

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Christ the Redeemer Presbyterian Church

February 25, 2007

Welcome and Silent Preparation The Reverend Per Almquist

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

Call to Worship Psalm 92 The Reverend David Stewart

Minister: It is good to give thanks to the Lord, to sing praises to the Most High.

All: It is good to proclaim your unfailing love in the morning, your faithfulness in the evening, accompanied by the harp and lute and the harmony of the lyre.

Minister: You thrill me, Lord, with all you have done for me! I sing for joy because of what you have done.

All: O Lord, what great miracles you do! And how deep are your thoughts.

Minister: You are exalted in the heavens.

All: You, O Lord, continue forever.

***Song of Exultation** (38) “Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise” JOANNA

Prayer of Adoration (concluded by praying together): Mr. James Mansfield

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 Hosea 14:1-3 Rev. Almquist

Return, O Israel, to the LORD your God. Your sins have been your downfall! Take words with you and return to the LORD. Say to him: "Forgive all our sins and receive us graciously, that we may offer the fruit of our lips. Assyria cannot save us; we will not mount war-horses. We will never again say 'Our gods' to what our own hands have made, for in you the fatherless find compassion."

Song of Preparation (Insert) “Dear Refuge of my Weary Soul” Steele/Twit

Corporate Confession

Waken my heart, O Lord, my God; make it watchful to serve you and alert to your command. Trouble me with the smallness of my work. Trouble me with the greatness of your command. Trouble me with my unholiness and my slowness to obey. Trouble

me with my sins and the sins of all men. Trouble me with the troubles of your church which are the work of men. Trouble me, and make me watch continually for your judgment. Trouble me, O Lord, and let me keep my faith in the midst of my trouble. Let me go forth desiring the coming of your glory. Let me go forward; for your glory shall be revealed. I thank you that it is not my work but Christ’s work on the cross. Lord, I believe, help my unbelief. Amen.

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

Proclamation of Forgiveness Colossians 2:13-14 Rev. Almquist

You were dead because of your sins and because your sinful nature was not yet cut away. Then God made you alive with Christ. He forgave all our sins. He canceled the record that contained the charges against us. He took it and destroyed it by nailing it to Christ's cross.

***Song of Renewal** (498) “Jesus! What a Friend for Sinners!” HYFRYDOL

***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!

Celebrating God’s Grace Rev. Almquist

Prayers for Christ’s Church and the World Mr. James Mansfield

Greeting and Announcements Miss Sue Miller

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

PROCLAIMING GOD’S WORD

***Scripture Reading** (insert) Acts 11:1-18 Mr. Jim Mansfield

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

The Sermon “The Same Gift” Rev. Almquist

Sermon Series on the Book of Acts
The Essence of the Church

The Offertory

***Affirmation of Faith** The Heidelberg Catechism¹

Minister: What is your only comfort in life and in death?

People: That I am not my own, but belong—body and soul, in life and in death—to my faithful Savior Jesus Christ. He has fully paid for all my sins with His precious blood, and has set me free from the tyranny of the devil. He also watches over me in such a way that not a hair can fall from my head without the will of my Father in heaven: in fact, all things must work together for my salvation. Because I belong to Him, Christ, by His Holy Spirit, assures me of eternal life and makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready from now on to live for Him.

Minister: What must you know to live and die in the joy of this comfort?

People: Three things: first, how great my sin and misery are; second, how I am set free from all my sins and misery; third, how I am to thank God for such deliverance.

***Creed Song** Rev 4 & 5 Dudley-Smith²

Heavenly hosts in ceaseless worship Holy, holy, holy cry; He who is, who was and will be, God Almighty, Lord most high. Praise and honour, power and glory, Be to him who reigns alone; We, with all his hands have fashioned, Fall before the Father’s throne.	All creation, all redemption, Join to sing the Saviour’s worth; Lamb of God, whose blood has bought us Kings and priests, to reign on earth. Wealth and wisdom, power and glory, Honour, might, dominion, praise, Now be his from all his creatures And to everlasting days.
--	---

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 Christ by faith to be strengthened and renewed as they eat bread and drink wine. All those who trust in Jesus 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 participating, we invite you to consider the prayers found below.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Minister: “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.” This is the first and greatest commandment.³

People: And the second is like it: “Love your neighbor as yourself.” All the Law and Prophets hang on these two commandments.

Minister: All who rely on observing the law are under a curse...Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us.

People: He will save his people from their sins.
All: Lord, have mercy on us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Words of Institution & Invitation

Minister: We come to this table as lawbreakers.

People: For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

Minister: We come to this table as the holy people of God.

