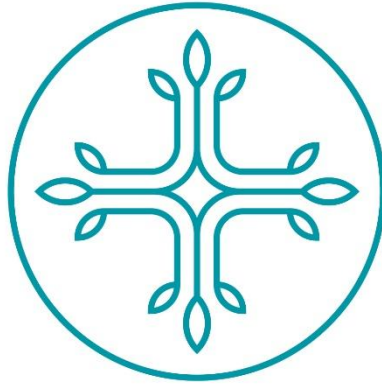




CHRIST
THE REDEEMER
—PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH—

EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
July 19, 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] He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High
will abide in the shadow of the Almighty,
- [P] **I will say to the Lord, “My refuge and my fortress,
my God, in whom I trust.”**
- [L] For he will deliver you from the snare of the fowler
and from the deadly pestilence.
For he will cover you with his pinions,
and under his wings you will find refuge;
- [P] **his faithfulness is a shield and buckler.**
- [L] You will not fear the terror of the night,
nor the arrow that flies by day,
nor the pestilence that stalks in darkness,
nor the destruction that wastes at noonday.
- [P] **A thousand may fall at your side,
ten thousand at your right hand,
but it will not come near you.**
- [L] Because you have made the Lord your dwelling place—
the Most High, who is your refuge—
no evil shall be allowed to befall you,
no plague come near your tent.
- [P] **For he will command his angels concerning you
to guard you in all your ways.**
- [L] “Because he holds fast to me in love, I will deliver him;
I will protect him, because he knows my name.
When he calls to me, I will answer him;
I will be with him in trouble;
I will rescue him and honor him.
- [P] **With long life I will satisfy him
and show him my salvation.”**

SONG

O FOR A THOUSAND TONGUES TO SING

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

[R E N E W A L]

CONFESS I O N O F S I N

[P] **Living God, you have said, “If anyone thirsts, let them come to me and drink.” We are thirsty, Lord, and yet we keep on drinking from puddles and bogs. We sip on salt water, growing ever more thirsty.**

Jesus, we need you—every hour. You, O God, are what we thirst for. Make us to desire you, and, in you, to be satisfied. Help us, Holy Spirit, to turn away from our habitual sins, for they do not satisfy. Help us, Father, to turn toward you and to seek first your kingdom.

May drawing from your well become our routine, drinking from your waters our rhythm. May you be our hearts’ love and our souls’ true desire.

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

TIME OF SILENT REFLECTION AND CONFESS I O N

WORDS OF COMFORT AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON

[L] **The Lord is faithful in all his words and kind in all his works. The Lord upholds all who are falling and raises up all who are bowed down.**

Knowing this, believe and receive the good news of the gospel – in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

[P] **Alleluia! 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.**

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

TURN YOUR EYES

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 50 - 52** in the pew Bible]

Selections from Exodus 11 and 12 ESV

Read by Charlie Shaw

11 The LORD said to Moses, “Yet one plague more I will bring upon Pharaoh and upon Egypt. Afterward he will let you go from here. When he lets you go, he will drive you away completely...

⁴ So Moses said, “Thus says the LORD: ‘About midnight I will go out in the midst of Egypt, ⁵ and every firstborn in the land of Egypt shall die, from the firstborn of Pharaoh who sits on his throne, even to the firstborn of the slave girl who is behind the handmill, and all the firstborn of the cattle. ⁶ There shall be a great cry throughout all the land of Egypt, such as there has never been, nor ever will be again. ⁷ But not a dog shall growl against any of the people of Israel, either man or beast, that you may know that the LORD makes a distinction between Egypt and Israel.’ ... ⁹ Then the LORD said to Moses, “Pharaoh will not listen to you, that my wonders may be multiplied in the land of Egypt.” ...

12 The LORD said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt, ² “This month shall be for you the beginning of months. It shall be the first month of the year for you. ³ Tell all the congregation of Israel that on the tenth day of this month every man shall take a lamb according to their fathers' houses, a lamb for a household ... ⁵ Your lamb shall be without blemish, a male a year old. You may take it from the sheep or from the goats, ⁶ and you shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month, when the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel shall kill their lambs at twilight...

²¹ Then Moses called all the elders of Israel and said to them, “Go and select lambs for yourselves according to your clans, and kill the Passover lamb. ²² Take a bunch of hyssop and dip it in the blood that is in the basin, and touch the lintel and the two doorposts with the blood that is in the basin. None of you shall go out of the door of his house until the morning. ²³ For the LORD will pass through to strike the Egyptians, and when he sees the blood on the lintel and on the two doorposts, the LORD will pass over the door and will not allow the destroyer to enter your houses to strike you. ²⁴ You shall observe this rite as a statute for you and for your sons

forever. ²⁵ And when you come to the land that the LORD will give you, as he has promised, you shall keep this service. ²⁶ And when your children say to you, ‘What do you mean by this service?’ ²⁷ you shall say, ‘It is the sacrifice of the LORD's Passover, for he passed over the houses of the people of Israel in Egypt, when he struck the Egyptians but spared our houses.’” And the people bowed their heads and worshiped.

²⁸ Then the people of Israel went and did so; as the LORD had commanded Moses and Aaron, so they did.

