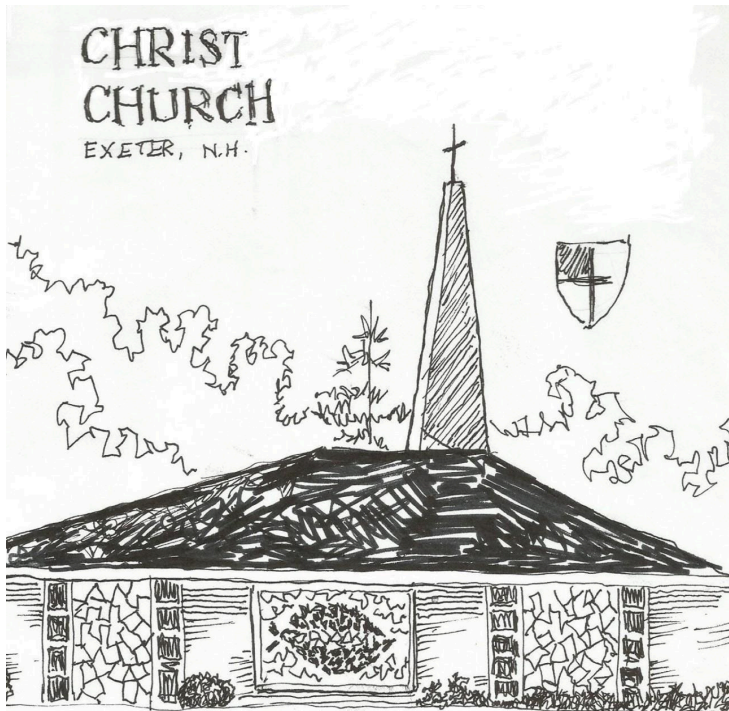


CHRIST CHURCH of Exeter



Live
joyfully in faith

Connect
with God and one another

Serve
the local and global community

Fifth Sunday of Easter
May 18, 2025
8:00 a.m. & 10:00 a.m.

Reflections on Today's Readings

Today we begin the fifth week of celebrating the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. Each Sunday in the fifty days between Easter and Pentecost, we explore the implications of Jesus' dying and rising for our lives.

Today we hear from John's Gospel some of the Lord's words on the night before his death. The Lord tells his friends that he is going away and gives them his final instructions, "the new commandment," to love one another as he loves us.

This Sunday's reading from the book of Revelation is a vision of the final consummation of God's Kingdom as the new Jerusalem. The redeemed rejoice, for God dwells with them and does away forever with death and grief and weeping.

Today's reading from Acts traces further the extension of the proclamation of Christ's resurrection. Peter describes to the leaders of the church in Jerusalem the astounding discovery that God's call is not only to Jews but to the Gentiles as well, as he tells of the conversion and baptism of Cornelius, the first Gentile Christian.

It is in our relationship of union with Christ in baptism and communion that his love for us is revealed. Our liturgy here equips us to carry out our larger liturgy, our work as God's people, in loving others through ministry, service, and prayer. In that way, the work of extending God's Kingdom will continue to spread in and through us, the body of the Risen Christ, as we follow his command to love others as he loves us.

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. Our final Children's Chapel for the program year 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 or nursery care today.

The Holy Eucharist

[10:00 a.m. service]

Prelude

Improvisation Op.150, No.4 - *Allegretto*

Camille Saint-Saëns

Welcome

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

[10:00 a.m. service]

Processional Hymn 494

Crown him with many crowns

Diademata

Presider Alleluia. Christ is risen.

People **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

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 S-280**

Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace - to his peo-ple on

6 earth. Lord God, heav'n-ly King, al-migh-ty God and Fa-ther, we wor-ship you, we

12 give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry. Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the

17 Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world: have mer-cy

23 on us; you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther: re-ceive our prayer. For

29 you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord, you a-lone are the most

34 High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spi-rit, in the

37 glo-ry of God the Fa-ther. A-men.

