

CHRIST
THE REDEEMER

-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH-

FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

January 1, 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] God is here! The Messiah has come!

[P] **We open our eyes to see him and lift our hearts to worship him.**

[L] We have come to exalt the name of Jesus, our Savior and King, and to bring glory to God the Father.

[P] **In our worship we demonstrate the mind of Christ in declaring to God that he is the supreme authority in our lives. We bow before him in submission to our Lord and King.**

[All] **Come, worship the Lord!**

SONG

ANGELS WE HAVE HEARD ON HIGH

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

[R E N E W A L]

CONFESSION OF SIN

[All] **Generous God, you give us the greatest gift of all, yourself, but often we find it hard to take notice; we are caught up with our own gifts, given and received. Forgive us, generous God, for the casual way we treat your gift of love. Cast out our sin and enter in, be born in us today.**

TIME OF SILENT REFLECTION AND CONFESSION

WORDS OF COMFORT AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON

[L] The Lord's grace is sure. God has looked with favor upon his people and has redeemed them. God has raised up a mighty savior from the house of David. God spoke through the prophets of old so that we would be saved from our enemies and from the hand of all who hate us. God has shown mercy and has remembered his promises.

-based on Luke 1:68-72

[All] **Thanks be to God.**

SONG

MY SAVIOR'S LOVE ENDURES [MAGNIFICAT]

LIFE OF THE PEOPLE
[ANNOUNCEMENTS]

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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

MARY'S SONG

S C R I P T U R E

Read by Neil Schenk

Luke 1:26-56

Birth of Jesus Foretold

²⁶In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, ²⁷to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸And he came to her and said, "Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you!" ²⁹But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be. ³⁰And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. ³¹And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. ³²He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, ³³and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end."

³⁴And Mary said to the angel, "How will this be, since I am a virgin?"

³⁵And the angel answered her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy—the Son of God. ³⁶And behold, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren. ³⁷For nothing will be impossible with God." ³⁸And Mary said, "Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word." And the angel departed from her.

Mary Visits Elizabeth

³⁹In those days Mary arose and went with haste into the hill country, to a town in Judah, ⁴⁰and she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. ⁴¹And when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, the baby leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy

Spirit, ⁴² and she exclaimed with a loud cry, “Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb! ⁴³ And why is this granted to me that the mother of my Lord should come to me? ⁴⁴ For behold, when the sound of your greeting came to my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. ⁴⁵ And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her from the Lord.”

Mary's Song of Praise: The Magnificat

⁴⁶ And Mary said,
 “My soul magnifies the Lord,
⁴⁷ and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,
⁴⁸ for he has looked on the humble estate of his servant.
 For behold, from now on all generations will call me blessed;
⁴⁹ for he who is mighty has done great things for me,
 and holy is his name.
⁵⁰ And his mercy is for those who fear him
 from generation to generation.
⁵¹ He has shown strength with his arm;
 he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts;
⁵² he has brought down the mighty from their thrones
 and exalted those of humble estate;
⁵³ he has filled the hungry with good things,
 and the rich he has sent away empty.
⁵⁴ He has helped his servant Israel,
 in remembrance of his mercy,
⁵⁵ as he spoke to our fathers,
 to Abraham and to his offspring forever.”

⁵⁶ And Mary remained with her about three months and returned to her home.

[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.**

Advent Sermon Series:
THE MOTHERS OF JESUS

Sermon:

MARY

“Mary Rejoices”

Rev. Josh Henderson

Assistant Pastor

A F F I R M A T I O N O F F A I T H

Heidelberg Catechism Q & A 36

[L] How does the holy conception and birth of Christ benefit you?

[P] **He is our Mediator, and in God's sight, he covers with his innocence and perfect holiness my sinfulness in which I was conceived.**

P R A Y E R O F T H E P E O P L E

Led by Timothy Woodward

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: SING GLORIA

WORDS OF INVITATION & INSTITUTION

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

[L] Let us proclaim the mystery of faith.

[P] **Christ has died.
Christ has risen.
Christ will come again.**

[L] Alleluia! Christ our Passover Lamb has been sacrificed for us.

[P] **Therefore, let us keep the feast. Alleluia!**

[L] The gifts of God for the people of God.

PARTAKING OF THE ELEMENTS

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.

