

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Christ the Redeemer Presbyterian Church

April 8, 2007

*Easter Sunday*¹

Welcome and Silent Preparation

The Reverend Douglas D. Warren

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

“March from Julius Caesar”

G. F. Handel

*Call to Worship

from 1 Corinthians 15

The Reverend Per Almquist

Minister: But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.

People: O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?

Minister: Death is swallowed up in victory.

People: Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing!

Minister: Christ is risen!

People: Christ is risen!

All: The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!

*Song of Exultation (277)

“Christ the Lord is Risen Today”

Wesley

*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

1 Corinthians 15:27

Rev. Warren

And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins.

Song of Preparation (260)

“Were You There?”

Spiritual

Corporate Confession

Rev. Warren

O most merciful Lord and Savior, who on the tree of the cross gave salvation to mankind, that where death once arose, there might rise again, we confess that the terrible cross is rightfully ours because of our own sins. Holy Father, forgive our sins and grant us true repentance through your Holy Spirit for the sake of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

Silent Reflection/Confession

Please take a few moments to pray privately

Proclamation of Forgiveness

1 Corinthians 15:20-22

Rev. Warren

But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. For as by a man came death, by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive.

*Song of Renewal (274)

“Thine Be the Glory”

MACCABAEUS

Reception of New Members:

Brian & Sarah Russell

Rev. Warren

Sacrament of Baptism

Kaleena Russell

Rev. Almquist

Covenant child of Brian & Sarah Russell

Prayer of Baptism

Doug Tedder

*Song of Baptism (32)

“Great Is Thy Faithfulness”

RUNYAN

*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

We desire to be praying with and for you. To this end, we encourage any who would like prayer to contact an elder of the church this morning or throughout the week, to fill out a prayer card and place it in the offering, or to contact the church office so that we may be praying with and for you.

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)

Luke 24:1-12

Jake & Monique Paris

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

The Sermon

“Stupid Women’s Nonsense”

Rev. Warren

The Essence of the Church

Sermon Series on the Book of Acts

The Offertory

“Minuet from Fireworks Suite ”

F. F. Handel

*Affirmation of Faith

The Westminster Confession of Faith, ch. 8 and the Heidelberg Catechism, Question 45²

Minister: What do we believe concerning the death and resurrection of Christ?

People: He was born under the law and perfectly fulfilled it. He endured most grievous torments in his soul and most painful sufferings in his body; he was crucified, died, and was buried; he remained under the power of death, yet his body did not undergo decay; and he arose from the dead on the third day with the same body in which he had suffered. In this body he ascended into heaven, where he sits at the right hand of his Father, making intercession, and he shall return to judge men and angels at the end of the age.

Minister:

How does Christ’s resurrection benefit us?

People:

First, by his resurrection he has overcome death, so that he might make us share in the righteousness he won for us by his death. Second, by his power we too are already now resurrected to a new life. Third, Christ’s resurrection is a guarantee of our glorious resurrection.

*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.

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: Let us come to the table of the risen King.

People: We remember His death; we proclaim His resurrection; we await His coming in glory.

Words of Institution and Invitation

Minister: Lord God, by You power You raised Jesus from death to life.

People: Through His victory over the grave we are set free from the bonds of sin and death to share the glorious freedom of the children of God.

Minister: In His rising to life You promise eternal life to all who believe in Him.

People: We praise You that as we break bread in faith, we shall know the risen Christ among us.

Minister: In knowing You who has gone before us in resurrection

People: Let us know newness of life to give our lives to the dead and dying.

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 (276)

“Up from the Grave He Arose”

Lowry

COMMISSIONING FOR SERVICE

*Concluding Prayer

Rev. Almquist

*The Benediction

Hebrews 13:20-21

Rev. Almquist

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 and ever. Amen.

People: Alleluia. Amen.

Postlude

“Bourree from Fireworks Suite”

G. F. Handel

¹ Easter is the day that Jesus rose from the dead after being crucified the previous Friday. The vestments are white to symbolize the purity of our Savior who has conquered sin and death for us.

