

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Christ the Redeemer Presbyterian Church

April 29, 2007

*The Lord's Day*¹

Welcome and Silent Preparation The Reverend Douglas D. Warren

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 “Allegro Molto E Con Brio” *L. Beethoven*²

***Call to Worship** Isaiah 48:16-17 The Reverend David Stewart
“Draw near to me, hear this: from the beginning I have not spoken in secret, from the time it came to be I have been there.” And now the Lord God has sent me, and his Spirit. Thus says the LORD, your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel: “I am the LORD your God, who teaches you to profit, who leads you in the way you should go.”

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

***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 43:24 Rev. Warren
You have burdened me with your sins; you have wearied me with your iniquities.

Song of Preparation (Insert) “Gospel Song” *Jones*³

Corporate Confession Rev. Stewart
Almighty God, merciful Father, we troubled and penitent sinners confess to You our sins and iniquities with which we have offended You and for which we justly deserve Your punishment. We are sorry for them and repent of them and pray for your boundless mercy. For the sake of Your suffering and death of Your Son, Jesus Christ, be gracious and merciful to us. Give us Your Holy Spirit and bring us to life everlasting.

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

Proclamation of Forgiveness Isaiah 54:8, 43:25, 44:22 Rev. Warren
With everlasting love I will have compassion on you, says the LORD your Redeemer. I, I am He who blots out your transgressions for My own sake, and I will not remember your sins. Return to me, for I have redeemed you.

Reception of New Members: Rev. Warren

Professing Faith in Jesus

Lance Guliani

Transfer of Letter

Patricia Grosser, Joy Guliani, Paul & Sheryl Hoehner, Timothy Hoehner, Carolyn Hoehner, Michael & Andrea Stultz

Vows for the new members:

Do you acknowledge yourselves to be sinners in the sight of God, justly deserving His displeasure, and without hope save in His sovereign mercy?

Do you believe in the Lord Jesus Christ as the Son of God, and Savior of sinners, and do you receive and rest upon Him alone for salvation as He is offered in the Gospel?

Do you now resolve and promise, in humble reliance upon the grace of the Holy Spirit, that you will endeavor to live as becomes the followers of Christ?

Do you promise to support the church in its worship and work to the best of your ability?

Do you submit yourselves to the government and discipline of the church, and promise to promote its purity and peace?

Vow for the congregation:

Do you, members of Christ the Redeemer Presbyterian Church, acknowledge your need for these brothers and sisters in Christ and commit yourselves to their growth in holiness by the grace of God?

***Song of Renewal** (263) “Lift High the Cross” *Nicholson*

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

Minister: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.
Minister: Our help is in the name of the Lord, who made the heaven and earth. Grace and peace be to you from God our Father and from Jesus Christ our Lord.

People: Amen.
Minister: And now as our Lord gives to us his peace, so let us pass the peace to each other, saying: “The peace of the Lord be always with you.”

People: And also with you.

Extending Christ's Grace Vicky and Danielle Woodward

Prayers for Christ's Church and the World Mr. Robert Crosby
We long to pray 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 for you.

Greeting and Announcements Mrs. Kristen Warren

Children ages 3-6 are excused to **Kids' Quest** at this time.

PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

***Scripture Reading** (insert) Acts 17:16-34 Mr. Doug Tedder

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

The Sermon The Philosophy of the Church Rev. Warren
The Essence of the Church
Sermon Series on the Book of Acts

The Offertory “Adagio Molto” *L. Beethoven*⁴

***Affirmation of Faith** **Westminster Shorter Catechism**⁵

Q. 62 What is the visible church?

People: **The visible church is a society made up of all such as in all ages and places of the world do profess the true religion, and of their children.**

⁴ From Piano Sonata No. 5, in C minor, Op. 10, no. 1.

⁵ 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.

Q. 63 What are the special privileges of the visible church?

People: **The visible church has the privilege of being under God's special care and government; of being protected and preserved in all ages, notwithstanding the opposition of all enemies; and of enjoying the communion of saints, the ordinary means of salvation, and offers of grace by Christ to all the members of it in the ministry of the gospel, testifying, that whosoever believes in him shall be saved, and excluding none that will come unto him.**

*Barocha Numbers 6:24 *Card*⁶

The Lord bless you and keep you The Lord be gracious to you
The Lord make His face shine upon you The Lord turn His face towards you
And give you peace And give you peace
And give you peace And give you peace
And give you peace, forever And give you peace, forever.

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: We proclaim to you what we have seen and heard, so that you also may have fellowship with us.

People: **That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked at and our hands have touched—this we proclaim concerning the Word of Life.**

Minister: The life appeared; we have seen it and testify to it, and we proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and has appeared to us.

People: **Our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son, Jesus Christ.**

Words of Institution & Invitation

Minister: This is the message we have heard from him and declare to you:

People: **God is light; in him there is no darkness at all.**

Minister: If we claim to have fellowship with him yet walk in darkness, we lie and do not live by the truth

People: **But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin. (1 John 1:1-7)**

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** (642) “Be Thou My Vision” *Traditional Irish melody*

COMMISSIONING FOR SERVICE

***Concluding Prayer** Rev. Stewart

***The Benediction** Hebrews 13:20-21 Rev. Stewart
Minister: Peace be to the brothers, and love with faith, from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. Grace be with all who love our Lord Jesus Christ with love incorruptible.

