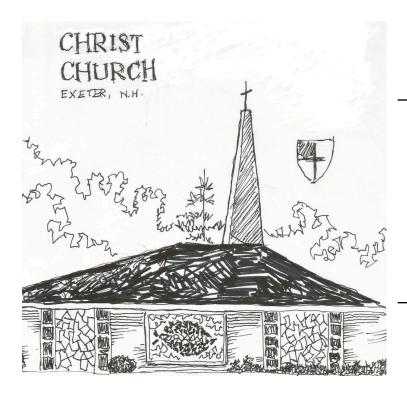
CHRIST CHURCH of Exeter



Live joyfully in faith

Connect with God and one another

Serve the local and global community

The Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost October 6, 2024 8:00 & 10:00 a.m.

Reflections on Today's Readings

The primary theme today in the readings from Genesis and Mark is marriage. Here we are not to think simplistically of the varied forms of the human institution of marriage found in different periods of history. We are instead focused on the biblical understanding of God's will for marriage as a union between two people which creates a new, complex personality out of the two. Jesus' disapproval of divorce is clear and uncompromising. We may note that, in the words of Professor Reginald Fuller, "It is often the current institutionalized form of marriage that many people are really rejecting, not marriage as intended by God."

In our second reading, we begin reading the Letter to the Hebrews. This early Christian work seems to have been intended particularly for Jewish Christians to assist them in understanding the work of Christ in images familiar to them. In today's passage,

the full humanity of Jesus and his suffering and death are explained as essential to his role of redeeming all humanity, as illustrated by quotations from the psalms.

We find in our worship that the Christian message is a call to put aside the conventions of human society and to take up the new life of God's Kingdom. That new life calls us to rethink all aspects of our ways of living, even our views of marriage. Those who live in committed lifetime relationships must be certain that what they seek is the relationship God wills and not simply the conventional understanding of the world.

Our worship together is the clearest sign that we are responding to God's call to be different from the world even as we live in it. A gathering of people which welcomes everyone to a common table is not conventional. It is a sign of God's Kingdom.

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 the welcome cards 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. Child Care is offered during the later service downstairs at 9:30 a.m. Sunday School is offered today for ages 9-12 at 9 a.m. and for ages 5-8 at 9:45 a.m. All are welcome.

The Holy Eucharist

[10:00 a.m. service]

Prelude and Welcome

Let us break bread together

Martha Sobaje

₱ All stand, as they are able, as the the clergy enter or the bell tolls.

[10:00 a.m. service] **Hymn 388, vv. 1-4**

O worship the King

Hanover

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

People And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

Presider and People: 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] **S278 Glory to God**



Music: William Matthias © 1985 - Church Publishing, Inc. 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.

Almighty and everlasting God, you are always more ready to hear than we to pray, and to give more than we either desire or deserve: Pour upon us the abundance of your mercy, forgiving us those things of which our conscience is afraid, and giving us those good things for which we are not worthy to ask, except through the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ our Savior; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**** The people sit.

The First Reading Genesis 2:18-24

Reader A Reading from the Book of Genesis

The Lord God said, "It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper as his partner." So out of the ground the Lord God formed every animal of the field and every bird of the air, and brought them to the man to see what he would call them; and whatever the man called every living creature, that was its name. The man gave names to all cattle, and to the birds of the air, and to every animal of the field; but for the man there was not found a helper as his partner. So the Lord God caused a deep sleep

to fall upon the man, and he slept; then he took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. And the rib that the Lord God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man. Then the man said, "This at last is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; this one shall be called Woman, for out of Man this one was taken." Therefore a man leaves his father and his mother and clings to his wife, and they become one flesh.

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

Psalm 8 (read responsively by verse)

- 1 O Lord our Governor, * how exalted is your Name in all the world!
- 2 Out of the mouths of infants and children * your majesty is praised above the heavens.
- 3 You have set up a stronghold against your adversaries, * to quell the enemy and the avenger.
- 4 When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, * the moon and the stars you have set in their courses,
- 5 What is man that you should be mindful of him? * the son of man that you should seek him out?

- 6 You have made him but little lower than the angels; * you adorn him with glory and honor;
- 7 You give him mastery over the works of your hands; * you put all things under his feet:
- 8 All sheep and oxen, * even the wild beasts of the field,
- 9 The birds of the air, the fish of the sea, * and whatsoever walks in the paths of the sea.
- 10 O Lord our Governor, * how exalted is your Name in all the world!

