



CHRIST  
THE REDEEMER

-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH-

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME  
September 17, 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 ]

### C A L L T O W O R S H I P

[L] Hallelujah!  
Praise the Name of the LORD,  
give praise, you servants of the LORD,  
you who stand in the house of the LORD,  
in the courts of the house of our God.

[P] **Praise the LORD, for the LORD is good;  
sing praises to his Name, for it is lovely.**

Psalm 135:1-3

### S O N G

#### P R A I S E T O T H E L O R D

## 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] **O Father of all creation, who hovered over the deep at the beginning, who spoke light into darkness, who split the heavens open and descended upon the Son of God in the waters of the Jordan, who created us in his image, who declared that each one of us is fearfully and wonderfully made; we have forgotten. We have forgotten who we are. Our identity as beloved children has been obscured by a multitude of wrong-doing and wrong-thinking. We have exchanged the truth for a lie. Nevertheless, you have not forgotten us. You have cued up in the baptismal line yourself and entered into the waters with us, to show us our true humanity, our true identity.**

**Forgive us, we pray for our forgetfulness of who we are. Let us not forget our own baptism and that which it signifies. Cleanse us by the power of your Spirit so that we may once again walk in the understanding of that truth.**

TIME OF SILENT REFLECTION AND CONFESSION

WORDS OF COMFORT AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON

[L] “For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.” We believe and although we fall short, we must persevere to the end. Hold tight to His Word.

Jesus knows our every weakness and loves us still.  
Awaken to the promise of Christ’s amazing grace.

Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.

[P] **In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!**

SONG

NOTHING BUT THE BLOOD

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Baptism of **Ellis Alexander Freeman**

*Covenant Child of Quincy and Haylee Freeman*

VOWS for the PARENTS:

*Do you acknowledge your child's need of the cleansing blood of Jesus Christ, and the renewing grace of the Holy Spirit?*

*Do you claim God's covenant promises on his behalf, and do you look in faith to the Lord Jesus Christ for his salvation, as you do for your own?*

*Do you now unreservedly dedicate your child to God, and promise, in humble reliance upon divine grace, that you will endeavor to set before him a godly example, that you will pray with and for him, that you will teach him the doctrines of our holy religion, and that you will strive, by all the means of God's appointment, to bring him up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord?*

VOW for the CONGREGATION:

*Do you as a congregation undertake the responsibility of assisting the parents in the Christian nurture of this child?*

PRAYER OF BAPTISM BLESSING

Led by Ron Sullivan

SONG

JESUS LOVES 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.**

**G O D S P E A K S**  
[WORD]

SONG

COME THOU FOUNT (ABOVE ALL ELSE)

SCRIPTURE

1 John 4:7-21 ESV

Read by Sarah Cohen

*God Is Love*

<sup>7</sup> Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. <sup>8</sup> Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. <sup>9</sup> In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. <sup>10</sup> In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. <sup>11</sup> Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to

love one another. <sup>12</sup> No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected in us.

<sup>13</sup> By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. <sup>14</sup> And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. <sup>15</sup> Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God. <sup>16</sup> So we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him. <sup>17</sup> By this is love perfected with us, so that we may have confidence for the day of judgment, because as he is so also are we in this world. <sup>18</sup> There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear. For fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not been perfected in love. <sup>19</sup> We love because he first loved us. <sup>20</sup> If anyone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen cannot love God whom he has not seen. <sup>21</sup> And this commandment we have from him: whoever loves God must also love his brother.

[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:  
GOSPEL TRANSFORMATION  
AND THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT

Sermon:  
CULTIVATING LOVE

Rev. Sean J.S. Roberts  
Senior Pastor



AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Apostles Creed

[L] Christian, what do you believe?

[P] **I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended to heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. 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!*

S O N G : D O X O L O G Y (Old 100<sup>th</sup>)

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

G R E A T 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

C O M M U N I O N S O N G

W H A T T H E L O R D H A S D O N E I N M E

## 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 FIRM A FOUNDATION

## BENEDICTION and SENDING

[L] May the grace of Christ, which daily renews us, and the love of God, which enables us to love all, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, which unites us in one body, make us eager to obey the will of God until we meet again, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

based on 2 Corinthians 13:13

[All] **Amen.**

# HIGHLIGHTS

September 17, 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, SEPT 17

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

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

MON, SEPT 18

### **WOMENS' BIBLE STUDY** – 6 PM

@ the home of Laura Wiersma, 29 Lilac Lane, New Gloucester (GPS does not recognize this address so please use 54 N Pownal Road - that will get you to Lilac Lane). A light supper will be served.

