

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Christ the Redeemer Presbyterian Church

January 14, 2007

*The Lord's Day*¹

Welcome and Silent Preparation

The Reverend Per Almqvist

A Word About Worship and this time of Preparation: We have the incredible privilege of coming into the presence of the living God. Please take a few moments now to silently prepare your heart. As others around you are in prayer and contemplation, please consider their need for quiet.

*A Note to Parents: There is a **nursery** available at your discretion throughout the service. Please ask one of the greeters if you need help finding your way. There is also a class called **Kids' Quest** for children (3 and up) during the sermon. Children are welcome to come forward during communion to be prayed for by the pastor, but should not partake of communion until they have professed their faith publicly and been approved by the session.*

GATHERING TO WORSHIP THE REDEEMER

Prelude "The Church's One Foundation" *S. Stone*

***Call to Worship** Psalms 47 and 66 Rev. Almqvist

Minister: Clap your hands, all you peoples! Shout to God with loud songs of joy!

All: For the Lord, the Most High, is awesome, a great king over all the earth.

Minister: God has gone up with a shout, the Lord with the sound of a trumpet.

All: Sing praises to God, sing praises! Sing praises to our King, sing praises!

***Songs of Exultation** (7) "From All That Dwell Below the Skies" *Hatton*

Minister: Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth; sing the glory of his name; give to him glorious praise.

All: All the earth worships you; they sing praises to you, sing praises to your name.

"How Majestic is Your Name" *Smith*²

O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is Your name in all the earth.

O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is Your name in all the earth.

O Lord, we praise Your name. O Lord, we magnify Your name;

Prince of Peace, Mighty God, Oh Lord God Almighty!

Prayer of Adoration (*concluded by praying together*): Mr. Robert Crosby

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy 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 Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen

REPENTING TOGETHER BY GOD'S GRACE

Scriptural Call to Repentance Isaiah 59 Rev. Almqvist

Your iniquities have separated you from your God; your sins have hidden His face from you, so that He will not hear. But the Redeemer will come to Zion, to those in Jacob who repent of their sins, declares the Lord.

Song of Preparation (457) "Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing" *Nettleton*

Corporate Confession *based on Psalm 51* Rev. Almqvist

Have mercy on us, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy. O God, blot out our transgressions! We know our sin only too well. It is painful to us and offensive to you. We would be holy, but sin keeps getting in our way.

Have mercy on us, O God. Have mercy! For your love is steadfast; your covenant is an eternal covenant. You are our God, and therefore we cry out when sin gets the better of us, even when we do not want it that way.

Have mercy on us, O God. Have mercy! Send your Holy Spirit, that our spirits be renewed through your Spirit. Send forth your Holy Spirit that our lives may be recreated in the image of Christ, that at last we may be the men and women you always intended.

Silent Reflection/Confession *Please take a few moments to pray privately*

Proclamation of Forgiveness 1 John 2 Rev. Almqvist

Jesus Christ is the righteous one. He is the sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

***Song of Renewal** (Insert) "Shout to the Lord" *Zschech*³

***The Peace of God** *This is an opportunity to extend the grace of Christ to one another.*

Minister: The peace of the Lord be always with you!

People: *And also with you!*

Prayers for Christ's Church and the World Mr. Robert Crosby

Praise Requests

Greeting and Announcements Mrs. Sharie Pillsbury

Children ages 3-9 are excused to **Kids' Quest** at this time.

PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

***Scripture Reading** (insert) Acts 2:14-36 Jake & Monique Paris

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

The Sermon The Message of the Church Rev. Almqvist

The Essence of the Church: A Study of Acts

The Offertory "Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing" *arr. M. Pillsbury*

***Affirmation of Faith** The Westminster Shorter and Heidelberg Catechisms⁴

Minister: Who is the Redeemer of God's elect?

People: The only Redeemer of God's elect is the Lord Jesus Christ, who, being the eternal Son of God, became man, and so was, and

continues to be, God and man in two distinct natures, and one person for ever.

Minister: Why is Christ called the only begotten Son of God, since we are also the children of God?

People: Because Christ alone is the eternal and natural Son of God; but we are children of God, by grace, for His sake.

***Creedal Song** (Insert vs. 1 & 2) "The Church's One Foundation" *S. Stone*

CELEBRATING HOLY COMMUNION

A Word About Communion: This is a time for all people to seek the Lord. For Christians, communion is a time to meet with their Savior by faith to be strengthened and renewed as they eat bread and drink wine. All those who trust in Christ alone as their Savior and Lord, belong to a church that embraces the gospel, and are at peace with their fellow Christians are welcome to come forward. For those not taking communion, we invite you to consider the prayers found below.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Minister: God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble.⁵

People: Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the sea, though its waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with their surging.

Minister: He says, "Be still, and know that I am God;"

People: The Lord Almighty is with us; The God of Jacob is our fortress.

Words of Institution & Invitation

Minister: God lives in a high and holy place,

People: But also with him who is contrite and lowly in spirit,

Minister: To revive the spirit of the lowly, and to revive the heart of the contrite.

People: The Lord Almighty is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.

Approaching the Lord's Table

Please listen carefully to the minister's explanation of communion.

All those who are prepared to come to the Lord's table can come forward. If you are not yet prepared to come, with all the responsibilities that entails, this is a loving environment within which to consider your estate before a holy and merciful God. Please use the prayers below as an aid. Both wine and grape juice are available (juice is in the outer circle of the trays).