²⁹ At midnight the LORD struck down all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, from the firstborn of Pharaoh who sat on his throne to the firstborn of the captive who was in the dungeon, and all the firstborn of the livestock. ³⁰ And Pharaoh rose up in the night, he and all his servants and all the Egyptians. And there was a great cry in Egypt, for there was not a house where someone was not dead. ³¹ Then he summoned Moses and Aaron by night and said, “Up, go out from among my people, both you and the people of Israel; and go, serve the LORD, as you have said. ³² Take your flocks and your herds, as you have said, and be gone, and bless me also!” ...

⁴⁰ The time that the people of Israel lived in Egypt was 430 years. ⁴¹ At the end of 430 years, on that very day, all the hosts of the LORD went out from the land of Egypt ...

[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:
LEAVING EGYPT, FINDING HOME

Sermon:
DESTRUCTION AND THE GOD WHO SPARES

Rev. Alden D. Groves
Associate Pastor

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Heidelberg Catechism Q & A's #1, 40 and 45

[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] Why was it necessary for Christ to suffer “death”?

[P] **Because the justice and truth of God required that satisfaction for our sins could be made in no other way than by the death of the Son of God.**

[L] What benefit do we receive from the “resurrection” of Christ?

[P] **First, by his resurrection he has overcome death, that he might make us partakers of the righteousness which he has obtained for us by his death. Second, by his power we are also now raised up to a new life. Third, the resurrection of Christ is to us a sure pledge of our blessed resurrection.**

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE

Led by Elder Matt Reid

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

MESSENGER DOXOLOGY #1

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

MY WORTH IS NOT IN WHAT I OWN

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

N O T H I N G B U T T H E B L O O D

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

[L] Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

[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. Amen.

[All] **Amen.**

HIGHLIGHTS

July 19, 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.

FCA POWER CAMP

MON-THURS, JULY 20-23 – 9:00 AM-12:30 PM | Presumpscot Park

We are excited to partner again this summer with the Fellowship of Christian Athletes to host an unforgettable camp experience for kids in our city!

FCA Camp 2026 runs **July 20–23, 9 am–12:30 pm**, at **Presumpscot Park** (next to Deering High School in Portland) for **kids ages 5–13**. It will be four fun-filled days of sports and spiritual growth!

Parents, Sign up your kids for Power Camp!

Do your kids love sports? Do you want them to grow in confidence, character, and faith this summer? Send them to FCA Power Camp!

Campers will receive great coaching in one of the following sports: Basketball, Football, Softball, Baseball, Soccer



SIGN UP YOUR
KIDS HERE

1 ON THE CALENDAR

WOMEN'S DROP-IN

***THURSDAY, JULY 23 – 5:00 PM | Root Wild Kombucha, 135
Washington Ave, Portland***

Join the women of CTR for a relaxed evening together at Root Wild Kombucha in Portland on Thursday, July 23 at 5:00 pm. This is a wonderful opportunity to connect with other women in our church community, whether you're new to CTR or have been part of our church family for years. Come enjoy a fun evening of conversation, community, and the chance to build new friendships in a welcoming setting.

Feel free to invite a friend to join you—this is an easy and enjoyable way to gather, laugh, and get to know one another better. We hope you'll come and be part of this special time together!

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!

📅 ON THE CALENDAR

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.

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.



TO
PLEDGE
ONLINE

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 16 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

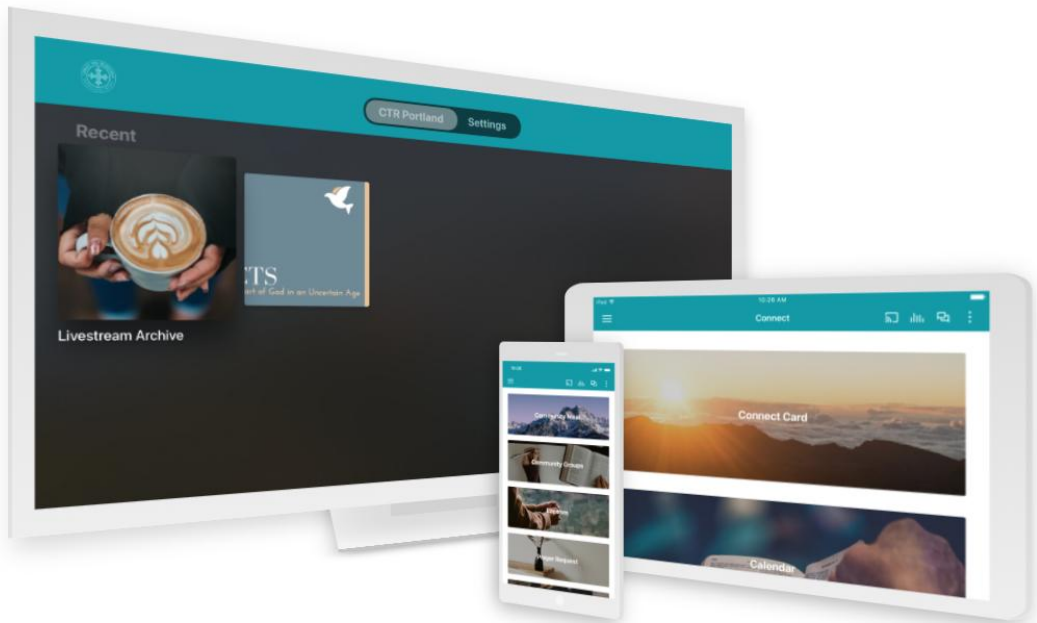
Both mediums are designed to be primarily outward facing.

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>