

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Christ the Redeemer Presbyterian Church

January 6, 2008

The Feast of Epiphany¹

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

Call to Worship

Psalm 98:1-3

Rev. Warren

Minister: O sing to the Lord a new song, for He has done marvelous things.

All: With His holy strong arm He has won His victory.

Minister: The Lord has made known His victory; He has revealed His vindication in the sight of the nations.

All: He has remembered His steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel. Let us sing praises to our victorious King!

*Hymn of Exultation (181)

“We Come, O Christ, to You”

Darvall

Prayer of Adoration

(concluded by praying together):

Mr. Doug Tedder

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

Responsive Reading

Epiphany²

Mr. Tedder

Leader: What is Epiphany?

All: Epiphany is the celebration of Christ being adored by the Gentiles as seen in the coming of the Magi. They came searching for Jesus saying, “We have come to worship Him.”

Leader: Is it significant that Jesus was worshipped by people who were not Jewish?

All: God’s promises to His people Israel were always intended to extend to the ends of the earth. The coming of Jesus as the promised Messiah worshipped by both Jewish shepherds and Gentile wise men signaled the fulfillment of God’s promises to save His people from “every tribe, tongue, and nation.”

REPENTING TOGETHER BY GOD’S GRACE

Scriptural Call to Repentance

Matthew 25:31-36

Rev. Warren

When the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the angels with Him, He will sit on His throne in heavenly glory. All the nations will be gathered before Him, and He will separate the people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. He will put the sheep on his right and the goats on his left. “Then the King will say to those on His right, ‘Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world. For I was hungry and you

gave Me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave Me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited Me in, I needed clothes and you clothed Me, I was sick and you looked after Me, I was in prison and you came to visit Me.”

Song of Preparation

“Gospel Song”

Jones³

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

Rev. Warren

Holy Father, forgive us for the many ways we neglect to give You our full homage and adoration. King of Kings, we humbly repent and ask that You by the power of Your Holy Spirit would change our hearts and make us faithful sons and daughters. Amen.

Silent Reflection/Confession

Please take a few moments to pray privately

Proclamation of Forgiveness

Hebrews 2:18

Rev. Warren

Because Jesus Himself suffered when He was tempted,

He is able to help those who are being tempted.

*Song of Renewal

“There is a Redeemer”

Green⁴

1. There is a Redeemer, Jesus, God's own Son,
Precious Lamb of God, Messiah, Holy One.

Chorus

2. Jesus my Redeemer, name above all names,
Precious Lamb of God, Messiah,
O for sinners slain. *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 King of kings salvation brings, may His peace be always with you!

People: And also with you!

Prayers for Christ’s Church and the World

Rev. Warren

Greeting and Announcements

Mrs. Terry Cosgrove

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

PROCLAIMING GOD’S WORD

*Scripture Reading (Page 833)

Hebrews 9:11-14

Mr. Brian Cosgrove

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

The Sermon

Entering the Holy Place

Rev. Warren

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

The Offertory

*Affirmation of Faith

The Apostles’ Creed⁵

Minister: Christian, what do you believe?

People: I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and buried; He descended into

hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.

From there He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic⁶ church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

*Doxology

OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God from whom all blessings flow

Praise Him all creatures here below

Praise Him above, ye heavenly host

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost 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 participate. For those not taking communion, we invite you to consider the prayers found below.

Minister: Brothers and sisters in Christ, the gospel tells us that God, by the leading of a star, manifested the Savior to the peoples of the earth, and, by the power that enabled Christ to change water into wine, made known His glory to the disciples. Come then to the joyful feast of the Lord and be transformed.

People: Lord Christ, You are the bread of life. Feed us that we may joyfully obey you with all of our lives.

Prayer of Thanksgiving & Words of Institution *(followed by saying together):*

Minister: Let us proclaim the mystery of faith.

People: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Minister: O Lamb of God, that takes away the sin of the world,

People: Have mercy upon us!

Minister: O Lamb of God, that takes away the sin of the world,

People: Grant us your peace!

Minister: Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us.

People: Therefore, let us keep the feast.

Minister: The gifts of God for the people of God.

Please listen carefully to the minister’s explanation of communion.

All those who are prepared to come to the Lord’s table may 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 relationship with God. Please use the prayers below as an aid. Both wine and grape juice are available (juice is in the tray’s outer ring).

