

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Christ the Redeemer Presbyterian Church

November 16, 2008

The Twenty-Seventh 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. 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

Rev. Stewart

Minister: The Lord has made His salvation known and revealed the righteousness to the nations.

All: He has remembered His love and His faithfulness to the house of Israel; all the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

Minister: Shout for joy before the Lord, our King!

All: Let the seas resound, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it.

Minister: Let the rivers clap their hands, let the mountains sing together for joy; let them sing before the Lord, for He comes to judge the earth.

All: He will judge the world in righteousness and the peoples with equity.

*Song of Exultation (296)

“All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name!”

Holden

*Prayer of Adoration

(concluded by praying together):

Mr. Nathan Pillsbury

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

Song of Preparation (264)

“Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross”

Doane

Scriptural Call to Repentance

Hebrews 4:14-16

Rev. Per Almquist

Knowing that we have a great High Priest who has entered the inmost heaven, Jesus the Son of God, let us therefore approach the throne of grace with fullest confidence, that we may receive mercy for our failures and grace to help in the hour of need. *In the strength of this assurance, let us confess our sins to God.*

Corporate Confession

Rev. Almquist

Gracious Lord, we confess now that we dishonor You in our words and thoughts and deeds. Depending on our own strength we stumble; proclaiming our own goodness, we sin; glorying in our own righteousness we corrupt everything we touch. Turning

our faces from You, Lord, we desire the things of this world to satisfy us. We pray now, Lord, for You to forgive all of our many sins; to cleanse the darkness from our lives, and to turn our faces and our hearts back towards You. We pray these things in the name of Your most precious son, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Silent Reflection/Confession

Please take a few moments to pray privately

Proclamation of Forgiveness

Romans 8:1

Rev. Almquist

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.

*Gospel Reading (Page 738)

John 3:12-18

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Kurtz

Reader: The Lord’s Word is right and true.

People: Our God is faithful in all that He does!

*Song of Renewal (164)

“O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing”

Glaser

*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

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 109)

Numbers 21:4-9

Mr. Tim Woodward

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

The Sermon

“The Gospel in a Picture”

Rev. Douglas Warren

Sermon Series on Numbers: In the Wilderness with God’s Perfect Presence

The Offertory

*Affirmation of Faith

The Nicene Creed²

Minister: Christian, what is it that we believe?

People: We believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father; by whom all things were made; who for us and for our salvation came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary, and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate; He suffered and was buried; and the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures, and ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father; and He shall come again, with glory, to judge both the living and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end.

And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son; who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified; who spoke by the prophets;

and we believe in one holy catholic³ and apostolic church; we acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins; and we look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

*Gloria Patri

Greatorex

Glory be to the Father

And to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.

As it was in the beginning

Is now and ever shall be

World without end.

Amen. Amen.

CELEBRATION OF 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: Behold, the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! ⁴

People: We have found the Messiah, the King of Israel, God’s own Son!

Words of Institution & Invitation

Minister: Believe in the Lord, look to Him hung on a tree and live!

People: Lord Christ, help us to turn from our own attempts for salvation and 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.

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

People: He is our portion and our life.

Approaching Christ’s Communion 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 (420)

“At the Lamb’s High Feast We Sing”

Elhey

*Concluding Prayer

Rev. Warren

COMMISSIONING FOR SERVICE

*The Benediction

Second Corinthians 13:14

Rev. Warren

Minister: The Grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

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.**

² The Nicene Creed originated at the Council of Nicea (325). It was formulated to answer heresies that denied the biblical doctrine of the Trinity and of the person of Christ.

³ The term “catholic” here means universal and does not mean any particular denomination.

