

Live

joyfully in faith

Connect

with God and one another

Serve

the local and global community

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost October 1, 2023 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.

Reflections on Today's Readings

After Jesus arrived in Jerusalem, several groups who opposed him challenged him. Today he is questioned by the official leaders, the chief priests and elders. They question his authority but he responds with a question that reveals their own weakness. Then in a parable, Jesus warns them that their privileged positions will not insure them a place in God's Kingdom.

In the first reading today, God appeals to the people through the prophet Ezekiel. God wishes to save everyone. The matter is in the people's hands. They may repent and be saved or they may refuse and be lost. "I have no pleasure in anyone's death," says God, "Turn then and live."

We continue to read from Philippians. Paul encourages his friends to live in unity and care for one another. As the example of how they are to live, he quotes what was probably an early Christian hymn about Christ's self-giving love for us.

We gather week by week, a people called into God's family. God sets no barrier to us or to anyone; only we can erect a barrier between God and ourselves. God calls us in this holy meal to join in that family of God for whom Christ emptied himself and gave up his life for us. We rejoice and join with all creation and every tongue in confessing that Jesus Christ is Lord..

From The Rite Light: Reflections on the Sunday Readings and Seasons of the Church Year. Copyright © 2009 by Michael W. Merriman. Church Publishing Incorporated, New York.

Welcome to Christ Church: If you are visiting for the first time, please fill out one of the welcome cards found in the pews and hand it to a member of the clergy after the service. Books and resources for children are located on the table near the side left door. Although there are customary postures (such as standing and kneeling) in Episcopal worship, you are invited to be seated at any point, according to your needs and comfort.

On most Sundays between September and May we will offer **Sunday School** classes downstairs in the corner classrooms for children ages 5-8, and ages 9-12. We offer Child Care in the Nursery for infants up to age 4.

The Holy Eucharist

[8:00 a.m. & 10:00 a.m. service]

Prelude Piano Sonata in E minor (Andante molto) Edvard Grieg

Welcome

■ All stand, as they are able, as the clergy enter or the hymn begins.

[10:00 a.m. service]

Processional Hymn 450, vv. 1-3 & 6 All hail the power of Jesus' Name! *Coronation*

Presider Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

People: And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen.

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

[10:00 a.m. service] Gloria



Setting: Peter Crisafulli, from "Music for the Holy Eucharist Rite II" © 2002 Peter Crisafulli. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Reprinted under onelicense.net #A700244

The Collect of the Day

Presider The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Presider Let us pray.

O God, you declare your almighty power chiefly in showing mercy and pity: Grant us the fullness of your grace, that we, running to obtain your promises, may become partakers of your heavenly treasure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

№ *The people sit.*

The word of the Lord came to me: What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, "The parents have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge"? As I live, says the Lord God, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. Know that all lives are mine; the life of the parent as well as the life of the child is mine: it is only the person who sins that shall die. Yet you say, "The way of the Lord is unfair." Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair? When the righteous turn away from their righteousness and commit iniquity, they shall die for it; for the iniquity that they have committed they shall die. Again, when the wicked turn away from the wickedness they have committed and do what is lawful and

right, they shall save their life. Because they considered and turned away from all the transgressions that they had committed, they shall surely live; they shall not die. Yet the house of Israel says. "The way of the Lord is unfair." O house of Israel, are my ways unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair? Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, all of you according to your ways, says the Lord God. Repent and turn from all your transgressions: otherwise iniquity will be your ruin. Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed against me, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, says the Lord God. Turn, then, and live.

Reader The Word of the Lord. People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 25:1-8 (read responsively by verse)

- 1 To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul; my God, I put my trust in you; * let me not be humiliated, nor let my enemies triumph over me.
- 2 Let none who look to you be put to shame; * let the treacherous be disappointed in their schemes.
- 3 Show me your ways, 0 Lord, * and teach me your paths.
- 4 Lead me in your truth and teach me, * for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all the day long.
- 5 Remember, O Lord, your compassion and love, * for they are from everlasting.
- 6 Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions; * remember me according to your love and for the sake of your goodness, O Lord.
- 7 Gracious and upright is the Lord; * therefore he teaches sinners in his way.
- 8 He guides the humble in doing right * and teaches his way to the lowly.

Reader A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Philippians

If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form,

he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

People The Word of the Lord.
Reader Thanks be to God.

◼ The people stand as they are able.

[10:00 a.m. service]

Sequence Hymn 435, vv. 1 & 2

At the name of Jesus

King's Weston

Matthew 21:23-32

The Gospel

Gospeler The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

When Jesus entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?" Jesus said to them, "I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?" And they argued with one another, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why then did you not believe him?' But if we say, 'Of human origin,' we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet." So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things."

Gospeler The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

★ The people sit.

