

CHRIST  
THE REDEEMER  
-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH-

FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT  
March 22, 2026

## Welcome to CHRIST THE REDEEMER...

We're glad you've joined us. Whether you have followed Jesus your whole life or you can't remember the last time you stepped foot in a church, we want you to feel welcome to come as you are and worship with our church family. If you have any questions about our church or where to find something, please don't hesitate to ask. We're excited about what God is doing among us as we seek to live, grow and serve as followers of Jesus in Portland and in our surrounding neighborhoods. So, welcome to CTR, we'd love to have you as part of our family.

During our service, our nursery is open for babies who are crawlers through 3-year-olds. If you need help finding the nursery area, please ask any of our greeters!

Children's Church is in session. After the blessing each week, children age 4 – 1<sup>st</sup> grade are welcome to go to Children's Church. They will re-join their families after the sermon.

→ You may use this QR code to link to the lyrics in our worship service today.



### THE RHYTHM OF OUR WORSHIP

On the road to Emmaus (Luke 24), when Jesus' disciples found themselves troubled and confused, Jesus met them along the way. When they confessed their troubles and doubts to Him, His words and presence began to change them. He unfolded God's Word to them, pointing to His own person and work. He dined with them, giving thanks and breaking bread. The disciples recognized their Lord's presence with them and hurried to tell others the good news.

In the Emmaus story, we recognize the pattern of historic Christian worship as it began to take shape. Our worship liturgy at Christ the Redeemer moves through a specific rhythm: God **SUMMONS** us as His people, God **SANCTIFIES** us to Himself, God **SPEAKS** to us in His Word, God **STRENGTHENS** us at His table, and God **SENDS** us into the world to share His grace.

The emphasis throughout our worship is upon God's action and our appropriate response. In worship, we rehearse the gospel message of Jesus' death and resurrection and are caught up into the mission of the Triune God. The flow of our liturgy aims at drawing us further into the life of the Trinity as children of God and then impelling us outward into our world.

*-adapted from City Church Philadelphia Guide to Our Worship*

## **G O D S U M M O N S**

[ P R A I S E ]

### CALL TO WORSHIP

[L] Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord from the heavens!

[P] **Kings of the earth and all people!**

[L] Princes and all rulers of the earth.

[P] **Young men and women alike, old and young together!**

[L] Let them praise the Lord!

[P] **Praise the Lord!**

### SONG

I SING THE MIGHTY POWER OF GOD

## **G O D S A N C T I F I E S**

[ R E N E W A L ]

### CONFESSION OF SIN

[All] **Father, we confess to boasting in success and security.  
We have denied you rather than desire you.  
We have cowered when we needed to be courageous.  
Jesus, we long to be people who follow you, no matter the cost.  
Hear our confessions.**

### TIME OF SILENT REFLECTION AND CONFESSION

SONG

HAVE MERCY

Have mercy on me  
Have mercy on me  
O Lord have mercy  
O Lord have mercy

Oh help my unbelief  
Oh help my unbelief  
O Lord have mercy  
O Lord have mercy

WORDS OF COMFORT AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON

[L] The grace of Christ is never deserved but always intentional. Receive this grace, intended for you and me—it has our names on it—this all-sufficient grace that turns our weakness, which has our names on it too, into God’s power, that made us in his image and remakes us into the image of Christ.

[P] **Thanks be to God.**

SONG

HIS MERCY IS MORE

LIFE OF THE PEOPLE  
[ANNOUNCEMENTS]

NEW TO CTR? Welcome! If you would like to connect, learn more about our church or subscribe to our weekly announcement email, please use this QR code.



THE PEACE OF GOD  
and THE BLESSING OF THE CHILDREN

[L] May the peace of the Lord be always with you.

[P] **And also with you.**

[L] People of God, what is our prayer for these and all our children?

[All] **May the Lord be with you.**

[Children] **And also with you.**

*After the blessing each week, children aged 4 – 1<sup>st</sup> grade are welcome to go to Children's Church downstairs in The Commons. They will re-join their families after the sermon.*

SONG

COME LIGHT OUR HEARTS

**G O D S P E A K S**

[ W O R D ]

## S C R I P T U R E

Luke 22:28-34, 54-62 ESV

Read by Haylee Freeman

<sup>28</sup> “You are those who have stayed with me in my trials, <sup>29</sup> and I assign to you, as my Father assigned to me, a kingdom, <sup>30</sup> that you may eat and drink at my table in my kingdom and sit on thrones judging the twelve tribes of Israel.

