

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Christ the Redeemer Presbyterian Church

March 23, 2008

*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 “Christ the Lord Is Risen Today” *Arr. by Hilfiger*

***Call to Worship** *First Corinthians 15:51-52, 54-57* Rev. Warren

Minister: Listen, I tell you a mystery: we will not all sleep, but we will all be changed—in a flash, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet.

All: For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed.

Minister: Death has been swallowed up in victory.

All: Where O death is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting.

Minister: The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law.

All: But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

***Song of Exultation** (267) “The Day of Resurrection!” *Smart*

***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 Second Corinthians 5:15 Rev. Warren

Christ died for all, that they who live should no longer live for themselves, but for Him who died and rose again on their behalf.

Song of Preparation (260) V.1-4 “Were You There?” *Spiritual*

Corporate Confession Rev. Warren

Risen Lord, forgive us, we pray. Cleanse us from all the filth of our rebellion against You. Forgive us for neglecting Your Word and ignoring Your commands. Forgive us for our complacency and hard-heartedness towards others. Thank you for dying in

our place for these and all the ways we have sinned against You. Please give us renewed life to walk in Your ways for You are the resurrection and the life. Amen.

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

Proclamation of Forgiveness Jeremiah 33:8 Rev. Warren

I will cleanse them from all the guilt of their sin against me, and I will forgive all the guilt of their sin and rebellion against me.

***Song of Renewal** (276) “Up from the Grave He Arose” *Lowry*

***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!

Reception of New Members and Baptism (see insert) Rev. Per Almquist

Prayers for Christ’s Church and the World Rev. Almquist

Greeting and Announcements Ms Cynthia Setchell

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

PROCLAIMING GOD’S WORD

***Scripture Reading** (Page 836) Hebrews 13:20-25 Mr. Tim Woodward

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

The Sermon “Supernatural Shalom” Rev. Warren
The Life of Faith—Rooted in God’s Promises, Running to the New Jerusalem

The Offertory “The Strife Is O’er, the Battle Done” *Arr. by Hilfiger*

***Affirmation of Faith** The Westminster Shorter Catechism²

Minister: What benefits do believers receive from Christ when they die?

People: When believers die, their souls are made perfectly holy and immediately pass into glory. Their bodies, which are still united to Christ, rest in the grave until the resurrection.

Minister: What benefits do believers receive from Christ at the resurrection?

People: At the resurrection, believers, raised in glory, will be publicly recognized and declared not guilty on the day of judgment and will be made completely happy in the full enjoyment of God forever.

***Creed Song** Rev 4 & 5 *Dudley-Smith*³

Heavenly hosts in ceaseless worship Holy, holy, holy’ cry; He who is, who was and will be, God Almighty, Lord most high. Praise and honour, power and glory, Be to him who reigns alone; We, with all his hands have fashioned, Fall before the Father’s throne.	All creation, all redemption, Join to sing the Saviour’s worth; Lamb of God, whose blood has bought us Kings and priests, to reign on earth. Wealth and wisdom, power and glory, Honour, might, dominion, praise, Now be his from all his creatures And to everlasting days.
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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 Christ by faith to be strengthened and renewed as they eat bread and drink wine. All those who trust in Jesus 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 participating, we invite you to consider the prayers found below.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Minister: Now, brothers, I want to remind you of the gospel I preached to you, which you received and on which you have taken your stand.⁴

People: Therefore do not be ashamed of the testimony of our Lord, or of me His prisoner; but join with me in suffering for the gospel according to the power of God

Minister: Who has saved us, and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to His own purpose and grace which was granted us in Christ Jesus from all eternity,

People: But now has been revealed by the appearing of our Savior Christ Jesus, who abolished death, and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel.

Prayer of Thanksgiving & Words of Institution followed by saying together:

Minister: For if we died with Him, we shall also live with Him; If we endure, we shall also reign with Him;

People: If we deny Him, He also will deny us; If we are faithless, He remains faithful; for He cannot deny Himself.

Minister: But realize this, that in the last days difficult times will come.

People: And indeed, all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will be persecuted.

