

# ORDER OF WORSHIP

## Christ the Redeemer Presbyterian Church

March 18, 2007

### Welcome and Silent Preparation

The Rev. 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** “O Worship the King” *arr. J. Curnow*

**\*Call to Worship** Psalm 68:4-5 Rev. Almquist

Sing to God, sing praises to his name; lift up a song to him who rides through the deserts; his name is the LORD; exult before him! Father of the fatherless and protector of widows is God in his holy habitation.

**\*Song of Exultation** (76) “Praise, My soul, The King of Heaven” *Goss*

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

**Song of Preparation** (597) “Though I May speak with Bravest Fire” *American folk tune*

**Scriptural Call to Repentance** Hebrews 4:14-16 Rev. Almquist

Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

**Corporate Confession** Rev. Almquist<sup>1</sup>

Most holy and merciful Father; we acknowledge and confess in Your Presence: our sinful nature prone to evil and slothful in good; and all our shortcomings and offenses against You. You alone know how often we have sinned: in wandering from Your ways; in wasting Your gifts; in forgetting Your love. But You, O Lord, have pity upon us; who are ashamed and sorry for all wherein we have displeased You. Teach us to hate our errors; cleanse us from our secret faults; and forgive our sins; for the sake of Your dear Son our Saviour. And O most holy and loving Father; send Your purifying grace into our hearts, we ask You; that we may henceforth live in Your light and walk in Your ways; according to the commandments of Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

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

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

<sup>1</sup> Taken from Henry Van Dyke Confession of Sin

**Proclamation of Forgiveness** Hebrews 10:15-17 Rev. Almquist

And the Holy Spirit also bears witness to us; for after saying, “This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, declares the Lord: I will put my laws on their hearts, and write them on their minds,” then he adds, “I will remember their sins and their lawless deeds no more.”

**Song of Renewal** (353) “I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord” *Williams*

**\*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. Jim Mansfield

**Greeting and Announcements** Miss Margaret Pearson

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

### PROCLAIMING GOD’S WORD

**\*Scripture Reading** (insert) Acts 15: 1-21 Mr. Nathan Pillsbury

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

**People:** **Thanks be to God!**

**The Sermon** The Apostolic Church Rev. Almquist  
**The Essence of the Church**  
*Sermon Series on the Book of Acts*

**The Offertory** “Praise to the Lord, the Almighty” *arr. J. Curnow*

**\*Affirmation of Faith** The Nicene Creed<sup>2</sup>

Minister: Christian, what is it that we believe?

**People:** **We believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father; by whom all things were made; who for us and for our salvation came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary, and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate; He suffered and was buried; and the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures, and ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father; and He shall come again, with glory, to judge both the living and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end.**

**And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son; who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified; who spoke by the prophets; and we believe in one holy catholic<sup>3</sup> and apostolic church; we acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins; and we look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

<sup>2</sup> The Nicene Creed originated at the Council of Nicea (325). It was formulated to answer heresies that denied the biblical doctrine of the Trinity and of the person of Christ.

<sup>3</sup> The term “catholic” here means universal and does not mean any particular denomination.

**\*Gloria Patri** *Greatorex*

Glory be to the Father  
And to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.  
As it was in the beginning

Is now and ever shall be  
World without end.  
Amen. Amen.

### CELEBRATION OF 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: Behold, the Lamb of God<sup>4</sup>  
**People:** **Who takes away the sin of the world!**

### Words of Institution & Invitation

Minister: Believe in the Lord, and give Him eternal praise and thanks!  
**People:** **Lord Christ, help us to believe in You and always give You thanks and praise.**

Minister: Let us therefore draw near with confidence to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and may find grace to help in time of need.

**People:** **This hope we have as an anchor of the soul, a hope both sure and steadfast.**

Minister: Christ said, “I am the bread of life.”  
**People:** **He is our portion and our life.**

### Approaching Christ’s Communion Together

*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” *Afro-American spiritual*<sup>5</sup>

**\*Concluding Prayer** Rev. Almquist

### COMMISSIONING FOR SERVICE

**\*The Benediction** Romans 15:13 Rev. Almquist

Minister: May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.

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

**Postlude**

<sup>4</sup> This communion litany is based on the one used in Strassburg, Switzerland in the dawning of the Protestant Reformation. The Scriptural quotations are from Hebrews and the Gospel of John.

<sup>5</sup> Text: Michael A. Perry, © 1982 Hope Publishing Co. Adapt. and harm. Harry T. Burleigh, 1939. CCLI License No. 1958155.

## Reflections

So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, in whom the whole structure, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord. In him you also are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit.

— Ephesians 2:19-22

The historical church must be called "apostolic" in a double sense: its gospel and its doctrine are founded on the testimony of the first apostles, the eyewitnesses of the risen Christ, and it exists in the carrying out of the apostolic proclamation, the missionary charge. The expression "apostolic" therefore denotes both the church's foundation and its commission.

— Jürgen Moltmann

### 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: Cynthia Setchell, vocalist; David Stewart, trumpet; Chiharu Naruse, accompanist.  
Serving Communion: Per Almquist and Jim Mansfield.

## 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.

#### Greater Portland School Open House

Do you know anyone who is considering a Christian school education? There is an open house on Monday, March 19, 6:30-8:00 p.m., for interested families to stop by and learn about the school. We are located at 1338 Broadway So Portland, ME. See us on the web at [www.gpcs.net](http://www.gpcs.net).

#### Weekend to Remember

There will be a Family Life weekend to remember conference on May 4-6<sup>th</sup>, 2007. It will be at the South Portland Marriott at Sable Oaks. This conference can benefit couples at all stages from being engaged to celebrating 50 years or more together. Brochures are available on the greeter table. A group of 5 couples or more can receive special discounts.

#### Easter Sunday April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2007

There will be **no Sunday School** on Easter Sunday. This is not more time for us to primp in front of the mirror that morning but a time to encourage us to take the extra time to remember that we are people broken by our sin and in need of the promise of God guaranteed by the resurrection of Christ. Our friends, family, and neighbors around us are also broken and need to hear the good news of Easter-so invite someone to celebrate with us that morning.

#### Dates to Remember

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

### SERVICE AND OFFERINGS

	This Week	Next Week
Set Up	Perkins	Pillsbury
Food	Team	Team
Usher		
Nursery	Gwen Tedder & Alison Marchand	Margaret Pearson & Joanne Crosby
Kid's Q	Paula & Alison Marchand	Kathryn Pillsbury
Sound	Jordan Stewart	Jordan Stewart
Prayer	Jim Mansfield	Dick Kurtz

**Finances:** Last week our collection was \$1,417.00. Thank you for your gifts to the Lord.

### MINISTRY STAFF

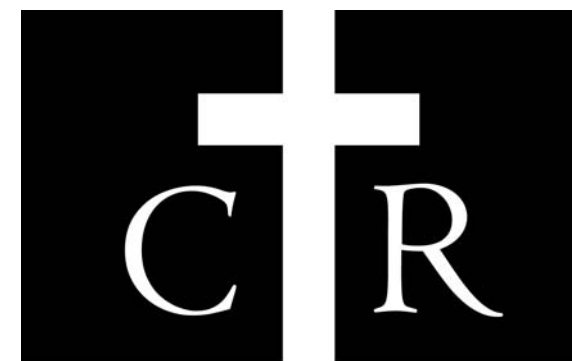
(207) 878-1211

[www.MainePCA.org](http://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 18, 2007

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