*Jesus Foretells Peter's Denial*

<sup>31</sup> “Simon, Simon, behold, Satan demanded to have you, that he might sift you like wheat, <sup>32</sup> but I have prayed for you that your faith may not fail. And when you have turned again, strengthen your brothers.” <sup>33</sup> Peter said to him, “Lord, I am ready to go with you both to prison and to death.” <sup>34</sup> Jesus said, “I tell you, Peter, the rooster will not crow this day, until you deny three times that you know me.”

*Peter Denies Jesus*

<sup>54</sup> Then they seized him and led him away, bringing him into the high priest's house, and Peter was following at a distance. <sup>55</sup> And when they had kindled a fire in the middle of the courtyard and sat down together, Peter sat down among them. <sup>56</sup> Then a servant girl, seeing him as he sat in the light and looking closely at him, said, “This man also was with him.” <sup>57</sup> But he denied it, saying, “Woman, I do not know him.” <sup>58</sup> And a little later someone else saw him and said, “You also are one of them.” But Peter said, “Man, I am not.” <sup>59</sup> And after an interval of about an hour still another insisted, saying, “Certainly this man also was with him, for he too is a Galilean.” <sup>60</sup> But Peter said, “Man, I do not know what you are talking about.” And immediately, while he was still speaking, the rooster crowed. <sup>61</sup> And the Lord turned and looked at Peter. And Peter remembered the saying of the Lord, how he had said to him, “Before the rooster crows today, you will deny me three times.” <sup>62</sup> And he went out and wept bitterly.

[L] The grass withers and the flower fades,  
but the Word of God stands forever.

Isaiah 40:8

The Word of the Lord.

[P] **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon Series:  
THE GOSPEL OF LUKE: FOLLOWING JESUS

Sermon:  
AFTER THE ROOSTER CROWS

Rev. Alden D. Groves  
*Associate Pastor*

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Westminster Shorter Catechism Q & A #'s 85 and 87

[L] What does God require of us that we may escape his wrath and curse due to us for sin?

[P] **To escape the wrath and curse of God due to us for sin, God requires of us faith in Jesus Christ, repentance that leads to life, and the diligent use of all the outward means by which Christ communicates the benefits of redemption to us.**

[L] What is repentance that leads to life?

[P] **Repentance that leads to life is a saving grace by which a sinner, out of a true sense of his sin and awareness of the mercy of God in Christ, turns from it to God with grief and hatred of his sin, purposing and working constantly for a new obedience.**

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE

Led by Sue Miller

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be your name.  
Your kingdom come; your 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 yours is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

SONG

DOXOLOGY [OLD 100<sup>TH</sup>]

**G O D S T R E N G T H E N S**

[ T A B L E ]

## C E L E B R A T I N G H O L Y C O M M U N I O N

*A Word about Communion: Communion is the family meal of Christians. Baptized believers actively looking to Jesus as their hope for salvation are warmly invited to share in this meal with us as our brothers and sisters.*

- *Please follow the directions given by the pastor in how to come to the front to receive the elements and then return to your seat.*
- *Once you receive the bread and wine/juice, please hold on to it as you return to your seat. We will partake together as one body after everyone has received the elements.*
- *Children and those who are not partaking are also welcome to approach the servers for a prayer or word of God's blessing. We ask that you fold your hands as you approach so the server is aware.*
- *Please dispose of your communion cups and any other trash in the wastebasket located at the back of the sanctuary as you leave today. Thank you!*

## W O R D S O F I N V I T A T I O N &amp; I N S T I T U T I O N

## P R A Y E R O F T H A N K S G I V I N G

## P A R T A K I N G O F T H E E L E M E N T S

## S O N G

BEHOLD THE LAMB

## **PRAYERS OF REFLECTION**

### **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.

**G O D S E N D S**

[MISSION]

RESPONSES OF JOY

OFFERING OUR LIVES AND  
RESOURCES

[our tithes and offerings]



If you would like to give online, please use this QR code:  
This takes you to our online giving portal.

SONG

YET NOT I BUT THROUGH CHRIST IN ME

B E N E D I C T I O N a n d S E N D I N G

[L] The Lord keep you from stumbling and present you blameless before the presence of his glory with great joy. He who calls you is faithful, and he will surely do it!

[P] **Thanks be to God!**

# HIGHLIGHTS

March 22, 2026

NEW TO CTR? Welcome! If you would like to connect, learn more about our church or subscribe to our weekly announcement email, please use this QR code.



## ON THE CALENDAR

### INQUIRERS' CLASS

*SUNDAYS - 9 AM | 61 Neal Street, Portland*

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Are you new to our church? If you're interested in learning more about CTR's history, vision, values, and practices, come join us for our upcoming Inquirers' Class. This is a great opportunity to learn more about who we are, to ask questions, and to meet and engage with other newcomers, as well as key leaders and staff. This class is also a prerequisite for church membership, for those interested.

