

# ORDER OF WORSHIP

## Christ the Redeemer Presbyterian Church

December 9, 2007

*The Lord's Day*<sup>1</sup>

### 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

### Advent Candle Lighting

### \*Call to Worship

*Psalm 86*

Rev. Almquist

Minister: We will praise you, O Lord our God, with all our whole hearts; we will glorify your name forever. For you have delivered us from the power of death.

**All: Bring joy to your servants, O Lord, for to you we lift up our souls. There is none like you; no deeds can compare with yours.**

Minister: All the nations you have made will come and worship before you. They will bring glory to your name, for you alone are God.

**All: Teach us now your way, O Lord, and we will live in your truth. Give us undivided hearts that we may fear and praise your great name.**

### \*Song of Exultation (208)

“O Come, All Ye Faithful”

*ADESTE FIDELES*

### \*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

Rev. Almquist

### Song of Preparation

“Gospel Song”

*Jones*<sup>2</sup>

Holy God, in love, became  
perfect Man to bear my blame.  
On the cross he took my sin.  
By his death I live again.

### Corporate Confession

Psalm 51

Rev. Almquist

Be gracious to me, O God, according to Your lovingkindness; according to the greatness of Your compassion 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, I have sinned, and done what is evil in Your sight, So that You are justified when You speak, and blameless when you judge.

### Silent Reflection/Confession

*Please take a few moments to pray privately*

### Proclamation of Forgiveness

Psalm 130

Rev. Almquist

If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand? O Israel, put your hope in the Lord, for with the Lord is unfailing love and with Him is full redemption. He Himself will redeem Israel from all their sins.

### \*Song of Renewal

“There is a Redeemer”

*Green*<sup>3</sup>

1. There is a Redeemer, Jesus, God's own Son,  
Precious Lamb of God, Messiah, Holy One.  
2. Jesus my Redeemer, name above all names,  
Precious Lamb of God, Messiah,  
O for sinners slain. *chorus*

*Chorus*

Thank You, oh my Father,  
For giving us Your Son,  
And leaving Your Spirit  
'Til the work on earth is done.

3. When I stand in glory, I will see His face,  
And there I'll serve my King forever,  
In that holy place. *chorus*

### \*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

*Praise*

*Requests*

Mr. Robert Crosby

### Greeting and Announcements

Mrs. Sharie Pillsbury

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

## PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

### \*Scripture Reading (Page 831)

Hebrews 6:4-7:3

Mr. Nathan Pillsbury

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God!**

### The Sermon

**An Anchor for the Soul**

Rev. Doug Warren

Sermon Series on the Book of Hebrews

*The Life of Faith—Rooted in God's Promises, Running to the New Jerusalem*

### The Offertory

### \*Affirmation of Faith

The Westminster Shorter Catechism<sup>4</sup>

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.**

### \*Creedal Song

“Holy, Holy, Holy”

*NICAEA*

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty!  
All thy works shall praise thy name in earth and sky and sea.  
Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty!  
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

## 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.<sup>5</sup>

**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 (642)

“Be Thou My Vision”

*Traditional Irish melody*

## COMMISSIONING FOR SERVICE

### \*Concluding Prayer

Rev. Warren

### \*The Benediction

Jude 24-25

Rev. Warren

Minister: To Him who is able to keep you from falling and to present you before His glorious presence without fault and with great joy—to the only God our Savior be glory, majesty, power and authority, through Jesus Christ our Lord, before all ages, now and forever more.

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

### Postlude

<sup>1</sup> 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.**

<sup>2</sup> Words: Drew Jones, Music: Bob Kauflin. © 2002 Sovereign Grace Praise. Sovereign Grace Music, a division of Sovereign Grace Ministries. North American administration by Integrity Music. CCLI License No. 1958155.

<sup>3</sup> © 1982 Birdwing Music (Admin. by EMI Christian Music Publishing; Admin. by BMG Music Publishing) CCLI License No. 1958155

<sup>4</sup> 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.