Communion Song (Insert) "We Bow Down" *Paris*⁶

COMMISSIONING FOR SERVICE

***Concluding Prayer** Rev. Almqvist

***The Benediction** Jude 24-25 Rev. Almqvist

Minister: To Him who is able to keep you from falling and to present you before His glorious presence without fault and with great joy—to the only God our Savior be glory, majesty, power and authority, through Jesus Christ our Lord, before all ages, now and forever more.

People: Thanks be to God. Amen.

Postlude "How Majestic is Your Name" *M. W. Smith*

¹ Sunday is more than just the first day of the week. Each Sunday is a celebration of Jesus' victory over death in His resurrection Easter Sunday. The Lord of Creation has entered our world and changed everything. Just as God's people rested from work on the last day of the week to commemorate God's creative work, we now rest from worldly concerns on the first day of the week to celebrate His redeeming work.

*** Please stand, if you are able. Thank you.**

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³ © 1993 Darlene Zschech (Hillsong) (Admin. in U.S. & Canada by Integrity's Hosanna Music) CCLI License No. 1958155

⁴ A catechism is a Question and Answer format for teaching the truths contained in Scripture. The Westminster Shorter Catechism was written in 1647 in England and the Heidelberg was written in 1563 in Germany, both primarily as an aid for teaching children. It has been used by congregations and families in both worship and instruction for the past 350 years.

⁵ This communion litany is taken from Psalm 46. The themes of God's presence with us and His power in conquering everything provide us hope. It is only in Him as our fortress that we can know His peace and rest. As we come to His table, let us look together to Him for our strength.

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Reflections

“The linkage which unites Christians in a common body is a linkage which crosses the boundaries of the centuries as well as the lines of longitude and latitude...The Christian community, the Church, is a massive body spread out across the map of history. It is a body quivering with life in all its members. All its members; not just those passing here and now between birth and death. That is the community the Christian joins at baptism.”
— Harry Blamires

“The church, according to the Scripture, is not a religious club, a voluntary association of like-minded Christians who cultivate friendship and engage in joint projects. It is rather the institution of Christ and of the Spirit, formed by his power and governed by his Word.”
— Edmund P. Clowney
The Church

PRAYERS FOR THOSE NOT COMMUNING

*If you would like to use this time to speak silently to God,
we hope that the prayers below will be a help to you.*

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.

**Christ the Redeemer Presbyterian Church exists to
Worship Christ in Community,
As We Celebrate and Extend His Grace
to Portland, New England, and the world.**

Christ the Redeemer Presbyterian Church is a congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America (PCA), a denomination committed to the historic Christian faith.

Musicians: Sharie & Matthew Pillsbury, vocalists; Jake Paris, hand percussion; Mike Marchand, bass; Matthew Pillsbury, accompanist.
Serving Communion: Per Almquist and Robert Crosby.

CHRIST THE REDEEMER

Highlights.....January 14, 2007

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today!

Please stay for refreshments after the service and get better acquainted with one another.

Home Fellowship

Home Fellowship Groups are one of the most important parts of life here at Christ The Redeemer. We have four groups meeting regularly. If you are interested and need information here is some basic contact information. This is a great way to get better acquainted with each other. Portland- @ Ballada's home-767-6002, Teen group @ Pillsbury's home-883-2460, Gorham group-@ Marchand's home- 839-9877, Gray, Windham, Casco region-call Crosby's @ 657-2445.

The Truth Project

The Truth Project Sunday School class is being held both at 9:15 am and at 8:15 am, for those who want to see this presentation but are not available during the regular Sunday School hour. This is a one hour video lesson which runs for 13 weeks. It is taught by Dr. Del Tackett. It is training on how to understand the truth claims of the Bible over/against the claims of the popular culture. It features R. C. Sproul, Ravi Zacharias and Os Guinness. The class meets on the 3rd floor of the school building. An elevator is available.

Greater Portland Christian School Dinner

On Friday, January 19 at 6:00pm, the Guatemala Mission Team will host a dinner at The Root Cellar, in Portland. The food will be tasty and maybe a bit different but not too spicy! Invite your friends! Suggested donation for the dinner is \$5.00 per person, \$15.00 per family. Reserve your tickets by calling the school office at 767-5123 or Caryn Hasbrouck at 741-2368. After the dinner, the Guatemala team members will be "auctioned off" to help with your house, yard & babysitting needs.

Dates to Remember

CTR Prayer Meetings	Fridays at 6:30 am
Session Meetings (<i>monthly</i>)	<i>First and Third Tuesday nights</i> 6:00-9:00
NNE Presbytery Meeting in Concord NH	January 20, 2007
Root Cellar Dinner	March 15, 2007
Church Retreat	September 21 & 22, 2007

SERVICE AND OFFERINGS

	This Week	Next Week
Set Up	Guliani	Perkins
Food	Team	Team
Usher		
Nursery	Wendy & Kaylie Stewart	Gwen Tedder _____
Kid's Q	Terry & Katherine Cosgrove	Steve & Katya Harmon
Sound	Jordan Stewart	Jordan Stewart
Prayer	Robert Crosby	Jim Mansfield

Finances: Last week our collection was \$12,980.40. Thank you for your gifts to the Lord.

MINISTRY STAFF

(207) 878-1211

www.MainePCA.org

Douglas Warren
Per Almquist
Evan Pillsbury
Joanne Crosby

Pastor
Associate Pastor
Musician-in-Residence
Office Manager

Service at Breakwater School 856 Brighton Ave Portland, ME. @ 10:30 AM
Sunday School for all ages at 9:15



**CHRIST *the*
REDEEMER**

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



SUNDAY, JANUARY 14, 2007

*Worshipping Christ in Community
As We Celebrate and Extend His Grace
To Portland, New England and the World*