The class takes place on Sunday mornings at 9 am -- before the service. It began on February 8.

**Questions?** Contact Pastor Alden Groves at [agroves@ctrportland.org](mailto:agroves@ctrportland.org) or 215-704-0132.

### WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

*MONDAYS - 6:00 PM | 29 Lilac Lane, New Gloucester*

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Our winter/spring Women's Bible Study has begun. Supper will be provided as we gather each week. Together we'll walk through God's Word and encourage one another in faith.

**Questions?** Contact Laura Wiersma at [lwiersma@ctrportland.org](mailto:lwiersma@ctrportland.org) or 603.566.7746.

## 📅 ON THE CALENDAR

### 🍽️ GUESS WHO'S COMING TO DINNER EVENT

*SATURDAY, MARCH 28 – 5:30 PM | Various Locations*

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Get ready for an evening of great food, warm fellowship, and a dash of mystery. Choose one of five cuisines, whip up a dish (main, side, or dessert) to match, and then head off to a surprise location to share the table with dining companions you won't know until you arrive!

The fun unfolds from **5:30–7:30 PM on Saturday, March 28.**

Childcare (with dinner provided) will be available at **61 Neal Street** from **5:15–7:45 PM** for children ages 0–8.

Fill out the survey @ this QR code to select your cuisine, tell us what you'll bring, and reserve childcare if needed. Let the guessing begin!



For more information, please contact Claire Roberts @ [clerkus@gmail.com](mailto:clerkus@gmail.com) or 956.270.2565.

### ✝️ CTRKids CHRISTIAN FORMATION CLASSES

*SUNDAYS beginning APRIL 12 – 9:00 AM | 61 Neal Street, Portland*

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Group	Age	Class Location	Curriculum
Ram Island	Potty-Trained – PreK	Nursery	Show Me Jesus
Bug Light	K-1 <sup>st</sup> Grade	The Corner Room [old nursery]	The Biggest Story
Two Lights	2 <sup>nd</sup> -4 <sup>th</sup> Grade	The Commons [large room downstairs]	The Biggest Story
Head Light	5 <sup>th</sup> Grade – Middle School	Downstairs Foyer	New City Catechism

For more information, please contact Abby Reid @ [areid@ctrportland.org](mailto:areid@ctrportland.org) or 404.723.4448.

## ON THE CALENDAR

### BOOKS & BUBBLY

*WEDNESDAY, April 15 – 7:00 PM | 64 Brook Road, Portland*

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Join the women of CTR for Books & Bubbly on Wednesday, April 15 @ 7 PM for an evening of fellowship, refreshments, and book discussion.

We'll gather at 64 Brook Road, Portland as we enjoy time together and talk about Iona Iverson's *Rules for Commuting* [by Clare Pooley], a witty and heartwarming novel about an unlikely group of commuters whose lives become unexpectedly intertwined.

Whether you've finished the book or are still making your way through it, come for a relaxed and welcoming night with other women.

For more information, please contact Claire Roberts @ [clerkus@gmail.com](mailto:clerkus@gmail.com) or 956.270.2565.

# HOLY WEEK 2026



SUN, MAR 29

## **PALM SUNDAY WORSHIP – 10 AM**

Please make sure you join us as we begin Holy Week together in worship. We will be blessed during this service with both our Adult Choir and our Children's Choir!

THURS, APR 2

## **MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICES – 5:30-7:30 PM**

Maundy Thursday is the Church's commemoration of the Last Supper. This year, our Community Groups will gather in four homes across Greater Portland to share a meal and participate in a simple liturgy led by one of our pastors.

We hope that gathering around the table, in the intimacy of one another's homes, will invite our minds and bodies more deeply into the story and experience of the Last Supper.

Meals will be potluck-style, so please RSVP. If you are not currently part of a Community Group, please let us know so that we can connect you with a gathering. All are welcome!

*Please RSVP to Pastor Alden Groves at [agroves@ctrportland.org](mailto:agroves@ctrportland.org) or 215-704-0132.*

FRI, APR 3

## **GOOD FRIDAY TENEBRAE SERVICE – 6:30 PM**

Join us on **Good Friday, April 3, at 6:30 PM** for a **Tenebrae Service**, a solemn and reflective time of Scripture, song, and silence as we remember Christ's journey to the cross.

Tenebrae, meaning "shadows" or "darkness," is an ancient service that invites us to sit in the weight of Good Friday. Through the gradual extinguishing of candles, we walk through the passion of Christ, experiencing the depth of His sacrifice for us.

