



CHRIST  
THE REDEEMER

-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH-

ELEVENTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

August 13, 2023

## 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 and up are welcome to go to Children's Church. They will re-join their families after the sermon.

### 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 ]

### CALL TO WORSHIP

[L] Arise, O Lord,  
and answer your people from your holy hill.

[P] **May your presence be upon us this hour.  
Amen.**

Psalm 3:4, 7, 8

### SONG

BLESSED BE YOUR NAME

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

[ R E N E W A L ]

### CONFESSION OF SIN

[All] **O Father, we are gathered before You, the Maker of Heaven and Earth, whose chosen dwelling place is with the broken and contrite, to confess that we have sinned in thought and word and deed; we have not loved You with all our heart and soul, we have not loved You with all our mind and strength; we have not even loved our neighbor as ourselves. In Your mercy, deepen our sorrow for the wrong we have done and for the good we have left undone, so that we may hate our sin with a holy hatred. But, please, Father, do not leave us in sorrow. With You, O Lord, there is forgiveness. In Your mercy, restore the joy of our salvation; so that we may love You with a holy love. Amen.**

from the Valley of Vision

### TIME OF SILENT REFLECTION AND CONFESSION

WORDS OF COMFORT AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON

[L] The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting.  
May the God of mercy, who forgives us all our sins, strengthen us in all goodness,  
and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life.

Book of Common Prayer

[P] **Amen.**

SONG

THE SOLID ROCK

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.**

**G O D S P E A K S**

[ W O R D ]

## S O N G

## JESUS, WHAT A FRIEND FOR SINNERS

## S C R I P T U R E

2 Samuel 15:1-14; Psalm 3 ESV

Read by Jane Powers Odenbach

*Absalom's Conspiracy*

<sup>1</sup>After this Absalom got himself a chariot and horses, and fifty men to run before him. <sup>2</sup>And Absalom used to rise early and stand beside the way of the gate. And when any man had a dispute to come before the king for judgment, Absalom would call to him and say, "From what city are you?" And when he said, "Your servant is of such and such a tribe in Israel," <sup>3</sup>Absalom would say to him, "See, your claims are good and right, but there is no man designated by the king to hear you." <sup>4</sup>Then Absalom would say, "Oh that I were judge in the land! Then every man with a dispute or cause might come to me, and I would give him justice." <sup>5</sup>And whenever a man came near to pay homage to him, he would put out his hand and take hold of him and kiss him. <sup>6</sup>Thus Absalom did to all of Israel who came to the king for judgment. So Absalom stole the hearts of the men of Israel.

<sup>7</sup>And at the end of four years Absalom said to the king, "Please let me go and pay my vow, which I have vowed to the LORD, in Hebron. <sup>8</sup>For your servant vowed a vow while I lived at Geshur in Aram, saying, 'If the LORD will indeed bring me back to Jerusalem, then I will offer worship to the LORD.'" <sup>9</sup>The king said to him, "Go in peace." So he arose and went to Hebron. <sup>10</sup>But Absalom sent secret messengers throughout all the tribes of Israel, saying, "As soon as you hear the sound of the trumpet, then say, 'Absalom is king at Hebron!'" <sup>11</sup>With Absalom went two hundred men from Jerusalem who were invited guests, and they went in their innocence and knew nothing. <sup>12</sup>And while Absalom was offering the sacrifices, he sent for Ahithophel the Gilonite, David's counselor, from his city Giloh. And the conspiracy grew strong, and the people with Absalom kept increasing.

*David Flees Jerusalem*

<sup>13</sup> And a messenger came to David, saying, “The hearts of the men of Israel have gone after Absalom.” <sup>14</sup> Then David said to all his servants who were with him at Jerusalem, “Arise, and let us flee, or else there will be no escape for us from Absalom. Go quickly, lest he overtake us quickly and bring down ruin on us and strike the city with the edge of the sword.”

## Psalm 3

Save Me, O My God

*A Psalm of David, when he fled from Absalom his son.*<sup>1</sup> O LORD, how many are my foes!