COMMUNION SONG
IMMANUEL

G O D S E N D S

[MISSION]

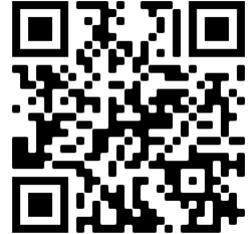
R E S P O N S E S O F J O Y

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

G O T E L L I T O N T H E M O U N T A I N

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

[L] May God, who sent his angels to proclaim the glad news of the Savior's birth,
fill you with joy and make you heralds of the gospel.

[All] **Amen.**

HIGHLIGHTS...

January 1, 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.



COMMUNITY GROUPS:

Community groups are one of the primary places that we get to know one another, care for another, and help one another grow in the gospel. Most of our groups have paused for the summer, but if you are interested in joining a group in the fall, please contact Pastor Josh Henderson [info on back of OOW].

There are currently groups in the following communities:

PORTLAND (2 groups)
SOUTH PORTLAND
LAKES REGION

SCARBOROUGH
FREEPORT/DURHAM
NEW GLOUCESTER

CTR KIDS LENDING LIBRARY

We are so excited about our CTR Kids Lending Library! Before and after church, please visit the library cart in the back of the sanctuary 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:

- TUES, JAN 3 **DEADLINE TO SUBMIT YOUR NOMINATIONS FOR OFFICERS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR SESSION ADVISORS AND DEACONS' ASSISTANTS**
- FRI, JAN 6 **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. It has been a joy to fellowship with parents from CTR and also meet other parents from the greater Portland area! Please contact Abby Reid if you have any questions.
- MON, JAN 9 **WOMENS' WEEKLY 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 meal will be served.
Curriculum: "Romans: At His Feet" (Blanton/Gordon)
- WED, JAN 18 **BOOKS & BUBBLY – 7 PM @ 64 Brook Rd., Portland**
Ladies: Our next book is *A Place to Hang the Moon* [Kate Albus]. Claire Roberts has 10 copies of the book (\$10 each). If you would like one, please contact her.
- THUR, JAN 26 **WOMEN'S PRAYER GROUP – 6:30 PM**
@ the home of Gloria Peters, 26 Mitchell Hill Road, Scarborough

Connie Woodward is hosting a women's prayer group with a focus of coming together to pray for loved ones who have departed the faith or have yet to come to faith. Join this group to pray as a community and help each other wait on God's timing for answering prayer concerning our loved ones.

MERCY TEAM: SERVE WITH THE ROOT CELLAR

Our Mercy Team is supporting the effort to provide food for the many asylum-seeking families that are housed at the Motel 6 in Portland. The Root Cellar needs regular assistance packaging and delivering meals. We hope to send regular volunteers to help meet this important and tangible need.

There are opportunities to serve between 4:30pm and 6:30pm, Monday- Saturday.

Please contact Josh (jhenderson@ctrportland) for more info.

If you would like to package meals,
use this QR code to sign up:



If you can help with meal delivery,
Use this QR code to sign up:



CTR PRAYER CHAIN:

If you have a prayer request or would like to join the prayer chain at CTR, please send an email to prayer@ctrportland.org. The coordinators, Carol Fecteau or Megan Lafuta, will be happy to help.

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 Ally Henderson
Phone: 757.375.3757
E-mail: ahenderson@ctrportland.org

Abby Reid
Phone: 404.723.4448
E-mail: areid@ctrportland.org

GREETER MINISTRY Abby Reid
Phone: 404.723.4448
E-mail: areid@ctrportland.org

MUSIC..... Kendra Hollen
Phone: 207.272.4104
E-mail: khollen@ctrportland.org

MEALS MINISTRY Tammy Locke
Phone: 207.671.0936
E-mail: tam74maine@gmail.com

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

PRAYER COORDINATOR Carol Fecteau
Phone: 207.650.5529
E-mail: prayer@ctrportland.org

MISSIONS COORDINATOR.....Kathi Favre
Phone: 207.298.2089
E-mail: klfavre@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
Tel. 956.207.1398

Reverend Josh Henderson, Assistant Pastor

E-mail: JHenderson@CTRPortland.org
Tel. 757.375.7640

Sue Miller, Director of Community Care

E-mail: smiller@CTRPortland.org
Tel. 207.459.6797

Kendra Hollen, Music Ministry Director [E-Mail: khollen@CTRPortland.org]
Ally Henderson, Children's Ministry Co-Director [E-Mail: ahenderson@CTRPortland.org]
Abby Reid, Children's Ministry Co-Director [E-Mail: areid@CTRPortland.org]
Abby Reid, Connections Coordinator [E-mail: areid@CTRPortland.org]

Cheryl Sullivan, Administration [E-Mail: ctr@CTRPortland.org]

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>