Come and prepare your heart for Easter by entering into the story of Christ's love poured out. We invite you to join us in this sacred time of reflection and worship.

*Childcare will be provided for crawlers – age 3.*

# HOLY WEEK 2026



SUN, APR 5

## EASTER WORSHIP SERVICE – 10 AM

Come and worship with us on **Easter Sunday at 10:00 AM** as we rejoice in the glorious resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Through **Scripture, prayer, a musical selection by our Adult Choir and congregational singing**, we will proclaim the good news that **Christ is risen, He is risen indeed!** In his victory over sin and death, we find our hope, our salvation, and the promise of new life in him.

This is a day of great joy and reverence as we gather as Christ's body to lift our hearts in worship and gratitude. Come experience the power of Easter, the beauty of community, and the promise of new life in Christ.

**All are welcome. Come and worship with us.**



# DEEP ROOTS CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

As part of our **Deep Roots Capital Campaign**, we've invited everyone in our community to prayerfully consider how they can support the next chapter of our church's life together.

If you would prefer to make a pledge online, please visit our **online pledge form**—and feel free to share the link with friends, family, or others in your circle who believe in the mission of our church.

Every gift, every conversation, and every step of faith helps us put down deep roots for generations to come.



TO  
PLEDGE  
ONLINE

## COMMUNITY GROUPS

*Belong. Lean in. Launch out.*

Whether you're brand new to CTR or have been here for years, **community groups are for you!**

These smaller gatherings meet regularly in homes throughout Greater Portland. Together we:

- Form friendships
- Share meals
- Pray for and engage one another throughout the week
- Encourage one another to live on mission in our everyday contexts

### Why join a group?

Community groups are the primary way we care for and grow with one another at CTR. No matter your age, stage, or point in your faith journey, you'll find a place to belong, be challenged, and grow as a disciple of Jesus. We'll learn to keep asking each other: *Where has Christ placed you to serve him this time tomorrow?*

For any questions or concerns, email: [amckrell@ctrportland.org](mailto:amckrell@ctrportland.org).

**New to CTR or to community groups?** We would love you to join us!

Scan the QR code to sign up or email [amckrell@ctrportland.org](mailto:amckrell@ctrportland.org).



# SERVE...

At CTR, we believe that part of what makes the church a beautiful place is that it draws people with various passions and gifts into one body. Below are some opportunities to use your passions and gifts to serve one another and our local community.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES .....Abby Reid  
Phone: 404.723.4448  
E-mail: areid@ctrportland.org

GREETER MINISTRY ..... Abby Reid  
Phone: 404.723.4448  
E-mail: areid@ctrportland.org

MEALS MINISTRY ..... Tammy Locke  
Phone: 207.671.0936  
E-mail: tam74maine@gmail.com

MUSIC..... Kendra Hollen  
Phone: 207.272.4104  
E-mail: khollen@ctrportland.org

SET-UP ..... EJ Kruse  
Phone: 814-392-4810  
E-mail: ejkruse89@gmail.com

SPECIAL EVENTS.....Claire Roberts  
Phone: 956.270.2565  
E-mail: clerkus@gmail.com

# How Do I Get and Stay Connected at CTR?

*At CTR we long for clear communication and deep bonds. We are excited that you're interested in being more connected and involved. The following is a list of our communication channels and their purpose in the life of our body:*

## 1. EMAIL NEWSLETTER (*Keeping in Touch*)

**This is the primary vehicle** by which we communicate regarding the life of our church. Most weeks you will receive an email with announcements and upcoming events. From time to time, our elders will also use this vehicle for church-wide or members only correspondence. **NOTE:** *If you are not regularly checking your email from CTR, it will be difficult to feel and be connected in the life of our church.* [Use this QR code to sign up for the email.]



## 2. CTR APP & TEXT MESSAGES

**The CTR App** is designed to help those in our church interact with each other. It is largely crowd sourced and includes information on informal meetups, prayer requests, live and past sermons/services, different hobby groups, ways to give, etc. [See page 18 to download the App.]

**Text Messages** are sent exclusively as reminders about events in the days/hours immediately beforehand.

## 3. SUNDAY MORNINGS

Sunday mornings employ several communication methods, including written **announcements in our Order of Worship**, verbally highlighted **announcements**, and (new) **projected announcements** running before and after the service. Sunday Morning announcements are focused on pointing people to events and ministries that help them explore or integrate more fully into the life of our church. Given the diverse backgrounds and circumstances of those attending Sunday Morning Worship, only on rare and exceptional occasions will these vehicles be used by leadership for information that is primarily member focused.

