

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Christ the Redeemer Presbyterian Church

March 2, 2008

The Fourth Sunday in Lent¹

Welcome and Silent Preparation

The Reverend David Stewart

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** Romans 5 Rev. Stewart

Minister: Since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,

All: Through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we rejoice in the hope of the glory of God.

Minister: We also rejoice in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope. And hope does not disappoint us, because God has poured out his love into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, whom he has given us.

All: We will rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

***Hymn of Exultation** (116) “For the Beauty of the Earth” *Kocher*

***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

REPENTING TOGETHER BY GOD’S GRACE

Scriptural Call to Repentance Isaiah 30:15-18 Rev. Stewart

In repentance and rest is your salvation, in quietness and trust is your strength, but you would have none of it. Yet the Lord longs to be gracious to you; He rises to show you compassion. For the Lord is God of justice. Blessed are those who wait for Him!

Song of Preparation (Insert) “My Maker and My King”
Steele/Moss²

Corporate Confession Rev. Stewart

Holy Father, we long to have you change our hearts. We confess to You that we do not obey You as we should. We love little, speak not the truth, harbor resentment, and leave the oppressed with no defender. We break Your holy law, leave undone what You command, and delight in what You have forbidden. Merciful Lord, we humbly ask

that You would forgive us and change our hearts. Conform us to the image of Your Son. Holy Spirit, work in us we pray, that we might be like You.

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

Proclamation of Forgiveness Hebrews 2:18 Rev. Stewart

Because Jesus Himself suffered when He was tempted, He is able to help those who are being tempted.

***Song of Renewal** (689) “Be Still, My Soul” *FINLANDIA*

***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 Rev. Stewart
Praise Requests

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 835) Hebrews 12:4-17 Mr. Brian Cosgrove

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

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

The Offertory

***Affirmation of Faith** The Apostles’ Creed³

Minister: Christian, what do you believe concerning God, the Father?

People: I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

Minister: What do you believe concerning Jesus?

People: 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.

Minister: Christian, what do you believe concerning the Holy Spirit and His work?

People: I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic⁴ church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

*** Doxology** *OLD HUNDREDETH*

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 come forward. For those not taking communion, we invite you to consider the prayers found below.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Minister: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Minister: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up unto the Lord.

Minister: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Words of Institution & Invitation

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.

Approaching the King’s Feast

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** (355) “We Are God’s People” *Bock*

COMMISSIONING FOR SERVICE

***Concluding Prayer** Rev. Warren

***The Benediction** Galatians 4:4-7 Rev. Warren

Minister: But when the time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under law, to redeem those under law, that we might receive the full rights of sons. Because you are sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, the Spirit who calls out, "Abba, Father." So you are no longer a slave, but a son; and since you are a son, God has made you also an heir.

People: Thanks be to God. Amen.

Postlude

¹ The season of Lent precedes Easter and is a time for prayer and fasting as the collective Church community focuses on our identification with our Savior in His sufferings.

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

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³ 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.

⁴ The term “catholic” is used here in its generic sense of the universal church, not to refer to a denomination.

Reflections

“Look at the One who subjected Himself to it all, though He need not have done so— ‘Looking unto Jesus the Author and Finisher of our Faith who for the joy that was set before Him endured the Cross, despising the shame.’ He knew what it meant. He said, ‘Father if it be possible let this cup pass from Me, nevertheless not My will but Thine be done.’ He endured it all for the joy that was laid up for Him and for your salvation and mine. So when you may feel that the discipline is too much and that it is very painful...look unto Him, keep looking at Him and follow Him. And as certainly as we do so we shall find that this which for the moment is so painful and grievous will afterward yield, even in this life and world, and still more in glory, this wonderful fruit of health and righteousness, of peace and of the enjoyment of God. I do not know what you feel, but as I have meditated this last fortnight upon this great word, I say honestly and in the presence of God, that there is nothing that gives me greater comfort and greater solace than this, to know that I am in God’s hands, and that He so loves me and is so determined upon my holiness and upon bringing me to heaven, that if I do not listen to His Word and follow it, He will deal with me in another way. He is going to bring me there. It is alarming, but it is also glorious. ‘Nothing shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.’

— D. Martyn Lloyd-Jones

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 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: Eric Mathis, vocalist; Johnathan Bauer, accompanist.
Serving Communion: Doug Warren and Doug Tedder.

CHRIST THE REDEEMER

Highlights.....March 2, 2008

OPPORTUNITIES TO PRAY TOGETHER

Friday Prayer-*Eggspections 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

Teen Small Group

The Teen Small group will meet at the Pillsbury Home in Scarborough **today** for lunch.

Root Cellar Dinner

On March 13th we will be hosting a dinner at the Root Cellar. Please sign up in the back to help by serving dinner, donating a food item, or cooking part of the meal. We also need folks to eat and visit with the neighbors of The Root Cellar who attend. If you have questions talk to Joan Perkins.

Weekend to Remember

Registration information for this weekend marriage conference sponsored by FamilyLife is available on the greeter table in the back. Whether you're engaged, newlywed, or remarried, enrich your marriage and begin a godly legacy for your family by attending this rewarding conference.

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 various churches in our presbytery from Maine, NH, and VT. Brochures are available on the greeter table.

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.

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	Woodward Team	Warren Team
Nursery	April & Nathan Mathis	Wendy & Kaylie Stewart
Kid's Q	Linda and Noah Southwick	Paula & Alison Marchand
Prayer	Doug Tedder	Nathan Pillsbury

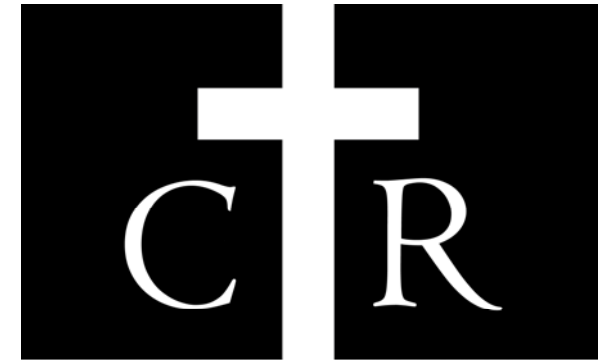
Finances: Last week our collection was \$3,170.01. Thank you for your gifts to the Lord.

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, MARCH 2, 2008

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