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

² The Westminster Confession of Faith was written in London in 1647 as a statement of belief for the church. It is both careful in its theology and deeply pastoral in its discussion of that theology. A catechism is a Question and Answer format for teaching the truths contained in Scripture. The Heidelberg Catechism was written in 1563 and presents Scriptural truth with warmth and clarity.

Reflections

The Bible is not a script for a funeral service, but it is the record of God always bringing life where we expected to find death. Everywhere it is the story of resurrection.

— Eugene H. Peterson

Socrates mastered the art of dying; Christ overcame death as "the last enemy" (1 Corinthians 15:26). There is a real difference between the two things; the one is within the scope of human possibilities, the other means resurrection. It's not from *ars moriendi*, the art of dying, but from the resurrection of Christ, that a new and purifying wind can blow through our present world...If a few people really believed that and acted on it in their daily lives, a great deal would be changed. To live in the light of the resurrection – that is what Easter means.

— Dietrich Bonhoeffer, *The Martyred Christian*

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: Evan Pillsbury, vocalist; David Stewart and Craig Ouellette, trumpet; Beth Almquist, French horn; Jeff Marsanskis, Trombone; Matthew Pillsbury, accompanist.

Serving Communion: Doug Warren and Robert Crosby.

CHRIST THE REDEEMER

Highlights.....April 8, 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>	<i>twice monthly</i> Thursdays at 5:00 PM
Home Fellowship Groups	
Casco, Windham, Gray Region- <i>Robert Crosby-657-2445</i>	<i>weekly</i> Wednesdays at 6:30 PM
South Portland-@ <i>Ballada home-767-6002-teacher Dave Stewart 221-2784</i>	<i>1st & 3rd</i> Sundays at 5:30 PM
Gorham-@ <i>Marchand home-839-9877-teacher Dave Stewart 221-2784</i>	<i>2nd and 4th</i> Sundays at 5:30 PM

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today

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

Easter Sunday Welcome

A special welcome to all who have come to celebrate Resurrection Day with us at CTR. We would like to offer you a gift to take home with you after the service. On the greeter's table you will see two books, *Right with God* by John Blanchard and *Transforming Grace* by Jerry Bridges. Please take one of these books as you leave today.

Women's Group

The older women of the church are getting together on April 12th at 9:00 a.m. at the home of Hope Lichtman. This group is intended to encourage women to share their gifts with each other and use them to reach out with the gospel message. For more details pick up an invitation card on the greeter table in the back or talk to Jeanne Mansfield.

New Sunday School Class

The Truth Project ends next Sunday. Starting April 22nd there will be a new SS study beginning for teens and adults. For six weeks we will be exploring what is the standard of truth and what we believe concerning Scripture using a video study called *Hath God Said* produced by Ligonier Ministry.

Weekend to Remember

There will be a Family Life weekend to remember conference on May 4-6th, 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.

Dates to Remember

Session Meetings	First and Third Tuesday evenings- 6:00-9:00 p.m.
NNE Presbytery Meeting	Saturday April 21, 2007
ABBA's Community Awareness Fundraiser Banquet	Thurs. May 10, 2007
Vacation Bible School	July 23-27, 2007
Church Retreat	September 21-22, 2007

SERVICE AND OFFERINGS

	This Week	Next Week
Set Up	Guliani Team	Perkins Team
Nursery	Wendy & Kaylie Stewart	Doug & Gwen Tedder
Kid's Q	Paula & Alison Marchand	Steve & Katya Harmon
Sound	Jordan Stewart	Jordan Stewart
Prayer	Robert Crosby	Jim Mansfield

Finances: Last week our collection was \$3,984.00. Thank you for your gifts to the Lord.

MINISTRY STAFF

(207) 878-1211 www.MainePCA.org

Douglas Warren	Pastor
Per Almquist	Associate Pastor
Evan Pillsbury	Musician-in-Residence
Joanne Crosby	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, APRIL 8, 2007

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