Music: Robert J. Powell © 1985 – Church Publications. All rights reserved. Reprinted under One License.net A700244.

The Collect of the Day

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Let us pray.

Almighty God, whom truly to know is everlasting life: Grant us so perfectly to know your Son Jesus Christ to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow his steps in the way that leads to eternal life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

✠ *The people sit.*

The First Reading

Acts 11:1-18

Reader A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Now the apostles and the believers who were in Judea heard that the Gentiles had also accepted the word of God. So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him, saying, "Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?" Then Peter began to explain it to them, step by step, saying, "I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. There was something like a large sheet coming down from heaven, being lowered by its four corners; and it came close to me. As I looked at it closely I saw four-footed animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air. I also heard a voice saying to me, 'Get up, Peter; kill and eat.' But I replied, 'By no means, Lord; for nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth.' But a second time the voice answered from heaven, 'What God has made clean, you must not call profane.' This happened three times; then everything was pulled up again to heaven. At that very moment three men, sent to me from

Caesarea, arrived at the house where we were. The Spirit told me to go with them and not to make a distinction between them and us. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man's house. He told us how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saying, 'Send to Joppa and bring Simon, who is called Peter; he will give you a message by which you and your entire household will be saved.' And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as it had upon us at the beginning. And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said, 'John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.' If then God gave them the same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could hinder God?" When they heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God, saying, "Then God has given even to the Gentiles the repentance that leads to life."

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 148 *(read responsively by verse)*

- 1 Hallelujah! Praise the Lord from the heavens; *
praise him in the heights.

- 2 **Praise him, all you angels of his; ***
praise him, all his host.
- 3 Praise him, sun and moon; *
praise him, all you shining stars.
- 4 **Praise him, heaven of heavens, ***
and you waters above the heavens.
- 5 Let them praise the Name of the Lord; *
for he commanded, and they were created.
- 6 **He made them stand fast for ever and ever; ***
he gave them a law which shall not pass away.
- 7 Praise the Lord from the earth, *
you sea-monsters and all deeps;
- 8 **Fire and hail, snow and fog, ***
tempestuous wind, doing his will;
- 9 Mountains and all hills, *
fruit trees and all cedars;
- 10 **Wild beasts and all cattle, ***
creeping things and winged birds;
- 11 Kings of the earth and all peoples, *
princes and all rulers of the world;
- 12 **Young men and maidens, ***
old and young together.
- 13 Let them praise the Name of the Lord, *
for his Name only is exalted, his splendor is over earth and heaven.
- 14 **He has raised up strength for his people and praise for all his loyal servants, ***
the children of Israel, a people who are near him. Hallelujah!

The Second Reading

Revelation 21:1-6

Reader A Reading from the Book of Revelation

I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down

out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with

them as their God; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away." And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new."

Also he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true." Then he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life."

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

[10:00 a.m. service]

Sequence Hymn 620, vv. 1-2

Jerusalem, my happy home

Land of Rest

The Gospel

John 13:31-35

Gospeler The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John

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

At the last supper, when Judas had gone out, Jesus said, "Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to

the Jews so now I say to you, 'Where I am going, you cannot come.' I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

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: BCP Form II

Please Stand or Kneel

I ask your prayers for God's people throughout the world; for Sean our Presiding Bishop and Rob our Bishop; for this gathering; for our companion parish in Cárdenas, Cuba, and for all ministers and people.

Pray for the Church.

Silence

I ask your prayers for peace; for goodwill among nations; and for the well-being of all people.

Pray for justice and peace.

Silence

I ask your prayers for the poor, the sick, the hungry, the oppressed, and those in prison.

Pray for those in any need or trouble.

Silence

I ask your prayers for all who seek God, or a deeper knowledge of God.

Pray that they may find and be found by God.

Silence

I ask your prayers for the departed. Pray for those who have died.