People: Then to the Gentiles also God has repentance that leads to life

Drawing Near in Community of Faith

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) “In Christ there is No East or West” Perry

COMMISSIONING FOR SERVICE

***Concluding Prayer** Rev. Stewart

***The Benediction** John 14:27

Minister: Peace I leave with you; My peace I give to you; not as the world gives, do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, nor let it be fearful.

People: Thanks be to God. Amen.

Postlude

² USA©1978 by Hope Publishing Co., Carol Stream, IL 60188 World outside USA © 1972 Timothy Dudley-Smith. CCLI License No. 1958155.

³ The Law of God has been used in conjunction with the Lord’s Supper for centuries. It is especially appropriate as we understand that it is only through Christ’s sustaining grace that we are able to keep God’s perfect law. May He strengthen us to walk in the light as He is in the light. The communion litany is taken from the following passages: Matthew 22:37-40, Galatians 3:10, 13, Matthew 1:21, Romans 3:23, and Acts 11:18.

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

¹ Catechisms are a question and answer format used for teaching in the church. The Heidelberg Catechism was written in 1563 and approved by the Church at the Synod of Dort (1618-1619).

Reflections

When God speaks, his creatures cannot evaluate his Word by criteria apart from God; they cannot erect or discern criteria to which he must measure up. If they attempt to do so, they actually bring God before the bar of their own reason, their own traditions, their own pride. When God speaks, it is the voice of Satan that asks, "Hath God said?" The voice of man made in God's image must be, "Speak, Lord, for thy servant heareth!"

— Edmund P. Clowney
"Preaching the Word of the Lord"

Pride is the cancer and ego it's seed.

— Glenn Phillips,
of the band Toad the Wet Sprocket

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.

*Congregation Stands

Musicians: David Stewart, vocalist; Peter Dugas, accompanist.
Serving Communion: Per Almquist and James Mansfield.

CHRIST THE REDEEMER

Highlights.....February 25, 2007

Opportunities to Pray Together

Portland Area Prayer Meeting	Fridays at 6:30 AM
Sunday Morning Prayer	Sundays at 8:30 AM
Women's Bible Study	Thursdays at 5:00 PM
Home Fellowship Groups	
Casco, Windham, Gray Region	Wednesdays at 6:30 PM
South Portland	Sundays at 5:30 PM
Gorham	Sundays at 5:30 PM

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today!

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

The ABBA Baby Bottle Banks should be left on the back table TODAY!

Congregational Meeting

On Sunday, March 11, 2007, we will have a congregational meeting to elect officers for the legal corporation of the church and to make a change in Per Almquist's call as pastor for the church plant in Lewiston. This is an important meeting for our church and we need all members to attend if at all possible. The meeting will follow the worship service that morning.

The Root Cellar

On March 15th we will be hosting the neighborhood dinner for the Root Cellar. If you would like to donate food, cook food or help serve it please indicate this on the sign up sheets on the back table. If you would like to help with the music for the evening indicate this also. We will need musicians and singers to help with a sing-along time. If you have any questions speak to Joanne Crosby.

Family Builders Ministries

You are invited to a Gala Fundraising Celebration on Friday March 23, 2007. It will be at the Marriott in New Castle, NH. Dr. Gary Chapman is the speaker; he is the author of 15 books including "The Five Love Languages". For more information visit their website: www.familybuilders.net.

Dates to Remember

CTR Prayer Meetings	Fridays at 6:30 AM
Session Meetings	First and Third Tuesday evenings- 6:00-9:00 PM
Vacation Bible School	July 23-27, 2007
Church Retreat	September 21-22, 2007

SERVICE AND OFFERINGS

	This Week	Next Week
Set Up	Pillsbury	Woodward
Food	Team	Team
Usher		
Nursery	Joanne Crosby & Margaret Pearson	Sarah Peters & Trisha Scribellito
Kid's Q	Steve & Katya Harmon	Linda & Noah Southwick
Sound	Jordan Stewart	Jordan Stewart
Prayer	James Mansfield	Doug Tedder

Finances: Last week our collection was \$2,515.00. Thank you for your gifts to the Lord.

MINISTRY STAFF

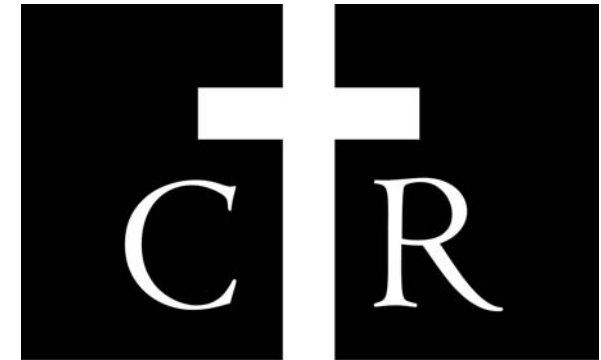
(207) 878-1211

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, FEBRUARY 25, 2007

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