The Second Reading

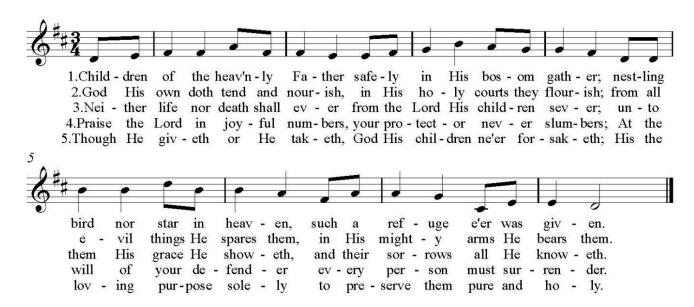
Hebrews 1:1-4, 2:5-12

Reader A Reading from the Letter to the Hebrews

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs. Now God did not subject the coming world, about which we are speaking, to angels. But someone has testified somewhere, "What are human beings that you are mindful of them, or mortals, that you care for them? You have made them for a little while lower than the angels; you have crowned them with glory

and honor, subjecting all things under their feet." Now in subjecting all things to them, God left nothing outside their control. As it is, we do not yet see everything in subjection to them. but we do see Jesus, who for a little while was made lower than the angels, now crowned with glory and honor because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone. It was fitting that God, for whom and through whom all things exist, in bringing many children to glory, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through sufferings. For the one who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one Father. For this reason lesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters, saying, "I will proclaim your name to my brothers and sisters, in the midst of the congregation I will praise you."

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



The Gospel Mark 10:2-16

Gospeller The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Some Pharisees came, and to test Jesus they asked. "Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?" He answered them, "What did Moses command you?" They said, "Moses allowed a man to write a certificate of dismissal and to divorce her." But Iesus said to them. "Because of your hardness of heart he wrote this commandment for you. But from the beginning of creation, 'God made them male and female.' 'For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.' So they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate." Then in the house the disciples asked him again about this matter. He said to

Gospeler The Gospel of the Lord.
People Praise to you, Lord Christ

The people sit.

them, "Whoever divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery against her; and if she divorces her husband and marries another, she commits adultery."

People were bringing little children to him in order that he might touch them; and the disciples spoke sternly to them. But when Jesus saw this, he was indignant and said to them, "Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it." And he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them.

The Rev. Mark Pendleton

■ *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

Merciful and loving God, we come before you seeking your grace. Create in us lives that are gracious and loving. We raise our hearts and voices to you, responding,

In your mercy, Lord

Hear our prayer.

Reveal yourself to us in the world you have fashioned: in the wonder of your creation and in the faces of our brothers and sisters. Strengthen our commitment to being good stewards of all that we are and all that we have. Keep us mindful of the billions of your children we will never know, and the generations which will follow us.

In your mercy, Lord

Hear our prayer.

Train our hearts on you and teach us to listen to your voice and follow your lead. Equip us, we pray, with all we need to do the work you have given us to do: to reflect your goodness in the world, to open our hearts to all people, to partner with you in your mission of reconciliation.

In your mercy, Lord

Hear our prayer.

Fill this nation with a yearning for justice for all people in all things. Shine a light into those instances where we have been wrong or where we have claimed more than our share while the needs of others have been ignored. Ignite in us a passion for your purpose in this world you love so dearly.

In your mercy, Lord

Hear our prayer.

As you never tire of loving us, may we never tire of caring for your people who are suffering in body, mind, or spirit.

We pray for Steve M. Julie, Pat, Alan, Sharon, Cathy, Patrick, Sue, Bobbi, and Beatrice, Jewelle, and Justin.

For the ongoing recovery work in the Southeast after Hurricane Helene's destruction. May the Lord comfort those who have lost so much.

In your mercy, Lord

Hear our prayer.

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

Silence

In your mercy, Lord

Hear our prayer.

We pray for those who have ended their earthly journey and now are surrounded by angels and archangels and their unending songs of praise.

We remember Priscilla Clark, who died last week.

Silence

Presider: Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth: Mercifully accept the prayers of your people, and strengthen us to do your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Confession of Sin

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

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 for October:

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.

Announcements

The Holy Communion

[8:00 a.m. service at the Presentation of the Gifts]

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 Come unto Me Larry Nickel

Christ Church Choir Laura Wyskiel, *flute*

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

[10:00 a.m. service]

Offertory Hymn 416 For the beauty of the earth Lucerna Laudoniae

The Great Thanksgiving: Prayer A 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 our thanks and praise.

Presider

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 Jesus Christ our Lord; For you are the source of light and life, you made us in your image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord.

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:

[8:00 a.m.] Presider and People

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,

heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

[10:00 a.m. service] **Sanctus**



Music: Sanctus. Suzanne Jalbert Jones. Used with permission.

\blacksquare The people kneel or stand as they are able.

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.*

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us; **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

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 await 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. Intinction, dipping the wafer into the wine, is also acceptable.

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 Hymn 458My song is love unknownLove Unknown305Come risen Lord, and deign to be our guestRosedale

Post-Communion Prayer

◼ 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

[10:00 a.m. service]

Recessional Hymn 448, vv. 1-3, 5

O love, how deep, how broad, how high

Deus tuorum militum

The Dismissal

Deacon Let us go forth in the name of Christ.People Thanks be to God.[10:00 a.m. service]

The worship is over * The service begins

Participating in Today's Liturgy:

Preacher/Presider: The Rev. Mark Pendleton

Deacon: The Rev. Nicole Benevenia

Lector at 8:00 a.m.:

Lector at 10:00 a.m.: Cindy Eaton

Intercessor at 10:00 a.m.: John Woodard

Eucharistic Minister at 8:00 a.m.: Nicole Benevenia Eucharistic Minister at 10:00 a.m.: Judy Blaisdell Welcome Team/Usher: Susan Dixon, Lissa Simard

Live Streaming Tech: Joe DiPalermo

Altar Guild: Carla Ranks, Diane DiPalermo

Flower Delivery: Langdon

Hospitality: Jen Murray, Kim Billings

Today we welcome **Wendy Gladstone**, a long-time Christ Church parishioner, as our guest organist.