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

Postlude “Prestissimo” *L. Beethoven*⁷

⁶ Adapted from the Lutheran Book of Prayer.

¹ Each Sunday is a celebration of the resurrection from the dead by Jesus. His triumph over death is the basis for our hope. The first day of the week now points us forward to the certainty of His return.

² From Piano Sonata No. 5, in C minor, Op. 10, no. 1. Earlier selection included Etude op 25, N. 12 by F. Chopin.

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

³ Words: Drew Jones, Music: Bob Kauflin. © 2002 Sovereign Grace Praise. Sovereign Grace Music. CCLI License No. 1958155.

Reflections

God is no fonder of intellectual slackers than of any other slackers. If you are thinking of becoming a Christian, I warn you you are embarking on something which is going to take the whole of you, brains and all.

— C.S. Lewis, *Mere Christianity*

Time and time again on the university campus, you are told that freedom of ideas is the most important idea...Freedom is the great illusion...Everyone is enslaved to something. The goal of faith is to make you enslaved to the right stuff...Christians exist to demonstrate to our culture that true freedom is being yoked to what is true – Jesus.

— Stanley Hauerwas, *The Door*

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

Musicians: David Stewart, vocalist; Evan Pillsbury, violoncello; Matthew Pillsbury, accompanist.
Serving Communion: Doug Warren and Robert Crosby.

CHRIST THE REDEEMER

Highlights.....April 29, 2007

OPPORTUNITIES TO PRAY TOGETHER

Friday Morning Prayer-*Park Ave Church of God-Portland* Fridays at 6:30 AM
 Sunday Morning Prayer-*Breakwater School* Sundays at 8:30 AM
 Women's Bible Study-*Margaret Pearson-774-0524* *twice monthly* Thursdays at 5:00 PM
Home Fellowship Groups
 Casco, Windham, Gray Region-*Robert Crosby-657-2445* *weekly* Wednesdays at 6:30 PM
 South Portland-@ *Ballada home-767-6002-teacher Dave Stewart 221-2784* *1st & 3rd* Sundays at 5:30 PM
 Gorham-@ *Marchand home-839-9877-teacher Dave Stewart 221-2784* *2nd and 4th* Sundays at 5:30 PM

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today

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

New Sunday School Class

A new SS study has begun 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. Feel free to join this class at any time.

Welcome to Christ the Redeemer Class

This is a class for those wanting to become members or to learn more about CTR. It is being held on Sunday mornings at 9:15 a.m. and will run for four weeks. There will also be an all day class on Saturday, May 12th which will cover the same material. Questions? Talk to Pastor Warren.

Ladies Movie Night

All ladies are invited to a Movie Night on May 4th at the home of Gwen Tedder, 25 Longwood Terr. Portland. There will be a documentary shown at 5:30 pm and at 7:00 pm *End of the Spear* will be shown. Come when you can and leave when you must. Come and bring a friend. Please bring a snack or appetizer to share. Questions? Talk to Wendy Stewart or call Gwen Tedder at 774-2847.

ABBA Banquet

On May 10th the Community Awareness Fundraising Banquet will be held at Keeley the Katerer 178 Warren Ave Portland. A complimentary dinner will be served at 7:00 p.m. and the program will follow. An offering will be taken to benefit the ministry. See Crystal Kepler with questions.

Root Cellar Dinner

Our church will be serving the Thursday night dinner at The Root Cellar on May 17th. A sign up sheet is on the back table. Please consider helping by cooking or buying something for this meal. Also sign up if you would like to help serve the meal and greet the neighbors. Questions should be directed to Joanne Crosby.

Dates to Remember

Session Meetings First and Third Tuesday evenings- 6:00-9:00 p.m.
 Vacation Bible School July 23-27, 2007
 Church Retreat September 21-22, 2007

SERVICE AND OFFERINGS

	This Week	Next Week
Set Up	Soyster Team	Woodward Team
Nursery	Jake & Monique Paris	Sarah Peters & Trisha Scribellito
Kid's Q	Kathryn Pillsbury	Linda and Noah Southwick
Sound	Jordan Stewart	Jordan Stewart
Prayer	Robert Crosby	Doug Tedder

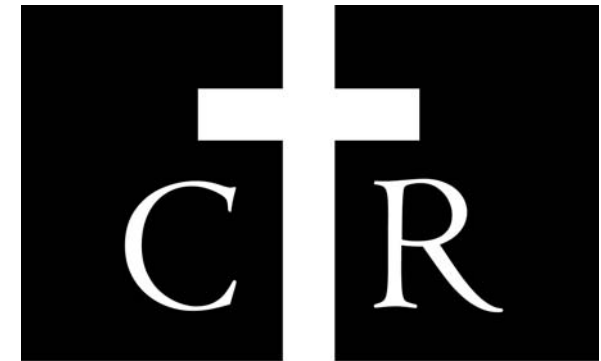
Finances: Last week our collection was \$3,370.50. Thank you for your gifts to the Lord.

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 29, 2007

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

⁷ From Piano Sonata No. 5, in C minor, Op. 10, no. 1.