

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Christ the Redeemer Presbyterian Church

May 4, 2008

The Seventh Sunday of Easter¹

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

Isaiah 6

Rev. Stewart

Minister: I saw the Lord, seated on a throne, high and exalted,

All: And the train of his robe filled the temple.

Minister: Above him were seraphs, each with six wings: with two wings they covered their faces, with two they covered their feet, and with two they were flying. And they were calling to one another:

All: “Holy, holy, holy is the Lord Almighty; the whole earth is full of his glory.”

*Hymn of Exultation (16)

“Come, Let Us Sing unto the Lord”

Hatton

*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. Warren

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 (457)

“Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”

Nettleton

Collective Confession

Rev. Warren

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. Warren

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

*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: The peace of the Lord be always with you!

People: And also with you!

Prayers for Christ’s Church and the World

Praise

Requests

Rev. Warren

Greeting and Announcements

Mrs. Joanne Crosby

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

PROCLAIMING GOD’S WORD

*Scripture Reading (Page 655)

Zephaniah 2:4-15

Mr. Brian Cosgrove

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

The Sermon

“To the Four Corners”

Rev. Stewart

Sermon Series on the Book of Zephaniah—*The Day of the LORD*

The Offertory

*Affirmation of Faith

The Apostles’ Creed²

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 catholic³ church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

*Doxology

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

Praise God from whom all blessings flow
Praise Him all creatures here below
Alleluia, alleluia

Praise Him above, ye heavenly host
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost
Oh, praise Him, Oh, praise Him
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

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 (66)

“God Is Known among His People”

Goss

COMMISSIONING FOR SERVICE

*Concluding Prayer

Rev. Stewart

*The Benediction

Hebrews 13:20-21

Rev. Stewart

Minister: Now the God of peace, who brought up from the dead the great Shepherd of the sheep through the blood of the eternal covenant, even Jesus our Lord, equip you in every good thing to do His will, working in us that which is pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever and ever.

People: Thanks be to God. Amen.

Postlude

Please stay and enjoy some refreshments after the worship service.

¹ This season of Easter is a celebration of the resurrection from the dead by Jesus. His triumph over death is the basis for our hope. The white and gold of the vestments speak of Christ’s purity, life, and power.

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

² 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.

³ The term “catholic” is used here in its generic sense of the universal church, not to refer to a denomination.

Reflections

“The ultimate foundation for our passion to see God glorified is his own passion to be glorified. God is central and supreme in his own affections. There are no rivals for the supremacy of God’s glory in his own heart. God is not an idolater. He does not disobey the first and great commandment. With all his heart and soul and strength and mind he delights in the glory of his manifold perfections. The most passionate heart for God in all the universe is God’s heart.”

— John Piper, *Let the Nations Be Glad*

“May God’s grace give you the necessary humility. Try not to think – much less, speak – of *their* sins. One’s own are a much more profitable theme! And if on consideration, one can find no faults on one’s own side, then cry for mercy: for this *must* be a most dangerous delusion.

— C. S. Lewis

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.

Johnathan Bauer, accompanist.

Serving Communion: Doug Warren, David Stewart, Robert Crosby and Doug Tedder.

CHRIST THE REDEEMER

Highlights.....May 4, 2008

OPPORTUNITIES TO PRAY TOGETHER

Friday Mid-Morning Prayer-*Eggspexpectations 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 5:30PM
Portland-@ *Tedder home-774-2847* Forming Meeting Saturday 5/17

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today Today

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

Serving at Church

There is a need for more volunteers to help on Sunday to set up our facility for worship service and to do the take down after the service. If you could help, please contact our set up leaders. You can reach them by phone at 883-2460-Nate Pillsbury, 221-5745-Tim Woodward.

Congregational Meeting

Our next quarterly congregational meeting is scheduled for **Sunday, May 18th** following the worship service. Plan now to attend and participate in this important aspect of our community life together.

ABBA Banquet

Thursday, May 8th ABBA, A Women’s Resource Center, will hold its Annual Community Awareness Fundraiser Banquet. Please consider coming to this event to see how God has worked through the ministry to meet the needs of women facing crisis pregnancies. Hear the moving story of a client who has accepted Christ as her Savior. See how God is faithful. For more information, contact Crystal Kepler at 636-7535 or crkepler@gmail.com.

Root Cellar Dinner

It is almost time for us to serve dinner at The Root Cellar. Our next turn is **May 15th**. Sign up sheets are on the back table. Check out how you can help and make plans now to participate.

Dates to Remember

Session Meetings First and Third Tuesday evenings- 6:00-9:00 p.m.
VBS-Sports Camps June 23-27, 2008
Church Retreat September 19-20, 2008

SERVICE AND OFFERINGS

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

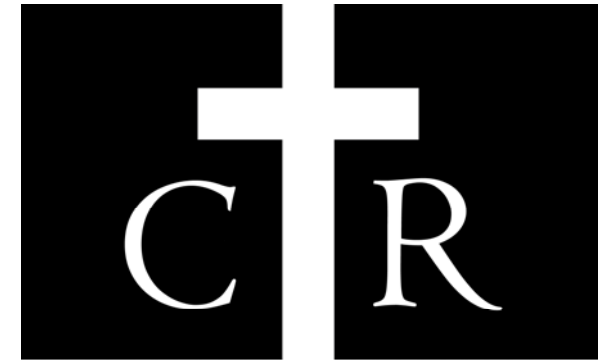
Finances: Last week our collection was \$3,301.25. Thank you for your gifts to the Lord.

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, MAY 4, 2008

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