THE 2024-2025 RED DOOR SERIES: "LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE" This year's Red Door Forum Series has as its focus – Let Your Light Shine – where we will spend the year exploring how each of us can let our light shine more brightly in the world. Today, October 6th, The Rev. Bill Redfield is with us for his rescheduled forum.

Greetings from the Stewardship Team: Father Kenneth Untener, a priest from Saginaw Michigan, wrote the prayer "Prophets of a Future Not Our Own" in 1979. Later, then Bishop Untener included it in a book as a reflection on the anniversary of the martyrdom of Bishop Oscar Romero. Romero was the Archbishop of San Salvador when he was assassinated in 1980. Even though he never spoke it, the prayer is sometimes attributed to Romero, and it is often called "Romero's Prayer".

The prayer helps us come to terms with the probability of not seeing God's kingdom in our lifetimes, but still understanding the crucially important part each of plays, both individually and in communion; listening to the Holy Spirit and using our gifts to help move this world in His direction:

It helps, now and then, to step back and take the long view.
The Kingdom is not only beyond our efforts; it is even beyond our vision.
We accomplish in our lifetime only a fraction of the magnificent enterprise that is God's work. Nothing we do is complete, which is another way of saying that the kingdom always lies beyond us.
No statement says all that could be said.

No prayer fully expresses our faith.

No confession brings perfection.

No pastoral visit brings wholeness.

No program accomplishes the church's mission.

No set of goals and objectives includes everything.

This is what we are about.

We plant the seeds that one day will grow.

We water the seeds already planted, knowing that they hold future promise.

We lay foundations that will need further development.

We provide yeast that produces effects far beyond our capabilities.

We cannot do everything and there is a sense of liberation in realizing that.

This enables us to do something and to do it well.

It may be incomplete, but it is a beginning, a step along the way, an opportunity for the Lord's grace to enter and do the rest.

We may never see the end results, but that is the difference between the master builder and the worker.

We are workers, not master builders; ministers, not messiahs.

We are prophets of a future not our own.

Over the next few weeks, members of the Vestry will be considering this prayer, publishing their reflections in the Weekly E-news and Sunday Bulletins.

Join us for the **Seacoast Area Crop Hunger Walk** on **Sunday, October 13** at 1 PM at Swasey Parkway in Exeter. If you are planning on joining us, please register as a walker! Join the Christ Church team at

https://events.crophungerwalk.org/cropwalks/accept?challenger=nicole-benevenia&team=christ-church-exeter

The walk raises funds to provide meals for those in our own community who need them and for supporting programs that create greater food security in communities all around the world. 25% of all donations will be directed to organizations on the NH Seacoast that focus on alleviating hunger. All are welcome and invited.

After registering, please stop by during office hours to pick up your packet and other materials. Contact Rev. Nicole with any questions, and read more about the organization at https://events.crophungerwalk.org/cropwalks/event/exeternh

To make a donation, you are welcome to use this QR code from your smartphone.



This week at Christ Church October 6-12

Sunday	Red Door Forum 11:15 a.m. PSP Rehearsal 1:00 p.m.
Tuesday	Bible study 11:00 a.m. PSP Rehearsal 5:30 p.m Vestry 7:00 p.m.
Wednesday	PSP Rehearsal 4:00 p.m.
Saturday	John Bacon Service 10:30 a.m.

CHRIST CHURCH

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Vestry for 2024

Senior Warden Patricia Gianotti **Junior Warden Judy Blaisdell** Treasurer Richard Ingram John Cofer Clerk

Scott Anders John Hodsdon Susan Dixon Blake Carrico Jennifer Murray John Woodard **Juliette Gavin** Morgan McCay Alice Bentley



Anchor Legacy Society Enrollment Form

To the glory of God and in thanksgiving for the mission and ministry of God's church, I/we have made a gift for the future ministry of Christ Church of Exeter.

My/our pl	anned gift is	s: (check one or more that ma	ay apply)	
		A bequest in my/our will Annuity, life insurance or retir Direct gifts of cash, securities Charitable gift annuities with Personal trust account Other:	s, real estate and other items lifetime payments	
I/we accept	ot the invita	tion to join the Anchor Lega	acy Society.	
I/we conse Legacy Soc	•	our name/s to appear with o	others on the public roster of the	
		o remain anonymous.		as:
Signature(s)			Date	
Name/s				
Address, Cit	y, State, Zip _			
Phone, Ema	il			
Please send	this form to: (Office Administrator, Christ Ch	aurch 43 Pine Street Exeter NH 03832	3