***Communion Song** (Insert) “I Will Glory In My Redeemer”

Cook⁷

COMMISSIONING FOR SERVICE

*Concluding Prayer

Rev. Warren

*The Benediction

Romans 16:25-27

Rev. Warren

Minister: Now to God who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages but is now disclosed, and through the prophetic writings is made known to all the Gentiles, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith—to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, to who be the glory forever.

People: Thanks be to God. Amen.

Postlude

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.

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

² Epiphany is celebrated each year on January 6thimmediately following the twelve days of Christmas.

³ 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.

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⁵ The Apostles’ Creed is a concise summary of the teachings of the apostles. Originally used as a baptismal confession in the second century, it was developed into its current form by the sixth or seventh century.

⁶ The term “catholic” is used here in its generic sense of the universal church, not to refer to a denomination.

⁷ 2001 PDI Worship, CCLI License No. 1958155

Reflections

“God will search Jerusalem (that's the people of God) to punish a particular sin. It's not murder or robbery or sexual immorality but *complacency and cynicism* that God finds so offensive. The people described are not *atheists* but *deists*, those who believe in God but do not see God intimately involved in moment-by-moment living. They do not believe He will transform the ‘hard cases’ or heal destructive relationships. They do not expect Him to penetrate either the impenetrable ghettos of poverty and violence on the one hand, nor the impenetrable ghettos of wealth, power, and influence on the other. Wine, if it was not poured, became tasteless and even rotten. Complacent people, never attempting anything except that which they are sure they have the resources easily to accomplish, become spiritually stagnant and tasteless. Complacent people aim for the safe line, never leaving their ‘comfort zones.’

“The alternative is to consider Jesus, who was constantly being ‘poured out’ and so avoided stagnation. He was in tears, wrestling and always being poured out because He lived moment by moment as if God were immediately present to bless and to judge. As a result, He was like the best wine of all—delicious, invigorating, life-giving. And so we can be.”

— Tim & Kathy Keller

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

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 consider 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 granting new life. Knowing that you have risen 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: Eric Mathis, Vocalist; Mike Marchand, bass; Matthew Pillsbury, accompanist.
Serving Communion: Doug Warren and Doug Tedder.

CHRIST THE REDEEMER

Highlights.....January 6, 2008

OPPORTUNITIES TO PRAY TOGETHER

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|---|--|
| 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 |
| Home Fellowship Groups | |
| 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.

Word and Deed Ministry

The next meeting will be on Thursday, January 10th at 12:30 pm. Meet at the Weathervane Restaurant in So Portland. If you have any questions contact Jeanne Mansfield @ 647-8487.

New Adult Sunday School Class

The new class is an exploration of what it means to think and act ethically from a biblical perspective. It is team taught by Paul Hoehner and Doug Warren and will include historical, theoretical, and biblical overviews.

Dates to Remember

| | |
|------------------------|--|
| Session Meetings | First and Third Tuesday evenings- 6:00-9:00 p.m. |
| NNE Presbytery Meeting | January 19, 2007 |
| Root Cellar Dinner | March 13, 2007 |
| Church Retreat | September 19-20, 2007 |

SERVICE AND OFFERINGS

| | This Week | Next Week |
|----------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| Set Up | Woodward Team | Warren Team |
| Nursery | April & Nathan Mathis | Wendy & Kaylie Stewart |
| Kid's Q | Linda and Noah Southwick | Paula & Alison Marchand |
| Prayer | Doug Tedder | Robert Crosby |

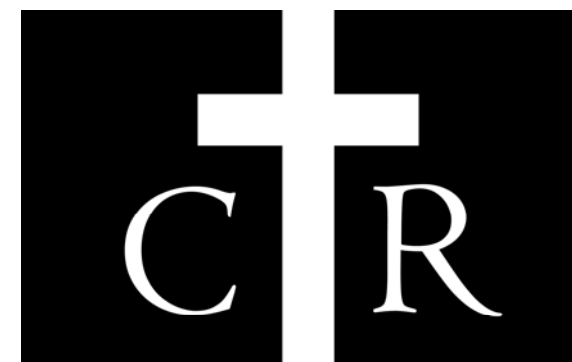
Finances: Last week our collection was \$3,518.00. Thank you for your gifts to the Lord.

MINISTRY STAFF

(207) 878-1211 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, JANUARY 6, 2008

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