## 4. CTR WEBSITE & SOCIAL MEDIA

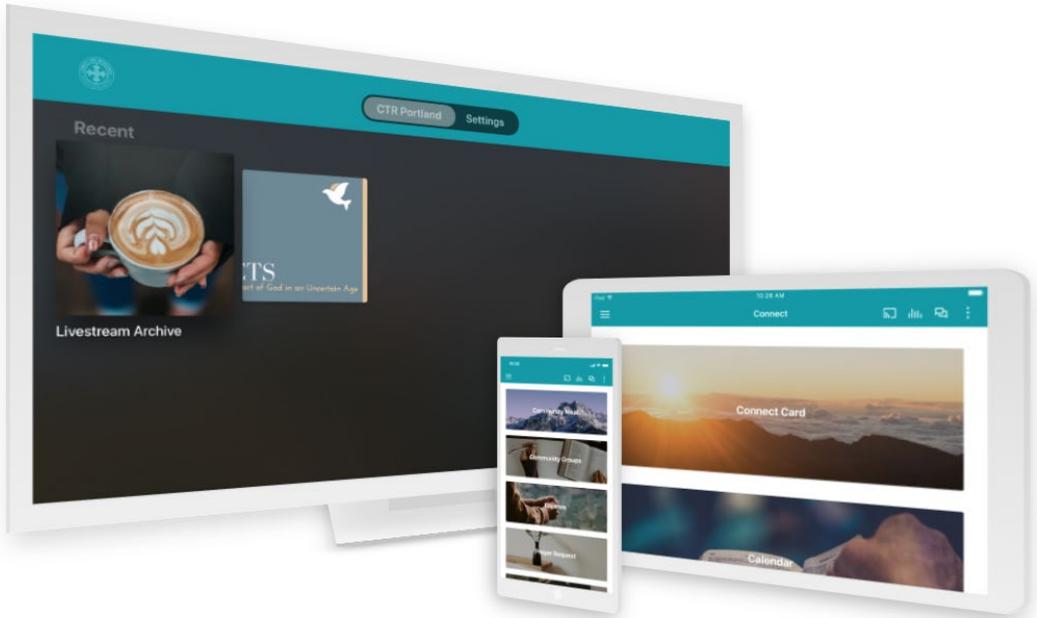
Both mediums are designed to be primarily outward facing.

**The CTR Website** [ctrportland.org] is designed to be our front door—a welcoming place for new people to discover and learn about our church. It is minimal in announcements and church life information.

**Social Media [Instagram & Facebook]** is used for promotion of church events. People are encouraged to “re-post” as a way of sharing with and inviting their friends. [@ctrportland]

*If you would like to access or have had difficulty accessing any of these vehicles, please contact [ctr@ctrportland.org](mailto:ctr@ctrportland.org). Our admin, Cheryl Sullivan, is happy to help you get integrated into our communication systems.*

# DOWNLOAD THE CTR APP!











**CHRIST  
THE REDEEMER**  
-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH-

Christ the Redeemer Presbyterian Church  
longs to be a diverse people who gather around  
and extend the table of God's grace.

**SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE at 10:00 AM**

**Reverend Sean J.S. Roberts, Lead Pastor**

E-mail: [SRoberts@CTRPortland.org](mailto:SRoberts@CTRPortland.org)  
Tel. 956.207.1398

**Reverend Alden D. Groves, Associate Pastor**

E-mail: [AGroves@CTRPortland.org](mailto:AGroves@CTRPortland.org)  
Tel. 215.704.0132

**Kendra Hollen,  
Music Ministry Director**

[E-Mail: [khollen@CTRPortland.org](mailto:khollen@CTRPortland.org)]

**Amanda McKrell,  
Director of Community Development**

[E-mail: [amckrell@CTRPortland.org](mailto:amckrell@CTRPortland.org)]

**Abby Reid,  
Children's Ministry Director &  
Connections Coordinator**

[E-Mail: [areid@CTRPortland.org](mailto:areid@CTRPortland.org)]

**Cheryl Sullivan, Administrator**

[E-Mail: [ctr@CTRPortland.org](mailto:ctr@CTRPortland.org)]

*In need of assistance?*

If you're experiencing a material need beyond what you can manage, the CTR Deacons may be able to help. Please call them at 207-331-1304 or email [deacons@ctrportland.org](mailto:deacons@ctrportland.org). All inquiries will remain confidential, and you will receive a reply within twenty-four hours.

CTR is located at  
**61 NEAL STREET, PORTLAND, ME 04102**  
207.878.1211 | <https://ctrportland.org>