

**CHRIST
THE REDEEMER**
-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH-

PALM SUNDAY
March 29, 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] Rejoice greatly, O people of Zion!

[P] **Shout in triumph, O people of Jerusalem!**

[L] See, your king is coming to you.
He is righteous and having salvation,

[P] **yet he is humble, riding on a donkey
—even on a donkey’s colt.**

[L] Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

[P] **Hosanna to the Son of David.**

Zechariah 9:9; Psalm 118:26; Matthew 21:9

SONG

ALL GLORY, LAUD AND HONOR

CTR CHILDREN’S CHOIR

“Hosanna, Loud Hosanna”

GOD SANCTIFIES

[RENEWAL]

CONFESSION OF SIN

[All] **O King of glory, we confess that our praise of your majesty has often been faint, our performance as citizens of your kingdom treasonous. For we have surrendered to the enemy by our secret and our known sins. For our treason you died, Lord Jesus. For our restoration, you rose again. Draw us closer to you in this holy week, that our eyes may catch the vision of your tears, and our hearts, the wonder of your grace. By the Holy Spirit's continuing discipline, let us be loyal and loving servants of the King. Praise be to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.**

TIME OF SILENT REFLECTION AND CONFESSION

WORDS OF COMFORT AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON

[L] Through the grace of Christ Jesus who gave his body and shed his blood for our forgiveness, hear and believe that “he delivers the needy when he calls, the poor and him who has no helper. He has pity on the weak and the needy and saves the lives of the needy.”

[P] **We praise you, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, who has graciously forgiven us and united us to Christ, our King!**

CTR CHOIR

“Hosanna”

SONG

WHAT THE LORD HAS DONE 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 – 1st grade are welcome to go to Children’s Church downstairs in The Commons. They will re-join their families after the sermon.

SONG

O COME, O COME EMMANUEL

G O D S P E A K S

[W O R D]

S C R I P T U R E

Luke 22:63 – 23:25 ESV

Jesus Is Mocked

⁶³ Now the men who were holding Jesus in custody were mocking him as they beat him. ⁶⁴ They also blindfolded him and kept asking him, “Prophecy! Who is it that struck you?” ⁶⁵ And they said many other things against him, blaspheming him.

Jesus Before the Council

⁶⁶ When day came, the assembly of the elders of the people gathered together, both chief priests and scribes. And they led him away to their council, and they said, ⁶⁷ “If you are the Christ, tell us.” But he said to them, “If I tell you, you will not believe, ⁶⁸ and if I ask you, you will not answer. ⁶⁹ But from now on the Son of Man shall be seated at the right hand of the power of God.” ⁷⁰ So they all said, “Are you the Son of God, then?” And he said to them, “You say that I am.” ⁷¹ Then they said, “What further testimony do we need? We have heard it ourselves from his own lips.”

Jesus Before Pilate

²³ Then the whole company of them arose and brought him before Pilate. ² And they began to accuse him, saying, “We found this man misleading our nation and forbidding us to give tribute to Caesar, and saying that he himself is Christ, a king.” ³ And Pilate asked him, “Are you the King of the Jews?” And he answered him, “You have said so.” ⁴ Then Pilate said to the chief priests and the crowds, “I find no guilt in this man.” ⁵ But they were urgent, saying, “He stirs up the people, teaching throughout all Judea, from Galilee even to this place.”

Jesus Before Herod

⁶ When Pilate heard this, he asked whether the man was a Galilean. ⁷ And when he learned that he belonged to Herod's jurisdiction, he sent him over to Herod, who was himself in Jerusalem at that time. ⁸ When Herod saw Jesus, he was very glad, for he had long desired to see him, because he had heard about him, and he was hoping to see some sign done by him. ⁹ So he questioned

him at some length, but he made no answer. ¹⁰The chief priests and the scribes stood by, vehemently accusing him. ¹¹And Herod with his soldiers treated him with contempt and mocked him. Then, arraying him in splendid clothing, he sent him back to Pilate. ¹²And Herod and Pilate became friends with each other that very day, for before this they had been at enmity with each other.