Many are rising against me;

<sup>2</sup> many are saying of my soul,“There is no salvation for him in God.” *Selah*<sup>3</sup> But you, O LORD, are a shield about me,  
my glory, and the lifter of my head.<sup>4</sup> I cried aloud to the LORD,  
and he answered me from his holy hill. *Selah*<sup>5</sup> I lay down and slept;  
I woke again, for the LORD sustained me.<sup>6</sup> I will not be afraid of many thousands of people  
who have set themselves against me all around.<sup>7</sup> Arise, O LORD!

Save me, O my God!

For you strike all my enemies on the cheek;  
you break the teeth of the wicked.<sup>8</sup> Salvation belongs to the LORD;  
your blessing be on your people! *Selah*[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.**

ELEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

August 13, 2023

Sermon Series:  
THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO DAVID

Sermon:  
ABSALOM'S REBELLION

Rev. Sean J.S. Roberts  
Senior Pastor

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Westminster Shorter Catechism Q&A #76

[L] What is repentance that leads to life?

[P] **Repentance that leads to life is a saving grace, worked in the heart of a sinner by the Spirit and the Word of God, by which, out of the sight and sense not only of the danger, but also of the filthiness and odiousness of his sins, and awareness of God's mercy in Christ to those who are penitent, the sinner so grieves for and hates his sins that he turns away from them all to God, purposing and working constantly to walk with God in all the ways of new obedience.**

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE

Led by Greg Lane

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 ]

## 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 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: S A N C T U S

WORDS OF INVITATION & INSTITUTION

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

PARTAKING OF THE ELEMENTS

COMMUNION SONG

THE TABLE

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.



S O N G

A L L I H A V E I S C H R I S T

B E N E D I C T I O N

[L] May the God of peace himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do this.

I Thessalonians 5:23-24

[All] **Amen.**

# HIGHLIGHTS

August 13, 2023

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.



## CTR KIDS LENDING LIBRARY

We are so excited about our CTR Kids Lending Library! Before and after church, please visit the library cart near our nursery and choose a Gospel-centered book to take home with you for the week! There are books available for all age groups, and some parenting resources as well!

## ON THE CALENDAR:

SUN, AUG 13

### **ADULT BIBLE STUDY – 9 AM**

Join us in the Fellowship Hall every Sunday an hour before worship (9am) to read the Bible and pray together. Each week, we will study a psalm related to the sermon text from our summer series "The Gospel According to David." For questions, reach out to Alden Groves.

**DEACONS FUND OFFERING SUNDAY** – We set aside one Sunday a quarter to focus some of our giving specifically to the Deacons Fund. This fund exists to support members of our congregation or community who have temporary financial needs such as rent, groceries, medical bills, counseling, and other challenges.

If you wish to give to this fund, you may make a note on the memo line of your check or give online using the QR code on page 8.

THURS, AUG 17

### **NEW TO CTR COOKOUT – 5:30 PM**

@ The Roberts', 64 Brook Road, Portland

Whether you have been visiting for a week or 6 months, but you would like to get to know CTR better, we would love for you to join us for a cookout! You will have an opportunity to interact with Pastor Sean and other leaders at CTR and find out how you can become a part of what's happening here.

If you are interested in attending, you are welcome to reach out to Abby Reid (AReid@CTRPortland.org or 404.723.4448).

## ON THE CALENDAR:

FRI, AUG 18

### **FRIDAY PLAY GROUP** – 10 AM – 1 PM

Calling all stay-at-home moms or dads! Plan to join us at playgroup every Friday at 10am. We are at a different location every week, so keep a lookout on Instagram (@ctrportlandkids) for more information! Any and everyone is welcome with their children. Please contact Abby Reid if you have any questions.

SUN, AUG 20

### **TWO LIGHTS SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS** – 9 AM

For children in 3rd-5th grade! Join us Sunday mornings for treats + fun while deepening your knowledge and faith in the Gospel! For more information, please contact Abby Reid (areid@ctrportland.org).

