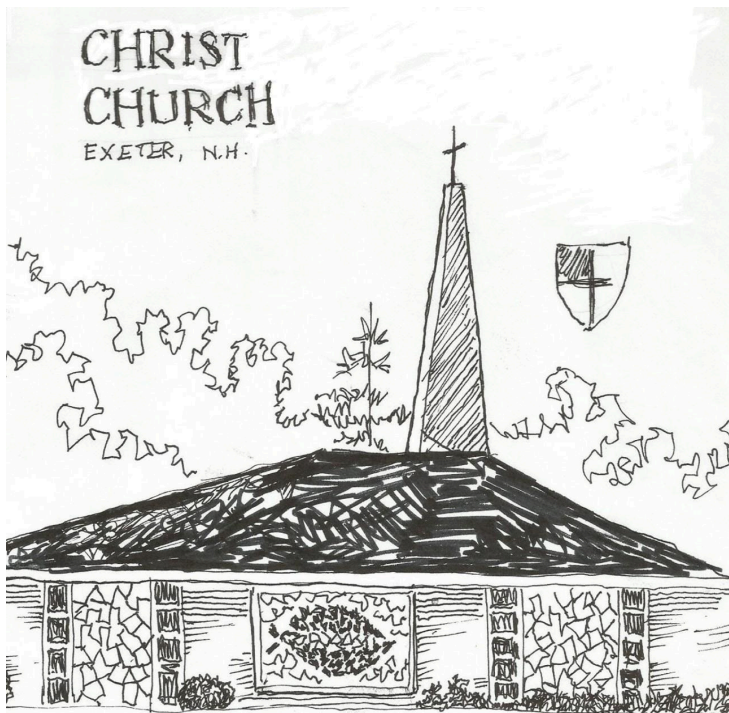


# CHRIST CHURCH of Exeter



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***Live***  
joyfully in faith

***Connect***  
with God and one another

***Serve***  
the local and global community

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The Seventh Sunday after the Epiphany  
February 23, 2025  
8:00 a.m. & 10:00 a.m.

## Reflections on Today's Readings

Again, the theme of Epiphany, the manifestation of Christ, is the focus of the liturgy. The "sermon on the plain" continues today with Jesus teaching about the way members of God's Kingdom relate to other people. Here our behavior is to reflect God's behavior toward us. We are to love, to forgive, and to be generous because God loves us, God forgives us, and God is generous to us.

In the first reading, a model of forgiveness and love are given in the story of Joseph and the ten brothers who had sold him into slavery. Joseph's forgiveness is unconditional and is the means by which God saved the people of Israel for their future vocation.

In this last portion of 1 Corinthians, Paul continues to explain the resurrection. Here he is confronting a notion held by some in

that congregation that human beings are purely spiritual beings trapped in sinful, material bodies and that certain people with special spiritual gifts can escape their material existence. Paul's message is that human beings are material but are destined, through the resurrection of Christ, to be raised themselves with spiritual bodies. It is only through the dying and rising of Jesus, not through special knowledge or gifts, that this can take place.

It is always God whose actions come first. Jesus is the manifestation of God's generous love and forgiveness. Our response is to show forth that divine love and forgiveness in our own lives. We are to be epiphanies of God's love to the world. We find God's love revealed in the Eucharist and we in turn are sent forth to embody that love in our lives.

Adapted 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. Children's Chapel is offered today during the 10 AM service. Children ages 5-12 are welcome to attend with or without their families or caregivers. Children under the age of 4 are also welcome to attend with caregivers for supervision. There is no Sunday School today.

## The Holy Eucharist

[10:00 a.m. service]

### Prelude

Communion, Opus 8  
Richard Benefield, Guest Organist

Louis Vierne

### Welcome

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

[10:00 a.m. service]

### Processional Hymn 391, vv. 1-4

Before the Lord's eternal throne

Winchester New

*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] **Gloria**

Carl Haywood

$\text{♩} = 120$

6 Glo - ry, Glo - ry, hal - le - lu

10 jah, Lord we praise your ho - - ly name, Glo - ry, Glo - ry, hal - le - lu -

13 - jah! Lord we praise your ho - ly name.

15 Glo - ry to God - in the high - est and

17 peace to his peo - - ple on Earth.

21 Lord God, hea - ven - ly King, al - migh - ty God - and Fa - ther. We

25 wor - ship You we give You thanks, we praise You for your glo - ry.

30 Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb - of God. Glo - ry Glo - ry, hal - le - lu

33 - jah, Lord we praise your ho - ly name, Glo - ry,

Glo - ry, hal - le - lu - jah, Lord we praise your ho - ly name.

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.