<sup>5</sup> 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.

# Reflections

“The linkage which unites Christians in a common body is a linkage which crosses the boundaries of the centuries as well as the lines of longitude and latitude... . The Christian community, the Church, is a massive body spread out across the map of history. It is a body quivering with life in all its members. All its members; not just those passing here and now between birth and death. That is the community the Christian joins at baptism.”  
— Harry Blamires

We must assert that there *can* be only one Christian family, only one Christian faith, hope and baptism, and only one Christian body, because there is only one God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. You can no more multiply churches than you can multiply Gods. Is there only one God? Then he has only one church...The unity of the church is as indestructible as the unity of God himself. It is no more possible to split the church than it is possible to split the Godhead.

— John R.W. Stott

## 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: David Stewart, vocalist; Jake Paris, percussion; Mike Marchand, bass; Johnathan Bauer, accompanist.  
Serving Communion: Doug Warren and Robert Crosby.

## CHRIST THE REDEEMER

# Highlights.....December 9, 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> Tuesdays at 5:00 PM
<b>Home Fellowship Groups</b>	
Casco, Windham, Gray Region- <i>Robert Crosby-657-2445</i>	<i>varies</i> Wednesdays at 6:30 PM
Gorham- <i>@ Marchand home-839-9877-teacher Dave Stewart 712-9826</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.

#### Welcome to Christ the Redeemer Class

This is a class for those who want to learn more about CTR. It is being held on Sunday mornings at 9:15 a.m. and will run for four weeks (12/2-23). This is required for all new members, but open to all. Questions? Talk to Pastor Warren.

#### Installation Service Today

At 4:00 p.m. we will have an Installation Service for Rev. David Stewart. David will be serving here at CTR as an associate pastor. Please come and enjoy this service of celebration. A dinner will follow this service.

#### Word and Deed Ministry

The Word and Deed Ministry group will be meeting this coming Thursday, December 13th, at 12:30 pm at the home of Hope Lichtman for a Christmas Party. We are having a potluck lunch and good fellowship time. If you have any questions please call Jeanne Mansfield at 647-8487 or Hope Lichtman at 761-5642. Come be ministered to as we minister to each other.

#### Gorham Home Fellowship

The next fellowship time will be on December 16th after the worship service. Meet at the Marchand's home at 1:30 p.m. for lunch. Bring the whole family for this special time together.

#### Christmas Eve

On Monday December 24<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m. we will have a Christmas Eve Service here at Breakwater School. Be sure to save this date to gather together in celebration of our saviors' birth.

#### Dates to Remember

Session Meetings First and Third Tuesday evenings- 6:00-9:00 p.m.

### SERVICE AND OFFERINGS

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

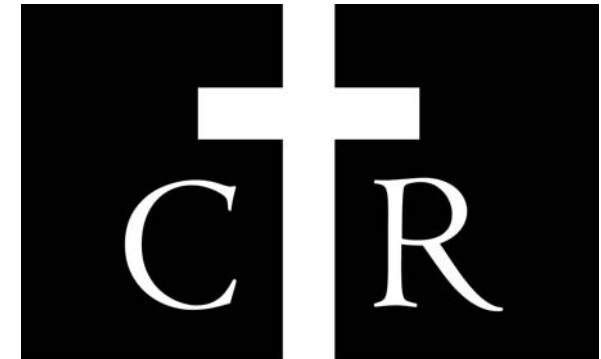
**Finances:** Last week our collection was \$5,486.23. Thank you for your gifts to the Lord.

### MINISTRY STAFF

(207) 878-1211 [www.MainePCA.org](http://www.MainePCA.org)

Douglas Warren	Pastor
Per Almquist	Associate Pastor
David Stewart	Associate Pastor
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, DECEMBER 9, 2007

*Worshipping Christ in Community  
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