



CHRIST  
THE REDEEMER

-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH-

FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

March 17, 2024

## 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 – 1<sup>st</sup> grade 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] Let us worship God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ.

[P] **We are new creations; the old has gone, the new has come!**

[L] Let us worship God as Christ's ambassadors.

[P] **Through us and through our worship may we announce the good news to all.**

[L] Let us worship God in spirit and in truth.

[P] **Praise God! We are reconciled, redeemed, renewed!**

### S O N G

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 ]

### C O N F E S S I O N O F S I N

[All] **If you, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand? But with you there is forgiveness; therefore you are feared. I wait for the Lord, my soul waits, and in his word I put my hope. My soul waits for the Lord more than watchmen wait for the morning, more than watchmen wait for the morning.**

**Almighty God, our Redeemer, in our weakness we have failed to be your messengers of forgiveness and hope. Renew us by your Holy Spirit, that we may follow your commands and proclaim your reign of love, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

TIME OF SILENT REFLECTION AND CONFESSION

SONG

HAVE MERCY

WORDS OF COMFORT AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON

[L] Return to the Lord your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.

[All] **In Christ, we are forgiven! Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!**

based on Joel 2:15; 2 Corinthians 9:15

SONG

I WILL WAIT FOR YOU [PSALM 130]

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.**

SONG

MY JESUS, I LOVE THEE

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

[ W O R D ]

## S C R I P T U R E

Luke 15:11-24 ESV

Read by Moriah Peaslee

*The Parable of the Prodigal Son*

<sup>11</sup> And he said, “There was a man who had two sons. <sup>12</sup> And the younger of them said to his father, ‘Father, give me the share of property that is coming to me.’ And he divided his property between them. <sup>13</sup> Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took a journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in reckless living. <sup>14</sup> And when he had spent everything, a severe famine arose in that country, and he began to be in need. <sup>15</sup> So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed pigs. <sup>16</sup> And he was longing to be fed with the pods that the pigs ate, and no one gave him anything.

<sup>17</sup> “But when he came to himself, he said, ‘How many of my father's hired servants have more than enough bread, but I perish here with hunger! <sup>18</sup> I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. <sup>19</sup> I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Treat me as one of your hired servants.’” <sup>20</sup> And he arose and came to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him. <sup>21</sup> And the son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’ <sup>22</sup> But the father said to his servants, ‘Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet. <sup>23</sup> And bring the fattened calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate. <sup>24</sup> For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.’ And they began to celebrate.

[L] The grass withers and the flower fades,  
but the Word of God stands forever.  
The Word of the Lord.

Isaiah 40:8

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

Sermon:  
RETHINKING REPENTANCE

Rev. Jeremy McKeen  
*Planting Pastor*  
*Gospel City Fellowship*  
*Portsmouth, NH*

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Heidelberg Catechism Q & A #'s 40 & 41

[L] Why did Christ have to go all the way to death?

[P] **Because God's justice and truth demand it: only the death of God's Son could pay for our sin.**

[L] Why was he "buried"?

[P] **His burial testifies that he really died.**

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE

Led by Elder Nathan Pillsbury

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 ]

## 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!*

SONG

S A N C T U S

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

P A R T A K I N G O F T H E E L E M E N T S

SONG

M Y W O R T H I S N O T I N W H A T I O W N

**G O D S E N D S**

[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

WE WILL FEAST IN THE HOUSE OF ZION

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

[L] Sisters and brothers, let us claim the freedom Christ gives us by his self-giving on the cross. May he enable us to serve together in faith, hope, and love. Go in peace and serve the Lord.

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

# HIGHLIGHTS

March 17, 2024

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:

MON, MAR 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 in the Psalms. You may purchase the study guide, **“Psalms: At His Feet”** (Blanton/Gordon) on Amazon.

FRI, MAR 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.

SUN, MAR 24

### **PALM SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE** – 10 AM

Our kids from Children’s Church will be singing “Lift High the Name of Jesus” during our service. Plan to join us for this special performance!

FRI, MAR 29

### **GOOD FRIDAY TENEBRAE SERVICE** – 6:30 PM

Join us for this very special service in Holy Week. Tenebrae is a service that focuses on the cross and the death of Jesus. You will be invited into the story through scripture readings, times of meditation, and sacred music to truly feel the sadness and sorrow of Christ's death, so that together we may rejoice in his resurrection all the more on Easter Sunday.

This year our brothers and sisters from Missio Dei and Rise Church will be joining us for this special service.

(There will be childcare provided for kids through age 4 but children must be pre-registered. Please contact **Abby Reid** to let her know that your child will be in need of this service.)

## ON THE CALENDAR:

SUN, MAR 31

**EASTER WORSHIP SERVICE** – 10 AM

We welcome you to join us in our celebration of the Risen Lord on Easter Sunday morning!

SUN, APR 7

**CHRISTIAN FORMATION CLASS #1** – 9 AM

Please see all the details and the QR code to sign up on pages 11-12.