"What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' He answered, 'I will not'; but later he changed his mind and went. The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, 'I go, sir'; but he did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him."

■ *A brief period of silence follows the sermon.*

The Nicene Creed (said together)

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;

he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son.

With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Prayers of the People

Please stand or kneel. The Intercessor and People pray responsively. (Adapted from the New Zealand prayer book)

Holy God, you have promised to hear when we pray in the name of your Son. Therefore in confidence and trust we pray for the Church:

Silence

Enliven the Church for its mission that we may be salt of the earth and light to the world. Breathe fresh life into your people. Give us power to reveal Christ in word and action. We give thanks for the many years of ministry and friendship with the Rev. David Holroyd.

Silence

We pray for the world:

Creator of all, lead us and every people into ways of justice and peace. That we may respect one another in freedom and truth.

Awaken in us a sense of wonder for the earth and all that is in it. Teach us to care creatively for its resources.

Silence

We pray for our community:

God of truth, inspire with your wisdom those whose decisions affect the lives of others that all may act with integrity and courage.

Give grace to all whose lives are linked with ours. May we serve Christ in one another, and love as he loves us.

Silence

We pray for those in need:

God of hope, comfort and restore all who suffer in body, mind or spirit. May they know the power of your healing love.

Make us willing agents of your compassion. Strengthen us as we share in making people whole.

Silence

We remember those who have died and those who mourn:

We remember with thanksgiving those who have died in the faith of Christ, and those whose faith is known to you alone.

We pray for ourselves, families and friends.

We pray for Michael O'Brien & family, Dwight, Lisa, Sue, Theo & Family, David, Bobbi.

Please name those, either silently or aloud, for whom you are praying.

Silence

We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

Silence may be kept.

Leader and People

Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; in your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone; and so uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Presider concludes with an absolution

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

The Peace

Presider The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

♣ The people greet one another in the name of the Lord. The Peace may be expressed by shaking hands, bowing, "fist or elbow bumps", namaste greeting, putting hand over heart, waving, making the peace sign, and by offering a smile.

Birthday Prayer:

Watch over your children, O Lord, as their days increase; bless and guide them wherever they may be. Strengthen them when they stand; comfort them when discouraged or sorrowful; raise them up if they fall; and in their heart may your peace which passes understanding abide all the days of their life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Holy Communion

[8:00 a.m. service]

Offertory Hymn 450, vv. 1-3

All hail the power of Jesus' Name!

Coronation

◼ The people sit for the hymn, standing as they are able, for the last verse.

Presider All things come of thee, O Lord.

People And of thine own have we given thee. Amen.

[10:00 a.m. service]

Offertory Anthem

O Word of God Parish Choir

Craig Courtney

◼ The people stand for the hymn as they are able.

[10:00 a.m. service]

Offertory Hymn 348 Lord, we have come at your own invitation *O quanta qualia*

The Great Thanksgiving Prayer A Page 361 in the Book of Common Prayer

Presider The Lord be with you.
People And also with you.
Presider Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them to the Lord.

Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People It is right to give God thanks and praise.

The Presider continues

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth through your dearly beloved Son Jesus Christ our Lord; who on the first day of the week overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.

Therefore, we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name: [Said at 8:00, sung at 10:00].

Presider and People

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the hihest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

[10:00 a.m. service] Sanctus



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◼ The people kneel or stand as they are able.

The Presider continues

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all. He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Presider and People
Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.

The Presider continues

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN**.

The Presider then continues

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

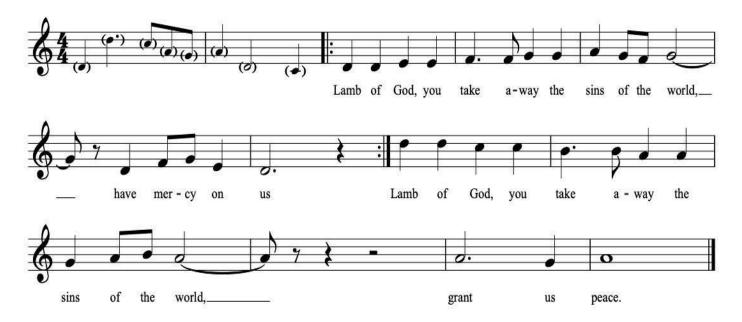
People and Presider

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

♣ A period of silence is kept.

[8:00 a.m. service] Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us; **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**



Setting: Peter Crisafulli, from Music for the Holy Eucharist Rite II © 2002 Peter Crisafulli. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Reprinted under onelicesne.net #A700244

Invitation to Communion

The gifts of God for the people of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

Prayer for those Participating Online

In union, O Lord, with your faithful people at every altar of your Church, where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, we desire to offer to you praise and thanksgiving. We remember your death, Lord Christ; we proclaim your resurrection; we away your coming in glory. Since we cannot receive you today in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, we beseech you to come spiritually into our heart. Cleanse and strengthen us with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let us never be separated from you. May we live in you, and you in us, in this life and in the life to come. Amen.