WED, AUG 30

### **BOOKS & BUBBLY** – 7 PM @ 64 Brook Rd., Portland

Ladies: Our book is *The No. 1 Ladies' Detective Agency* [Alexander McCall Smith]. For more info, please contact Claire Roberts [clerkus@gmail.com].

# SIGN UP NOW: CTR COMMUNITY GROUP OPEN ENROLLMENT

Sign up to participate in CTR community groups!

While our groups launch shortly after Labor Day, signing up ahead of time helps us ensure that we have adequate leadership and materials for all those who want to be involved!

Please communicate your interest by ***Sunday, August 20!***

FAQ:

## ***What is a community group?***

Community groups are smaller groups that gather within our larger church body - they are open to everyone (families, singles, couples, friends) at any age or stage, all at various points in their faith journey. Our long term hope is for everyone to be involved! Whether you're new to CTR or have been around for years, community groups are for you! They are designed to provide a more intimate space for people to be known and cared for. In community groups, our goal is to deepen our love for one another, our love for God, and our love for our neighbors. We believe that these things happen best in context of relationship. While each community group may look somewhat different, all groups socialize, read God's word, share their real lives, encourage outreach, and pray for and with one another. Community groups strive to be a welcoming and safe space to continue the conversation. As Christ the Redeemer grows, community groups are increasingly the place where pastoral care and relationship building happens! It's not just a Bible study and not just hanging with friends - participating in a community group is an opportunity to hear and live out the gospel together.

## ***What is the commitment?***

Community groups meet regularly 2 times per month from September-May, with optional opportunities to socialize outside those times. Each group's meeting times and dates are set together in advance. Each meeting is designed to last 1.5-2 hours and typically takes place in a group member's home. Groups have sufficient flexibility and freedom to customize meetings to their unique needs (location, time, food, childcare), and sufficient structure to ensure that members know what to expect. Every community group and community group leader receives ongoing training and support from the church session and will be working through a curriculum provided by CTR.

### *How do I sign up?*

Signing up for a community group is simple!

Fill out a form online at <https://www.ctrportland.org/community-groups> by *Sunday, August 20*. We'll be in contact soon!

If you would prefer to sign up in person, you can fill out the form found in your order of worship and leave it in the offering basket - or contact coordinators: Amanda McKrell ([griswoldam1@gmail.com](mailto:griswoldam1@gmail.com) 716-479-0093) or Matt Reid (404-550-8872).

### *What if I'm already in a community group?*

#### **Sign up anyway!**

As community groups grow, they are designed to multiply. You can expect new community groups to form and to meet new faces in the fall. We'd love everyone to sign-up, regardless of whether you've been involved with community groups in the past. Please sign up by *Sunday, August 20*.



Use this QR code to go to  
the Community Group Sign-Up!

# 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.....Cheryl Sullivan  
Phone: 207-205-1437  
E-mail: ctr@ctrportland.org

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



**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, Senior Pastor**

E-mail: [SRoberts@CTRPortland.org](mailto:SRoberts@CTRPortland.org)  
Tel. 956.207.1398

**Alden Groves, Pastoral Intern**

E-mail: [alden.d.groves@gmail.com](mailto:alden.d.groves@gmail.com)  
Tel. 215.704.0132

**Sue Miller, Director of Community Care**

E-mail: [SMiller@CTRPortland.org](mailto:SMiller@CTRPortland.org)  
Tel. 207.459.6797

**Landon Kepler, Summer Ministry Intern**

E-mail: [lckep1@gmail.com](mailto:lckep1@gmail.com)  
Tel. 207.590.0573

**Kendra Hollen, Music Ministry Director** [E-Mail: [khollen@CTRPortland.org](mailto:khollen@CTRPortland.org)]

**Abby Reid, Children's Ministry Director** [E-Mail: [areid@CTRPortland.org](mailto:areid@CTRPortland.org)]

**Abby Reid, Connections Coordinator** [E-mail: [areid@CTRPortland.org](mailto:areid@CTRPortland.org)]

**Cheryl Sullivan, Administration** [E-Mail: [ctr@CTRPortland.org](mailto:ctr@CTRPortland.org)]

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

CTR is co-located at the  
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