WED, APR 10

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

Our book for next month is: “With Love from London: A Novel” by Sarah Jio. For more info, please contact Claire Roberts [clerkus@gmail.com].

## 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.

To contact one of the coordinators:

Amanda McKrell (griswoldam1@gmail.com or 716-479-0093)

Matt Reid (mattreid522@gmail.com or 404-550-8872).



# CHRISTIAN FORMATION CLASSES

*Launching Sunday April 7th*

CTR is excited to announce the launch of Christian Formation Classes. As our church continues to grow in **breadth** (through new people coming into our community), we also want to grow in **depth** (spiritual and emotional maturity individually and communally). This initiative is an expression of our desire to see the life of Jesus Christ formed in the lives of every person in our church. We desire to see adults from all kinds of spiritual backgrounds and kids at each level of development ushered into grace-filled relationship with Jesus Christ, growing in their understanding of themselves, and maturing in their relationships with each other. We believe that classes such as these are a core aspect within a larger developing framework of Christian formation and discipleship at our church.

## WHEN?

**-Sundays, April 6<sup>th</sup>-May 25<sup>th</sup> (8-weeks)**

**-9-9:45 am** (*rooms for classes will be announced closer to date*)

## WHAT? *Course Offerings*

**ADULTS and TEENS** (one class offering for trial run)

**CF 1 - *How to Study the Bible***

Overview: This class is meant to help us “de-mystify” the reading of Scripture. We will learn what it means to read the Bible as a unified whole (one book with one message all pointing us to the person of Jesus). We will look at various parts of the Bible and give tools to read different parts (including some of the more difficult books) in ways that enable faithful interpretation and deeper engagement with God through his Word.

Breakdown:

### **Old Testament (April)**

Class 1- Intro to the Bible/OT Narrative

Class 2- OT Poetry- Psalms

Class 3- OT Prophecy

Class 4- OT Wisdom Literature

### **New Testament (May)**

Class 5- Gospels & Parables

Class 6- Acts, The Great Link

Class 7- The Epistles (Letters)

Class 8- Apocalyptic Lit. & Revelation

## **KIDS**

Overview: These classes aim to "Let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works, and give glory to your Father who is in heaven."

**TWO LIGHTS (2<sup>nd</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup> Grade)**  
**BUG LIGHT (K - 1st Grade)**  
**RAM ISLAND (Potty-Trained - PreK)\***

*\*Kids who are not yet potty-trained are welcome to accompany parents to the adult class.*

## **REGISTRATION**

Since this is our first time doing this, it would be helpful for everyone to register in advance. This enables us to get roster to teachers and ensure we have enough supplies, handouts and/or books.

REGISTER HERE



# 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.

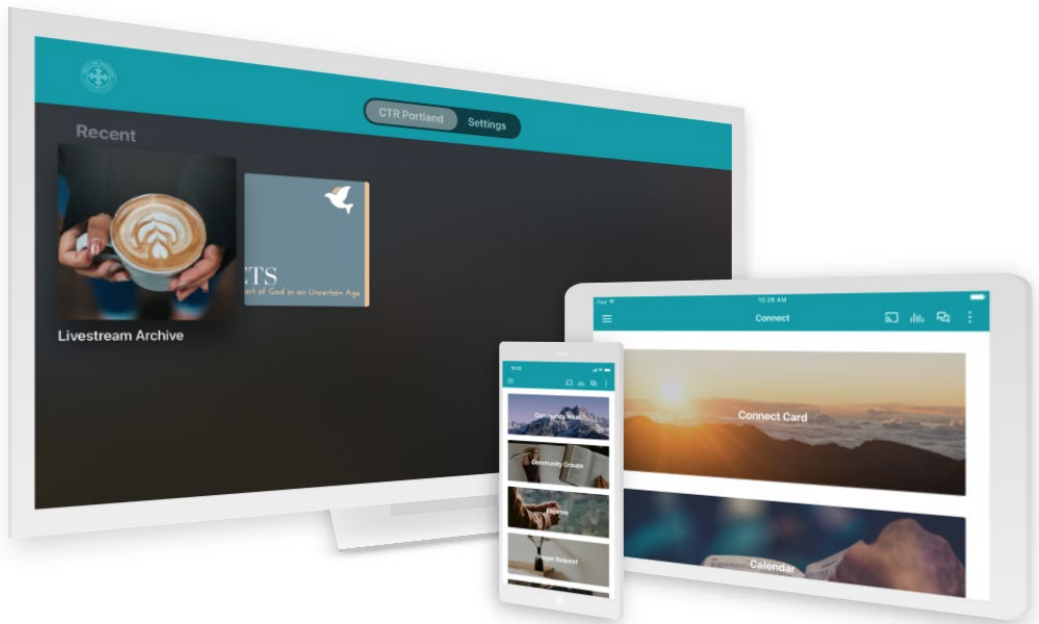
**The CTR Website** [ctrportland.org] is designed to be our front door– a welcoming place for new people to discover and learn about our church. It is minimal in announcements and church life information.

**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)]

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SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH  
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