⁴ 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

“God made us whole people, and in Christ he has redeemed us wholly.”
— Gordon D. Fee

“There is a gap between an intellectual recognition of who Jesus is and a commitment to Him. Logically, it would seem that anyone who admits that Jesus is the Son of God should be willing to follow Him and obey Him. It is a truth which ought to transform their lives. But in fact there are many people who will give at least verbal assent to the proposition ‘Jesus is God,’ but who do not seem to care very much about Jesus, or even pay Him much attention. It is clear then that what is necessary to become a Christian is not merely acceptance of a proposition on the basis of evidence, but *a change in a person's whole orientation to life.*”

— C. Stephan Evans

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; Elizabeth Noonan, accompanist.
Serving Communion: Doug Warren, Per Almquist, Tim Woodward and Nate Pillsbury.

CHRIST THE REDEEMER

Highlights.....November 16, 2008

OPPORTUNITIES TO PRAY TOGETHER

Sunday Morning Prayer-Breakwater School Library Sundays at 8:30 AM

Home Fellowship Groups

Youth Group-@Kinney's home; Jolene Kinney 885-0100 *1st Sunday of each month-lunch and study*
Casco, Windham, Gray Region-Robert Crosby-657-2445 *2nd Sunday of each month-lunch*
Gorham-@ Marchand home-839-9877 *2nd and 4th Sundays at 5:30 PM*
teacher Dave Stewart 712-9826-Study is on Hebrews
Portland-@ Tedder home-774-2847 *2nd and 4th Saturdays at 5 PM*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today

Sunday School is held each Sunday at 9:15 a.m. There are classes for all ages. Plan to join a class this school year. Please stay for refreshments after the service and get better acquainted with one another.

Thanksgiving Basket Needs

We will be helping provide items for 400 Thanksgiving baskets given out by The Root Cellar to the needy families in their area. This year we are asked to provide 100 (1 lbs bags) of carrots, 100 jars each of olives and pickles-any variety. Start to bring your donations to church now and we will store them here.

Officer Nominations

Please continue in prayer about those whom God is raising up to serve as elders and deacons. Nominations open *next week* and all members are encouraged to prayerfully consider participating in this process.

Student Christmas Boxes

It's time to let the college students know we're thinking of them during finals! We'll be collecting Christmas home baked goodies on Sunday November 30 which can include cookies, homemade candy, dipped pretzels, candied nuts, etc. We also need shoeboxes. There are 13 students plus Dan Southwick that we'll be sending to this year! So, please make sure you provide enough of your item for 14 boxes. We will also have cards available for you to sign. Bring shoeboxes any week in November. If you would like to help with the mailing cost give your donation to Andrea Stultz as well as any questions you may have. You can reach Andrea at 892-4563.

Dates to Remember

Session Meetings First and Third Tuesday evenings- 6:00-9:00 p.m.
Root Cellar Dinner December 11, 2008

SERVICE AND OFFERINGS

| | This Week | Next Week |
|---------|------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Set Up | Perkins Team | Pillsbury Team |
| Nursery | Kristen & Karis Warren | Joanne Crosby & Margaret Pearson |
| Kid's Q | Doug & Gwen Tedder | Joanne Crosby |
| Prayer | Nate Pillsbury | David Stewart |
| Sound | Jerod Kinney | _____ |

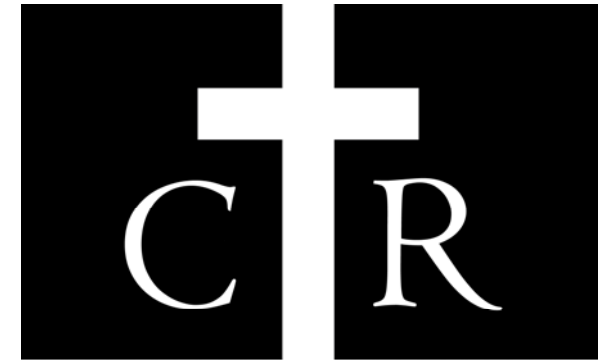
Finances: Last week our collection was \$4,258.38. Thank you for your gifts to the Lord.

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, NOVEMBER 16, 2008

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