

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Christ the Redeemer Presbyterian Church

August 31, 2008

The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost¹

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 in room #11. 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 134

Rev. Stewart

Minister: Come, bless the LORD, all you servants of the LORD,

All: Who stand by night in the house of the LORD!

Minister: Lift up your hands to the holy place and bless the LORD!

All: May the LORD bless you from Zion, he who made heaven and earth!

*Song of Exultation (363)

“We Gather Together”

KREMSER

*Prayer of Adoration *(concluded by praying together):*

Rev. Per Almquist

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

Psalm 28:1-2

Rev. Almquist

To you, O LORD, I call; my Rock, be not deaf to me, lest, if You be silent to me, I become like those who go down to the pit. Hear the voice of my pleas for mercy, when I cry to You for help, when I lift my hands toward Your most holy sanctuary.

Song of Preparation (insert)

“God Be Merciful to Me”

Miner²

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 Response (455)

“And Can It Be”

Jackson

*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. Almquist

Greeting and Announcements

Ms Cynthia Setchell

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

PROCLAIMING GOD’S WORD

Psalm (356)

“How Beautiful the Sight”

Dykes

*Scripture Reading (Page 435)

Psalms 133 & 134

Mr. Dana Perkins

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

The Sermon

“Zion’s Blessing”

Rev. Stewart

Sermon Series in Psalms: Singing Together on the Journey to Jerusalem

The Offertory

*Affirmation of Faith

The Apostles’ Creed³

Minister: Christian, how do we express the unity of Christ’s Church?

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 catholic⁴ church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

* Sanctus

Isaiah 6:3

Prince

Holy, Holy, Holy is the Lord of Hosts (*sing 2x*)

The whole earth is full of His Glory (*sing 3x*)

Holy is the Lord

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 & Words of Institution

Minister: Believe in the Lord, and give Him eternal praise and thanks!⁵

People: Lord Christ, help us to believe in You and always give You thanks and praise.

Minister: Let us therefore draw near with confidence to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and may find grace to help in time of need.

People: This hope we have as an anchor of the soul, a hope both sure and steadfast.

Words of Institution & Invitation

Minister: Christ said, “I am the bread of life.”

People: He is our portion and our life.

Partaking the Means of Grace Together

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

“Come, Bless the Lord with One Accord”

OLD 100TH

1. Come, bless the LORD with one accord 2. Lift up your hands, in prayer draw nigh
You faithful servants of the LORD, Unto His sanctuary high;
Who in His house do stand by night; O bless the LORD, kneel at His feet,
And praise Him there with all your might. And worship Him with rev’rence meet.

3. The LORD now bless you from above,
From Zion in His boundless love;
Our God, who heav’n and earth did frame,
Blest be His great and holy Name.

COMMISSIONING FOR SERVICE

*Concluding Prayer

Rev. Stewart

*The Benediction

John 14:27

Rev. Stewart

Minister: Peace I leave with you; My peace I give to you; not as the world gives, do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, nor let it be fearful.

People: Thanks be to God. Amen.

Postlude

¹ Pentecost originated as the feast of weeks as a celebration and offering to God at the conclusion of the grain harvest. It served as the primary occasion for covenant renewal and God used this time to renew His promises to His people through the gift of the Holy Spirit recorded in Acts 2:1-13.

* **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.

⁵ This communion litany is based on the one used in Strassburg, Switzerland in the dawning of the Protestant Reformation. The Scriptural quotations are from Hebrews and the Gospel of John.

Reflections

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, *The Message of Ephesians*

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; Johnathan Bauer, accompanist.
Serving Communion: Per Almquist, David Stewart, Nate Pillsbury, Doug Tedder

CHRIST THE REDEEMER

Highlights.....August 31, 2008

OPPORTUNITIES TO PRAY TOGETHER

Friday Mid-Morning Prayer-*Eggspectations Restaurant So Portland* Fridays at Noon
Sunday Morning Prayer-*Breakwater School* Sundays at 9:30 AM
Home Fellowship Groups
Casco, Windham, Gray Region-*Robert Crosby-657-2445* *Varies* Wednesdays at 6:30 PM
Gorham-@ *Marchand home-839-9877-teacher Dave Stewart 712-9826* *2nd and 4th* Sundays at 5:30 PM
Portland-@ *Tedder home-774-2847* *2nd and 4th* Saturdays at 5 PM

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today

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

Sunday School

Classes for all ages will begin on September 14th.

Help for Africans

If you would like to be a blessing to fellow believers in Africa you could donate used toys, or retired laptop computers through a missionary who is returning to Africa at the end of this month. The toys are an expense many in Africa cannot afford so every toy donated is used and passed along to many families. The computers will be used by those attending a school of theology in Nairobi. If you can help please contact Kathryn Pillsbury at 775-0138.

Church Retreat

It is time to sign up to attend our annual Church Retreat at Camp Cherith. This is a Friday evening-Saturday evening event that your whole family will be sure to enjoy. Come to hear good teaching and enjoy fun camp activities such as archery, riflery, swimming, and boating. You can sleep in a dorm room or a cabin. Enjoy times around the campfire and have a s'more. Cost= \$60. adult, \$30. child, \$175. family maximum. Sign up sheet is on the back table.

Dates to Remember

Session Meetings First and Third Tuesday evenings- 6:00-9:00 p.m.
Truth Project training event at First Baptist Church Portland September 27, 2008
Crop and Craft night for the CTR Ladies and friends at Gwen Tedder's home. October 4, 2008

SERVICE AND OFFERINGS

	This Week	Next Week
Set Up	Fifth Sunday Team	Woodward Team
Nursery	Margaret Pearson & Terry Cosgrove	April & Nathan Mathis
Kid's Q	Katherine Cosgrove	Linda & Noah Southwick
Prayer	Per Almquist	Doug Tedder
Sound	David Cosgrove	Jerod Kinney

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



CHRIST *the* REDEEMER

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



SUNDAY, AUGUST 31, 2008

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