This is a weekly Bible study and will be in the Book of Galatians. You may purchase the study guide, **“Galatians: At His Feet”** (Blanton/Gordon) on Amazon.

FRI, SEPT 22

### **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.

## ON THE CALENDAR:

SUN, SEPT 24

**INQUIRERS' CLASS #1** – after the Worship Service [Lunch is provided.] Interested in learning more about CTR or possibly becoming a member? Consider coming to our Inquirers' Class. This is a great opportunity to casually interact, ask questions, get to know our leaders, and learn more about our beliefs and passions. There is no pressure to join or even attend CTR if you come to the class. However, if you would like to become a member, the Inquirers' Class [both sessions] is a prerequisite. Let us know if you would attend by emailing [ctr@ctrportland.org](mailto:ctr@ctrportland.org).

SUN, OCT 1

**INQUIRERS' CLASS #2** – after the Worship Service [Lunch is provided.]

WED, OCT 11

**BOOKS & BUBBLY** – 7 PM @ 64 Brook Rd., Portland  
Ladies: Our book is ***Gods in Alabama*** [Joshilyn Jackson].  
For more info, please contact Claire Roberts [[clerkus@gmail.com](mailto:clerkus@gmail.com)].

## ADVENT CHOIR

Are you interested in being part of a choir this Advent season?

Use this QR code and let us know by filling out a brief survey.

We plan to sing a choral piece at our Lessons and Carols Service on December 19th, as well as at our Sunday morning worship that falls on Christmas Eve.

Rehearsals will be held on the following Tuesday evenings:  
11/7, 11/14, 11/21, 11/28, and 12/05 in the sanctuary at 7 PM



## CTR COMMUNITY GROUPS

Are you interested in joining a community group at CTR? Signing up for a community group is simple!

Fill out a form online at <https://www.ctrportland.org/community-groups> or use this QR code to go directly to the form.  
Or contact one of the coordinators:

Amanda McKrell ([griswoldam1@gmail.com](mailto:griswoldam1@gmail.com) or 716-479-0093)  
Matt Reid ([mattreid522@gmail.com](mailto:mattreid522@gmail.com) or 404-550-8872).



# 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 14 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

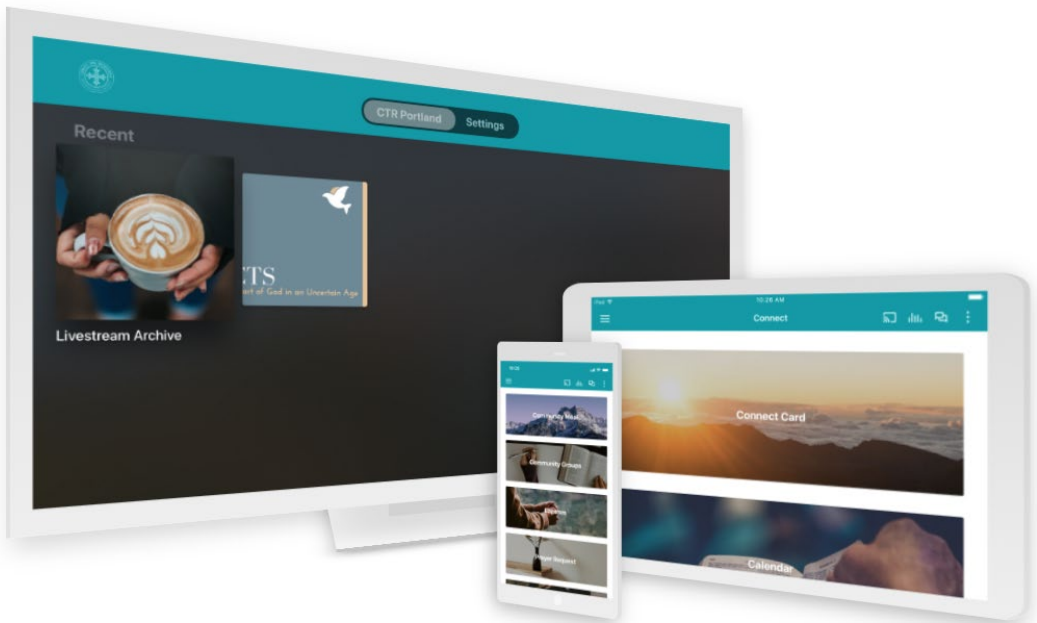
Both mediums are designed to be primarily outward facing.

**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, Senior Pastor**

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

**Sue Miller, Director of Community Care**

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

**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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SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH  
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