¹³Pilate then called together the chief priests and the rulers and the people, ¹⁴and said to them, “You brought me this man as one who was misleading the people. And after examining him before you, behold, I did not find this man guilty of any of your charges against him. ¹⁵Neither did Herod, for he sent him back to us. Look, nothing deserving death has been done by him. ¹⁶I will therefore punish and release him.”

Pilate Delivers Jesus to Be Crucified

¹⁸But they all cried out together, “Away with this man, and release to us Barabbas”— ¹⁹a man who had been thrown into prison for an insurrection started in the city and for murder. ²⁰Pilate addressed them once more, desiring to release Jesus, ²¹but they kept shouting, “Crucify, crucify him!” ²²A third time he said to them, “Why? What evil has he done? I have found in him no guilt deserving death. I will therefore punish and release him.” ²³But they were urgent, demanding with loud cries that he should be crucified. And their voices prevailed. ²⁴So Pilate decided that their demand should be granted. ²⁵He released the man who had been thrown into prison for insurrection and murder, for whom they asked, but he delivered Jesus over to their will.

[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.**

PALM SUNDAY

Mar 29, 2026

Sermon Series:
THE GOSPEL OF LUKE: LOVING JESUS

Sermon:
CHRIST CONDEMNED

Rev. Sean J.S. Roberts
Lead Pastor

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Heidelberg Catechism Q & A #'s 37-40

[L] What do you understand by the word “suffered”?

[P] **That during his whole life on earth, but especially at the end, Christ sustained in body and soul the wrath of God against the sin of the whole human race. This he did in order that, by his suffering as the only atoning sacrifice, he might deliver us, body and soul, from eternal condemnation, and gain for us God’s grace, righteousness, and eternal life.**

[L] Why did he suffer “under Pontius Pilate” as judge?

[P] **So that he, though innocent, might be condemned by an earthly judge, and so free us from the severe judgment of God that was to fall on us.**

[L] Is it significant that he was “crucified” instead of dying some other way?

[P] **Yes. By this I am convinced that he shouldered the curse which lay on me, since death by crucifixion was cursed by God.**

[L] Why did Christ have to suffer death?

[P] **Because God's justice and truth require it: nothing else could pay for our sins except the death of the Son of God.**

SONG

MAN OF SORROWS! WHAT A NAME!

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 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!*

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

S O N G

JESUS PAID IT ALL
AND CAN IT BE

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.

GOD SENDS

[MISSION]

RESPONSES OF JOY

OFFERING OUR LIVES AND RESOURCES

[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

HOW DEEP THE FATHER'S LOVE FOR US

BENEDICTION and SENDING

[L] May the God who sent his Son so that we could be adopted as God's own children, send his Spirit into your hearts--especially in this week of remembrance and renewal--and equip you to live as God's own children, dearly loved and called to serve a needy world.

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

HIGHLIGHTS

March 29, 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.



ON THE CALENDAR

INQUIRERS' CLASS

SUNDAYS - 9 AM | 61 Neal Street, Portland

Are you new to our church? If you're interested in learning more about CTR's history, vision, values, and practices, come join us for our upcoming Inquirers' Class. This is a great opportunity to learn more about who we are, to ask questions, and to meet and engage with other newcomers, as well as key leaders and staff. This class is also a prerequisite for church membership, for those interested.

The class takes place on Sunday mornings at 9 am -- before the service.

Questions? Contact Pastor Alden Groves at agroves@ctrportland.org or 215-704-0132.

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

MONDAYS - 6:00 PM | 29 Lilac Lane, New Gloucester

Our winter/spring Women's Bible Study has begun. Supper will be provided as we gather each week. Together we'll walk through God's Word and encourage one another in faith.