Instructions Concerning Communion and Healing

You are invited to receive Holy Communion. Following the usher's instructions, we begin with those seated in the side sections, starting with the front pews. Please go to the back of the church and proceed down the center aisle to the communion rail. Return to your seat using the outside aisles of those sections. Those seated in the center sections, please come forward beginning with the back pews using the center aisle and return using the diagonal aisles.

Communion may be received kneeling or standing at the altar rails. The bread is received in the open palm. (Gluten-free wafers are available). You may drink from the cup, or place your hand on the base as a sign of devotion. <u>Intinction, dipping the wafer into the wine, is also acceptable</u>.

Those who do not wish to receive Communion are invited to come forward for a blessing, indicated by crossing your arms over your chest.

Communion can also be brought to you in the pews. Please communicate this request to an usher or the clergy.

The Healing team is available to offer healing prayers at the side of the church. Please tell your healing minister if you have a specific prayer need and if you would like a laying on of hands, just prayers or both.

[10:00 a.m. service]

Communion Hymns 341 For the bread which you have broken *Omni die* **655** O Jesus, I have promised *Nyland*

◼ The people kneel or stand as they are able.

Presider and People

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Blessing

▼ The people stand as they are able.

[8:00 a.m. & 10:00 a.m. service]

Recessional Hymn 490 I want to walk as a child of the light Houston

The Dismissal

Priest Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People Thanks be to God.

[8:00 a.m. & 10:00 a.m. service]

Postlude Take Me Out to the Ball Game Albert Von Tilzer

The worship is over. \blacksquare The service begins.

Cover artwork by R. Thomas Glover

Participating in Today's Liturgy:

Preacher: The Rev. Mark B. Pendleton Presider: The Rev. David D. Holroyd Lector at 8:00 a.m.: Becky Moore Lector at 10:00 a.m.: Laurel Patterson Intercessor at 10:00 a.m.: Cary Einhaus

Eucharistic Minister at 8:00 a.m.:

Eucharistic Minister at 10:00 a.m.: Laurel Patterson Greeter/Usher 10:00: Jen Murray, Kim Billings

Live Stream: Joe DiPalermo

Altar Guild: Cindy Eaton, Shannon Tosatti

Flower Delivery: Jeannette McDonald Hospitality: Jen Murray. Kim Billings. Mary Webber

Want to make a donation but forgot your checkbook or do not carry cash? Feel free to use this QR code from your smartphone. All donations are welcomed.



HONORING DAVID: Today we honor David after both services. For the 8:00 a.m. regulars join David for some breakfast fare in the Parish Hall, and a larger reception will be held after the 10 a.m. service beginning at 11:15 a.m.

Church Directory Photos: The Christ Church photographers will be back today. The photos only take a couple of minutes and we only need your name. Please don't miss out - we want to make sure we have photos of the majority of our parishioners!

Save the Date Sunday October 15 for the next **Red Door Forum:** Christ Church parishioner Robin Sirois, a registered nurse, will speak of her experiences having traveled with Resurge International to Vietnam, Bolivia and Nepal. As a member of a medical team, she worked with others to provide much needed surgical procedures that would bring about life changing results for the patients in their care. Robin will share what inspired her and led her to venture to the other side and share her gifts with others.

Zoom Converstion October 2: Join us over eight Monday nights from September through December for a Zoom Bible Study and Conversation about Season Three of **The Chosen**. The season is available on Amazon Prime and free on Angel.com. We will be playing clips during our time together, so no previewing is required. Join us for learning, conversation and prayer. Mondays on Zoom beginning at 7 p.m. to 8:15 p.m. Find the Zoom link in the eNews.

Christmas Choir: This year, we invite singers to participate in our Christmas Eve Prelude! This prelude includes 30 minutes of beautiful music which many of us find to be the most centering part of the Christmas season. Rehearsals for Christmas choir are Wednesdays (Nov. 29, Dec. 6, Dec. 13 & Dec. 20) from 7:00-8:30 p.m. Please email Suzanne for more information about joining this seasonal offering. *suzannemjjones@gmail.com*

Sunday	PSP Rehearsal 1:00 p.m.
Monday	The Chosen Zoom 7:00 p.m.
Tuesday	Bible Study 11:00 a.m. PSP Rehearsal 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday	Oasis Sisters 10:00 a.m. PSP Rehearsal 4:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal 7:00 p.m.

Phone: (603) 772-3332 E-mail: office@christchurchexeter.org

Office Hours: Mon, Tue, Thur 9 a.m. - 12 Noon, Weds 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. OFFICE CLOSED FRIDAYS

Ext. 12 [cell phone 860 490-8544] RECTOR

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