenness in our lives.  
Rather than offering forgiveness, we hold onto offense.  
Rather than pursuing justice, we turn away.  
Rather than offering mercy, we continue in judgment.**

**Gracious God, these are not the ways of your kingdom.**

**Make us hunger and thirst for righteousness that we might  
see our need for Jesus.**

**Being nourished by his goodness, help us live out God's ways on earth.**

### 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

WORDS OF COMFORT AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON

[L] In Christ, we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight.

Together we affirm that by Christ's forgiving grace we are forgiven. Amen.

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

SONG

LET YOUR KINGDOM COME

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

WHAT THE LORD HAS DONE IN ME

**G O D   S P E A K S**

[ W O R D ]

## S C R I P T U R E

Revelation 12

Read by Fran Rodenburg

*The Woman and the Dragon*

12 And a great sign appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars. <sup>2</sup> She was pregnant and was crying out in birth pains and the agony of giving birth. <sup>3</sup> And another sign appeared in heaven: behold, a great red dragon, with seven heads and ten horns, and on his heads seven diadems. <sup>4</sup> His tail swept down a third of the stars of heaven and cast them to the earth. And the dragon stood before the woman who was about to give birth, so that when she bore her child he might devour it. <sup>5</sup> She gave birth to a male child, one who is to rule all the nations with a rod of iron, but her child was caught up to God and to his throne, <sup>6</sup> and the woman fled into the wilderness, where she has a place prepared by God, in which she is to be nourished for 1,260 days.

*Satan Thrown Down to Earth*

<sup>7</sup> Now war arose in heaven, Michael and his angels fighting against the dragon. And the dragon and his angels fought back, <sup>8</sup> but he was defeated, and there was no longer any place for them in heaven. <sup>9</sup> And the great dragon was thrown down, that ancient serpent, who is called the devil and Satan, the deceiver of the whole world—he was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him. <sup>10</sup> And I heard a loud voice in heaven, saying, “Now the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ have come, for the accuser of our brothers has been thrown down, who accuses them day and night before our God. <sup>11</sup> And they have conquered him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, for they loved not their lives even unto death. <sup>12</sup> Therefore, rejoice, O heavens and you who dwell in them! But woe to you, O earth and sea, for the devil has come down to you in great wrath, because he knows that his time is short!”

<sup>13</sup> And when the dragon saw that he had been thrown down to the earth, he pursued the woman who had given birth to the male child. <sup>14</sup> But the woman was given the two wings of the great eagle so that she might fly from the serpent into the wilderness, to the place where she is to be nourished for a time, and times, and half a time. <sup>15</sup> The serpent poured water like a river out of his mouth after the woman, to sweep her away with a flood. <sup>16</sup> But the earth came to the help of the woman, and the earth opened its mouth and swallowed the river that the dragon had poured from his mouth. <sup>17</sup> Then the dragon became furious with the woman and went off to make war on the rest of her offspring, on those who keep the commandments of God and hold to the testimony of Jesus. And he stood on the sand of the sea.

[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.**

NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

August 10, 2025

Sermon Series:  
THE RETURN OF CHRIST

Sermon:  
THE GREAT BATTLE

Rev. Sean J.S. Roberts  
*Lead Pastor*

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 Elder Nate Pillsbury

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

SANCTUS

## 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

THERE IS A FOUNTAIN

## **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

ALL HAIL THE POWER OF JESUS' NAME

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

[L]     May God the Father, who has created you for his Kingdom; may God the Son, who has forgiven you all your sins and invited you to “Come and see;” and may God the Holy Spirit, who has worked faith in your hearts so that you might follow where he leads, bless you this day and always.

[P]     **Amen.**

[L]     Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

[P]     **Thanks be to God.**

# HIGHLIGHTS

August 10, 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.



## **1 ON THE CALENDAR**

### **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.

### **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.

## 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?*

### **Already in a group?**

Watch your inbox! If you attended a group last year, you'll receive an email to confirm your group placement for Fall 2025.

For any questions or concerns, email: [amckrell@ctrportland.org](mailto:amckrell@ctrportland.org).

### **New to CTR or to community groups?**

We would love for you to join us!

Scan the QR code to sign up or email [amckrell@ctrportland.org](mailto:amckrell@ctrportland.org).





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.

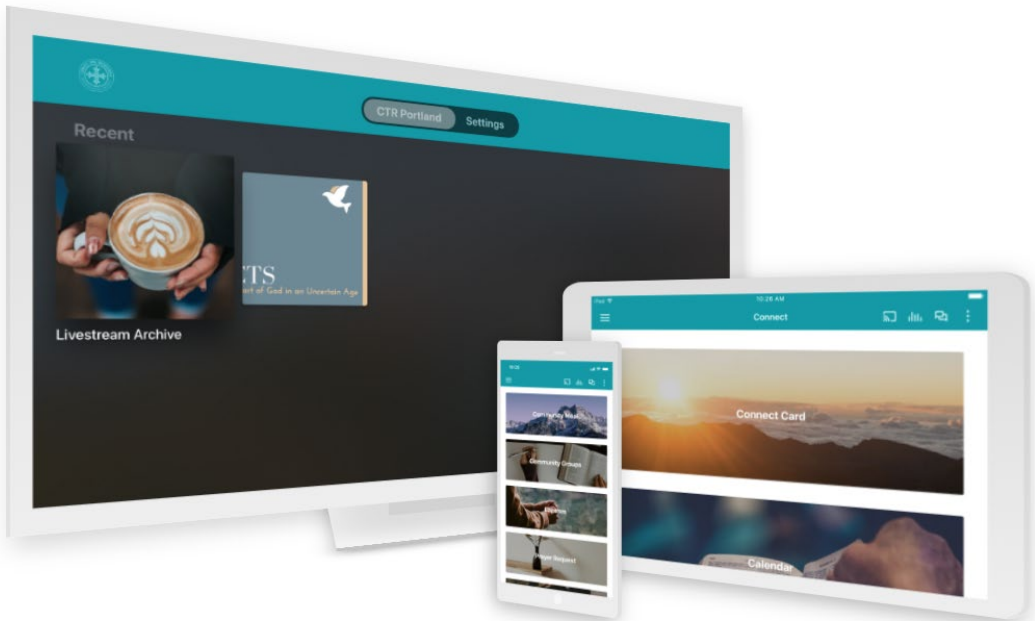
**The CTR Website** [ctrportland.org] is designed to be our front door– a welcoming place for new people to discover and learn about our church. It is minimal in announcements and church life information.

**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)]

*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>