O Lord, you have taught us that without love whatever we do is worth nothing: Send your Holy Spirit and pour into our hearts your greatest gift, which is love, the true bond of peace and of all virtue, without which whoever lives is accounted dead before you. Grant this for the sake of your only Son Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

✠ *The people sit.*

## The First Reading

## Genesis 45:3-11, 15

*Reader* A Reading from the Book of Genesis

Joseph said to his brothers, "I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?" But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence. Then Joseph said to his brothers, "Come closer to me." And they came closer. He said, "I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. For the famine has been in the land these two years; and there are five more years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. So it was not you who sent me here, but God; he

has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, 'Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not delay. You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children's children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. I will provide for you there-since there are five more years of famine to come-so that you and your household, and all that you have, will not come to poverty.' And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them; and after that his brothers talked with him.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm 37:1-12, 41-42 (*read responsively by verse*)

- 1 Do not fret yourself because of evildoers; \*  
do not be jealous of those who do wrong.
- 2 **For they shall soon wither like the grass, \*  
and like the green grass fade away.**
- 3 Put your trust in the Lord and do good; \*  
dwell in the land and feed on its riches.

**4 Take delight in the Lord, \*  
and he shall give you your heart's desire.**

5 Commit your way to the Lord and put your trust in him, \*  
and he will bring it to pass.

**6 He will make your righteousness as clear as the light \*  
and your just dealing as the noonday.**

7 Be still before the Lord \*  
and wait patiently for him.

**8 Do not fret yourself over the one who prospers, \*  
the one who succeeds in evil schemes.**

9 Refrain from anger, leave rage alone; \*  
do not fret yourself; it leads only to evil.

**10 For evildoers shall be cut off, \*  
but those who wait upon the Lord shall possess the land.**

11 In a little while the wicked shall be no more; \*  
you shall search out their place, but they will not be there.

**12 But the lowly shall possess the land; \*  
they will delight in abundance of peace.**

41 But the deliverance of the righteous comes from the Lord; \*  
he is their stronghold in time of trouble.

**42 The Lord will help them and rescue them; \*  
he will rescue them from the wicked and deliver them, because they seek refuge in him.**

## **The Second Reading**

## **1 Corinthians 15:34-38, 42-50**

*Reader* A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Corinthians

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Someone will ask, "How are the dead raised? With what kind of body do they come?" Fool! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies. And as for what you sow, you do not sow the body that is to be, but a bare seed, perhaps of wheat or of some other grain. But God gives it a body as he has chosen, and to each kind of seed its own body. So it is with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable, what is raised is imperishable. It is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory. It is

sown in weakness, it is raised in power. It is sown a physical body, it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a physical body, there is also a spiritual body. Thus it is written, "The first man, Adam, became a living being"; the last Adam became a life-giving spirit. But it is not the spiritual that is first, but the physical, and then the spiritual. The first man was from the earth, a man of dust; the second man is from heaven. As was the man of dust, so are those who are of the dust; and as is the man of

heaven, so are those who are of heaven. Just as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we will also bear the image of the man of heaven. What I am saying, brothers and

sisters, is this: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

[10:00 a.m. service]

**Sequence Hymn WLP 775 vv, 1, 4**

Give thanks for life

*Sine nomine*

## **The Gospel**

**Luke 6:27-38**

*Gospeler* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke

*People* **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said, "I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. Do to others as you would have them do to you. If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. If you lend to those from whom you

hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. But love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful. Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back."

*Gospeler* The Gospel of the Lord.

*People* **Praise to you, Lord Christ**

✠ *The people sit.*

## **Sermon**

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.**

**Prayers of the People: Form VI**

*The Leader and People pray responsively*

To God who is merciful and kind to all, let us pray for all those in need.

For the church of Jesus Christ throughout the world.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For those alienated from the church, and for our witness to Christ in every community.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For those in charge of peoples and nations, and for their exercise of mercy and justice.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For all who suffer from oppressive rulers and regimes, and for the victims of abuse and violence.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For all who are sick and troubled, and for the dying and the dead.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For ourselves, our families, and all those we love.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For those known to us in need of prayer:

Patti, Bob, Diane, Mary, Lela, Kass, Jack, Pat, Sharon, Sue, Oscar

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

*Silence*

We pray for Sean, our Presiding Bishop, and Rob our Bishop; and Mark and Nicole our clergy, and for all bishops and other ministers. Let us also pray for the upcoming election of the next Bishop of Cuba on Friday.