Questions? Contact Laura Wiersma at lwiersma@ctrportland.org or 603.566.7746.

I ON THE CALENDAR

+ CTRKids CHRISTIAN FORMATION CLASSES

SUNDAYS beginning APRIL 12 – 9:00 AM | 61 Neal Street, Portland

Group	Age	Class Location	Curriculum
Ram Island	Potty-Trained – PreK	Nursery	Show Me Jesus
Bug Light	K-1 st Grade	The Corner Room [old nursery]	The Biggest Story
Two Lights	2 nd -4 th Grade	The Commons [large room downstairs]	The Biggest Story
Head Light	5 th Grade – Middle School	Downstairs Foyer	New City Catechism

For more information, please contact Abby Reid @ areid@ctrportland.org or 404.723.4448.

PLEASE USE THIS QR CODE TO REGISTER YOUR CHILD FOR THESE CLASSES!



📖 BOOKS & BUBBLY

WEDNESDAY, April 15 – 7:00 PM | 64 Brook Road, Portland

Join the women of CTR for Books & Bubbly on Wednesday, April 15 @ 7 PM for an evening of fellowship, refreshments, and book discussion.

We'll gather at 64 Brook Road, Portland as we enjoy time together and talk about Iona Iverson's Rules for Commuting [by Clare Pooley], a witty and heartwarming novel about an unlikely group of commuters whose lives become unexpectedly intertwined.

Whether you've finished the book or are still making your way through it, come for a relaxed and welcoming night with other women.

For more information, please contact Claire Roberts @ clerkus@gmail.com or 956.270.2565.

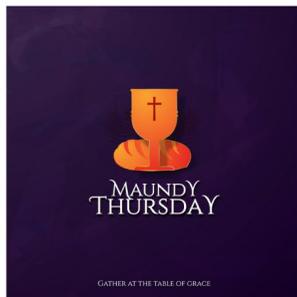
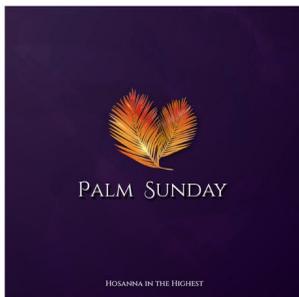
📅 ON THE CALENDAR

🏠 NEW TO CTR DESSERT NIGHT

THURSDAY, APR 16 – 7:00 PM | 64 Brook Road, Portland

If you're new to Christ the Redeemer [whether that's 6 weeks or 6 months], we'd love to get to know you better! Join us for a relaxed New to CTR Dessert Night at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Pastor Sean and Claire Roberts. This is a great opportunity to meet our pastors and other leaders, hear a bit about the heart of our church, and enjoy conversation together over dessert. Plan to join us!

HOLY WEEK 2026



THURS, APR 2

MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICES – 5:30-7:30 PM

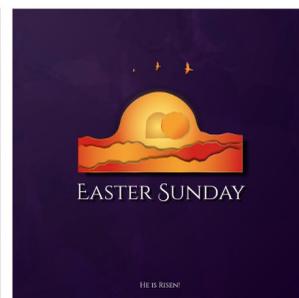
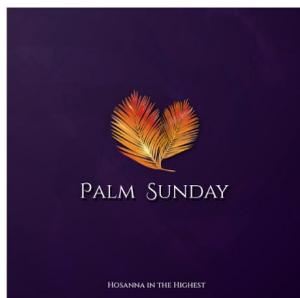
Maundy Thursday is the Church's commemoration of the Last Supper. This year, our Community Groups will gather in four homes across Greater Portland to share a meal and participate in a simple liturgy led by one of our pastors.

We hope that gathering around the table, in the intimacy of one another's homes, will invite our minds and bodies more deeply into the story and experience of the Last Supper.

Meals will be potluck-style, so please RSVP. If you are not currently part of a Community Group, please let us know so that we can connect you with a gathering. All are welcome!