Drawing Near in Community of Faith

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** (274) “Thine Be the Glory” *Handel*

COMMISSIONING FOR SERVICE

***Concluding Prayer** Rev. Warren

***The Benediction** Hebrews 13:20 Rev. Warren

Minister: Go forth in the power of the resurrection to love and serve God in all that you do.

People: We are sent in the name of the risen Christ. Thanks be to God.

Postlude “Thine Be the Glory” *Arr. by Hilfiger*

Please stay and enjoy some refreshments after the service.

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 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.

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⁴ As we come to Christ’s table we recognize that we can only do so by Christ’s supernatural work on our behalf. The Scriptural text is First Corinthians 15:1; and Second Timothy 1:8-10; 3:1, 12.

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

“The key to Christianity is the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the grave. That is the heart of the matter. For Christianity does not claim that Jesus was a good teacher and a fine man. It maintains that in Jesus, God broke into our world.” —Michael Green

“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: Cynthia Setchell, vocalist; David Stewart, trumpet; Beth Almquist, French Horn; Jeff Marsanskis, trombone; Johnathan Bauer, accompanist.

Serving Communion: Doug Warren and Robert Crosby.

CHRIST THE REDEEMER

Highlights.....March 23, 2008

OPPORTUNITIES TO PRAY TOGETHER

Friday Prayer-*Eggspectation Restaurant So Portland*

Fridays at Noon

Sunday Morning Prayer-*Breakwater School*

Sundays at 8:30 AM

Home Fellowship Groups

Casco, Windham, Gray Region-*Robert Crosby-657-2445*

2nd and 4th Wednesdays at 6:30 PM

Gorham-*@ Marchand home-839-9877-teacher Dave Stewart 712-9826*

2nd and 4th Sundays at 5:30 PM

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today

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

NNE Missions Conference

The Manchester Church of the Redeemer will be hosting our presbytery’s mission’s conference on **April 18-19, 2008**. **Donald A. Carson** will be speaking about Missions in the 1st and 21st centuries. We will hear from a missionary to Spain and reports from our mission trips to Romania and New Orleans. Housing in Manchester is available. There will be a special program for the children. It will be a great time of learning, and a great time of fellowship with folks from the churches in our presbytery. Brochures are available on the greeter table. **Please register this month.**

Aletha Silvester Camp Scholarship

Aletha was a member of CTR and upon her death a fund was set up in her memory. Aletha loved summer camp and wanted to provide a way for other young ladies to attend Christian Camps. If you or someone you know is a young lady interested in this scholarship let us know at the church office. There is a one page application to complete to be considered for this scholarship.

Teen Fellowship

Youth group will be held at the Southwick's on April 6th following the worship service. Please RSVP by e-mail at sixsouthwix@roadrunner.com or call 892-7539.

Dates to Remember

Session Meetings

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

VBS-Sports Camps

July 28-Aug 1, 2008

Church Retreat

September 19-20, 2008

SERVICE AND OFFERINGS

	This Week	Next Week
Set Up	Pillsbury Team	Woodward Team
Nursery	Joanne Crosby & Margaret Pearson	April & Nathan Mathis
Kid's Q	Joanne Crosby	Linda and Noah Southwick
Prayer	Robert Crosby	Doug Tedder

Finances: Last week our collection was \$3,197.00. Thank you for your gifts to the Lord.

MINISTRY STAFF

(207) 878-1211 www.MainePCA.org

Douglas Warren

Pastor

Per Almquist

Associate Pastor

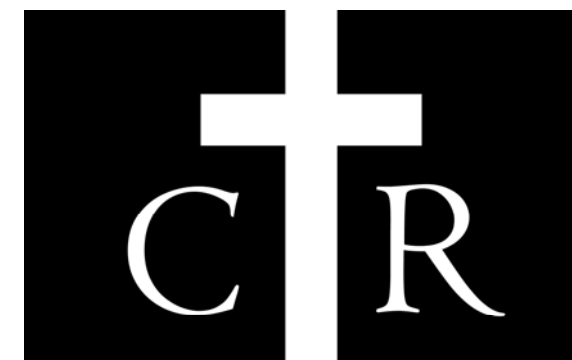
David Stewart

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

E A S T E R S U N D A Y

M A R C H 2 3 , 2 0 0 8

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