*Silence*

Remembering all the saints, let us offer ourselves and one another to the living God through Christ.  
**To you, O Gracious God.**

*Presider*

God the lover of every person, hear the prayers we offer you this day and grant that we may bless those who curse and do good to those who do evil; 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.*

### **Announcements**

[10:00 a.m. service]

**Offertory Anthem**

*Blessed are the Pure in Heart*  
Christ Church Choir

H. Walford Davies, arr.

### **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.**

✠ *The people stand for the hymn as they are able.*

[10:00 a.m. service]

**Offertory Hymn 568**

Father all loving

\*- *Was lebet*

### **The Great Thanksgiving: Eucharistic Prayer B**

*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.**

*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; Because in the mystery of the Word made flesh, you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give the knowledge of your glory in the face of your Son 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 he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

[10:00 service] **Sanctus**

Lena McLin (LEVAS)

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord, God of power and might,  
hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry Ho - san-na in the high - est.  
Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san-na in the high - est.

✠ *The people kneel or stand as they are able.*

*The Presider continues*

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, 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, according to his command, O Father,

*Presider and People*

**We remember his death,**

**We proclaim his resurrection,  
We await his coming in glory;**

*The Presider continues*

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the church, and the author of our salvation.

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.*

♩ = 120

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the world:

6

have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the

10

sins of the world: grant us peace.

### 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 593**

Lord, make us servants of your peace

*Dickinson College*

### **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]

**Hymn 610, vv. 1-3**

Lord, whose love through humble service

*Blaenhafren*

### **The Dismissal**

*Priest* Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

[10:00 a.m. service]

**Postlude**

Tocatta in F, BuxWV 157

Dietrich Buxtehude

*The postlude is played by Karsten Vun, a junior at Phillips Exeter Academy.*

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*The worship is over \* The service begins*

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## Participating in Today's Liturgy:

Presider: The Rev. Nicole Benevenia

Preacher: The Rev. Mark Pendleton

Organist: Richard Benefield

Lector at 8:00 a.m.:

Lector at 10:00 a.m.: Athens Pullias

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

Eucharistic Minister at 8:00 a.m.: Lee Woodworth

Eucharistic Minister at 10:00 a.m.: Judy Blaisdell

Welcome Team/Usher: Lissa Simard

Live Streaming Tech: Will Sera

Altar Guild: Cindy Eaton, Shannon Tosatti

Flower Delivery: Patti Buck

Hospitality: Jen Murray, Kim Billings

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



Our **Red Door Forum** today will be led by Jennifer Murray, who will lead us through an exploration of early manifestations of Christianity in Ireland from the Middle Ages to the 12<sup>th</sup> century. We will look at the Book of Kells, the Muiredach Cross and the Cross of Cong with the help of three short videos that will take us through the creation, the message, and the impact of each religious icon with wonderful visuals. Please join us at 11:15 AM following the later service.

**Free Organ Concert March 1 at 11:00 a.m.** As a special guest of the Murray family, organist Christopher McWilliams is offering a free organ concert March 1 at 11:00 a.m. All are welcome! A shuttle from RiverWoods will depart at 10:30 and return at 12:00 noon.

Since January 2024, Christopher McWilliams has worked as Director of Music at First Congregational church of Berlin and for the Randolph Singers in Randolph, VT. Aside from his role as Director of Music, he is a faculty member of the Monteverdi School of Music and resides in Barre, VT. He teaches piano primarily, and he has also taught music theory, organ and voice. In addition to these responsibilities, he composes music for organ, piano, chorales and voice. On the program will be:

Prelude and Fugue in E Major BWV 566

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

Tableaux d'une Exposition à Haute-Luce: Partie ¼  
Christopher McWilliams (b.1986)

- I. En Janvier
- II. A la mi-février
- III. Mars

Scherzo in G Minor, Opus 49, No.2  
Marco Enrico Bossi (1861-1925)

Psalm Prelude No. 1 from Set 1 Opus 32  
Herbert Howells (1892-1983)

I. Con Moto Maestoso from Organ Sonata in A Major Opus 65 No. 3  
Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)

Happy Birthday Fugue  
Giovanni Dettori (b.1975)

**Lent begins** on Ash Wednesday, March 5. We will offer two services at Christ Church at 12 noon and 7 p.m.

One service will also be held at RiverWoods. 10: 30 a.m. at the Lodge at The Woods. Do inquire about transportation over to the Woods campus.

**This week at Christ Church  
February 23-March 1**

Sunday	Forum 11:15 a.m.
Tuesday	Bible study 11:00 a.m. PSP Rehearsal 5:30 p.m.
Wednesday	PSP Rehearsal 4:00 p.m.

**CHRIST CHURCH**

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Patricia Gianotti

Junior Warden

Judy Blaisdell

Treasurer

Richard Ingram

Clerk

John Cofer

Scott Anders

Susan Dixon

Elizabeth Bauman

Blake Carrico

John Woodard

Cindy Eaton

Juliette Gavin

Alice Bentley

Athens Pullias, Jr.