Please RSVP to Pastor Alden Groves at agroves@ctrportland.org or 215-704-0132.

HOLY WEEK 2026



FRI, APR 3

GOOD FRIDAY TENEBRAE SERVICE – 6:30 PM

Join us on **Good Friday, April 3, at 6:30 PM** for a **Tenebrae Service**, a solemn and reflective time of Scripture, song, and silence as we remember Christ's journey to the cross.

Tenebrae, meaning "shadows" or "darkness," is an ancient service that invites us to sit in the weight of Good Friday. Through the gradual extinguishing of candles, we walk through the passion of Christ, experiencing the depth of His sacrifice for us.

Come and prepare your heart for Easter by entering into the story of Christ's love poured out. We invite you to join us in this sacred time of reflection and worship.

Childcare will be provided for crawlers – age 3.

SUN, APR 5

EASTER WORSHIP SERVICE – 10 AM

Come and worship with us on **Easter Sunday at 10:00 AM** as we rejoice in the glorious resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Through **Scripture, prayer, a musical selection by our Adult Choir and congregational singing**, we will proclaim the good news that **Christ is risen, He is risen indeed!** In his victory over sin and death, we find our hope, our salvation, and the promise of new life in him.

This is a day of great joy and reverence as we gather as Christ's body to lift our hearts in worship and gratitude. Come experience the power of Easter, the beauty of community, and the promise of new life in Christ.

All are welcome. Come and worship with us.



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

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?*

For any questions or concerns, email: amckrell@ctrportland.org.

New to CTR or to community groups? We would love you to join us!

Scan the QR code to sign up or email amckrell@ctrportland.org.



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

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

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 18 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

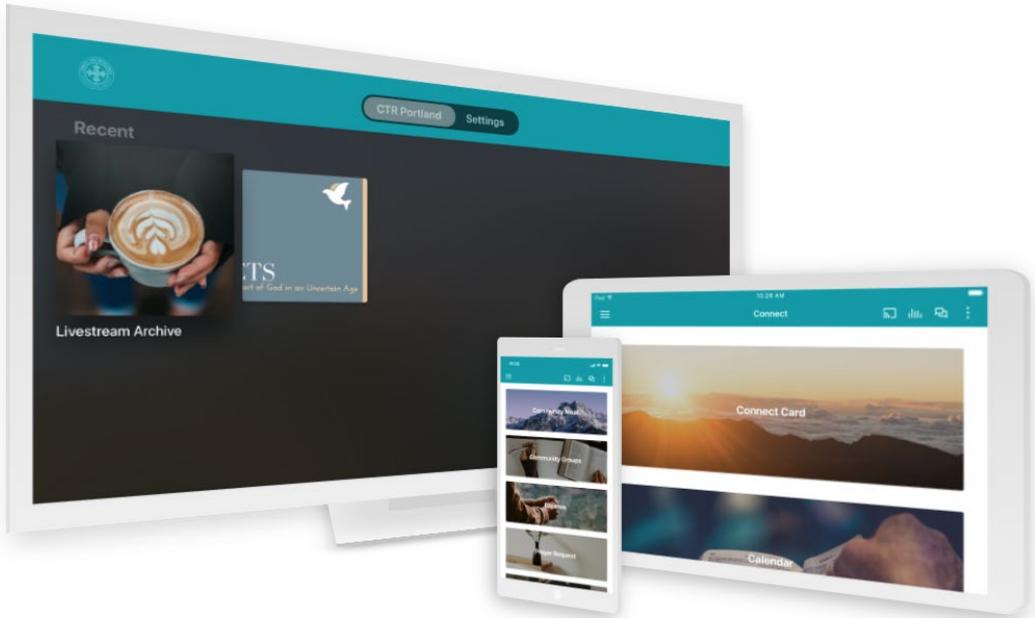
Both mediums are designed to be primarily outward facing.

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>