

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Christ the Redeemer Presbyterian Church

March 11, 2007

*The Lord's Day*¹

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 "Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying" *arr. L. Larson*

***Call to Worship** Isaiah 55:1-3

Minister: Come, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and he who has no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which does not satisfy? Listen diligently to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. Incline your ear, and come to me; hear, that your soul may live; and I will make an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David.

***Song of Exultation** (295) "Crown Him with Many Crowns" *Elhey*

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 55:6-7 The Reverend David Stewart

Seek the LORD while he may be found; call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the LORD, that he may have compassion on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

Song of Preparation (Insert) "Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying" *Medema*²

Corporate Confession Psalm 51 Rev. Stewart

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin! For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me. Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight, so that you may be justified in your words and blameless in your judgment. Behold, I was

brought forth in iniquity, and in sin did my mother conceive me. Behold, you delight in truth in the inward being, and you teach me wisdom in the secret heart. Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

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

Proclamation of Forgiveness Isaiah 57:18-19 Rev. Stewart

"I have seen his ways, but I will heal him; I will lead him and restore comfort to him and his mourners, creating the fruit of the lips. Peace, peace, to the far and to the nears," says the LORD, "and I will heal him."

***Song of Renewal** (164) "O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing" *Glaser*

***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 13:1-4 Jake & Monique Paris

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God!**

The Sermon "For the work to which I have called them" Rev. Almquist
The Essence of the Church
Sermon Series on the Book of Acts

The Offertory "The Gift of Love" *arr. L. Larson*

***Affirmation of Faith** The Westminster Shorter Catechism³

Minister: What is the chief end of man?

People: **Man's chief end is to glorify God and enjoy Him forever.**

Minister: What rule has God given to direct us in how to glorify and enjoy Him?

People: **The Word of God, which is contained in the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments, is the only rule to direct us as to how we may glorify and enjoy Him.**

*** Sanctus** Isaiah 6:3 *Prince*⁴
Holy, Holy, Holy is the Lord of Hosts (*sing 2x*)
The whole earth is full of His Glory (*sing 3x*)
Holy is the Lord

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) "The Church's One Foundation" *Moss*⁶

COMMISSIONING FOR SERVICE

***Concluding Prayer** Rev. Stewart

***The Benediction** Hebrews 13:20-21 Rev. Stewart

Minister: Now may the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, equip you with everything good that you may do his will, working in us that which is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever.

People: **Thanks be to God. Amen.**

Postlude "Crown Him with Many Crowns" *Elhey*

The Congregational meeting will begin in about 15 minutes.

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.**

² Copyright © 1973, Hope Publishing Co. CCLI License No. 1958155.

³ 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 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.

⁴ © 1976 Resource Christian Music (Admin. by The Copyright Company) CCLI License No. 1958155

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.

⁶ Words by Samuel Stone, Music by Brian Moss, © 1996 Parson John Publishing, CCLI License No. 1958155

Reflections

All government in the church is *stewardship*: i.e. its leaders are servant-managers, who use their authority only to advance the interests of those they represent and serve.

— Edmund Clowney, *The Church*

"Servant leader." It's another paradox, isn't it? How can you be a servant and a leader? Doesn't one cancel out the other? But here's another paradox. Servant leaders are the freest of all leaders. Servant leaders know why they lead....And they know Who they lead for.

— Tim Hansel, *Holy Sweat*

Most of the ladies and gentlemen who mourn the passing of the nation's leaders wouldn't know a leader if they saw one. If they had the bad luck to come across a leader, they would find out that he might demand something from them, and this impertinence would put an abrupt and indignant end to their wish for his return.

— Lewis H. Lapham

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 and Matthew Pillsbury, vocalists; SaraBeth Pillsbury and Kathryn Pillsbury, violins; Mike Marchand, bass; Jake Paris, hand percussion; Matthew Pillsbury, accompanist.
Serving Communion: Per Almquist and Robert Crosby.

CHRIST THE REDEEMER

Highlights.....March 11, 2007

OPPORTUNITIES TO PRAY TOGETHER

| | |
|---|-----------------------|
| Friday Morning Prayer- <i>Park Ave Church of God-Portland</i> | Fridays at 6:30 AM |
| Sunday Morning Prayer- <i>Breakwater School</i> | Sundays at 8:30 AM |
| Women's Bible Study- <i>Margaret Pearson-774-0524</i> | Thursdays at 5:00 PM |
| Home Fellowship Groups | |
| Casco, Windham, Gray Region- <i>Robert Crosby-657-2445</i> | Wednesdays at 6:30 PM |
| South Portland- <i>Viktor Ballada-767-6002</i> | Sundays at 5:30 PM |
| Gorham- <i>Mike Marchand-839-9877</i> | Sundays at 5:30 PM |

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today!

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

Congregational Meeting Today

After the worship service 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 children will have a time together at the rear of the room.

The Root Cellar Dinner this week

Next Thursday, 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 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

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|-----------------------|--|
| 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 | Guliani | Perkins |
| Food | Team | Team |
| Usher | | |
| Nursery | Wendy & Kaylie Stewart | Gwen Tedder & Katya Harmon |
| Kid's Q | Steve & Katya Harmon | Paula & Alison Marchand |
| Sound | Jordan Stewart | Jordan Stewart |
| Prayer | Robert Crosby | Jim Mansfield |

Finances: Last week our collection was \$7,306.00. Thank you for your gifts to the Lord.

MINISTRY STAFF

(207) 878-1211

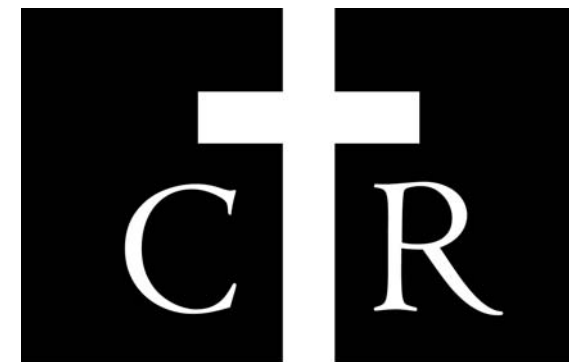
www.MainePCA.org

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, MARCH 11, 2007

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