Silence

For Anne Howard, who died this past week.

For Jeanne d'Arc Vigeant, in whose memory the flowers are given today.

Silence

I ask your prayers for Bobby, Andy, Sean, Bob, Diane, Lela, Sharon, Sue, Laura and Donni Melendez, and for those we name now, either silently or aloud.

Silence

Today I ask for prayers of thanksgiving for the music ministry of Bruce Adami and his nearly 17 years of service to this congregation. For his dedication and pursuit of excellence that invited many of us to sing a new song in our hearts over the years. For his leadership with our choirs and for his collegiality among our staff. For his stewardship of our instruments and his collaboration with local choirs and his mentoring of young organ students. May the Lord bless him and keep him.

Silence

Praise God for those in every generation in whom Christ has been honored. Pray that we may have grace to glorify Christ in our own day.

Silence

Presider: O Lord our God, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever. **Amen.**

✠ *The Confession is omitted during the Great Fifty Days of Easter.*

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

The Holy Communion

[10:00 a.m. service]

Offertory Anthem

If Ye Love Me
Christ Church Choir

Philip Wilby

[10:00 a.m. service]

Offertory Hymn 523

Glorious things of thee are spoken

Abbot's Leigh

[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.*

The Great Thanksgiving: Eucharistic Prayer A

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; but chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us 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:

Presider and People

[8:00 a.m. service]

**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**

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,
 heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
 san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
 Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
 san - na in the high - est Ho - san - na in the high - est.

✠ *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.

[10:00 a.m. service]

Fraction Anthem

God's Pas - cal Lamb is sac - ri - ficed for us;

There - fore with joy we keep the Eas - ter feast; in

Christ's new life shall all be made a live. Al -

- le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

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 487

Come my way my truth

The Call

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 420, vv. 1-4

When in our music God is glorified

Engelberg

The Dismissal

Priest Let us go forth in the name of the Risen Christ. Alleluia! Alleluia!

People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

[10:00 a.m. service]

Postlude

Improvisation Op.150, No.7 - *Allegro giocoso*

Camille Saint-Saëns

*The worship is over * The service begins*

Participating in Today's Liturgy:

Presider and Preacher: The Rev. Mark Pendleton

Children's Chapel: The Rev. Nicole Benevenia

Organist: Richard Benefield

Lector at 8:00 a.m.: Dale Cavanaugh

Intercessor at 8:00 a.m.:

Lector at 10:00 a.m.: Susan Dixon

Intercessor at 10:00 a.m.: Nancy Fleming

Eucharistic Minister at 10:00 a.m.: Carol Allard, Nancy Fleming

Welcome Team/Usher: Wendy MacArthur-Keith

Live Streaming Tech: Leslie Pendleton

Altar Guild: Jeannette McDonald, Robin Sirois

Flower Delivery: Lissa Simard

Hospitality: Jen Murray, Linzee Coleman-Bagge

Altar Flowers: Given in memory of Jeanne d'Arc Vigeant by Jackie Vigeant

A Retirement Reception for **Bruce Adami** will take place today at 11:00 a.m. in the Parish Hall.

The Rector will be away from May 20-June 3 for professional development. He will join other pilgrims to discover the Celtic roots in Brittany, France, visiting places such as Chartes, Mont St. Michel, St. Malo, and Tours. While away, please reach out to the Rev. Nicole Benevenia.



Is your loved one GRADUATING from high school or an institution of higher learning? We would like to list them in the bulletin and celebrate with them on June 8th at the 9:30 a.m. service. Please note that the deadline is June 4th.

Name: _____

Parents: _____

School/College _____

Degree _____

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



**This week at Christ Church
May 18-24**

Sunday	Retirement Reception 11:00 a.m. PSP Rehearsal 1:00 p.m.
Tuesday	PSP Rehearsal 5:30 p.m.
Wednesday	PSP Rehearsal 4:00 p.m.

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Senior Warden

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.