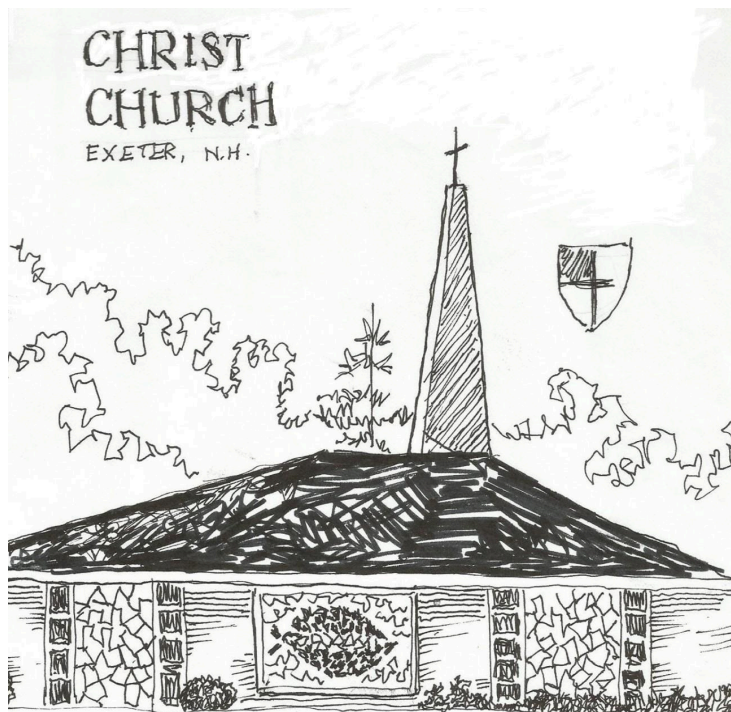


CHRIST CHURCH of Exeter



Live
joyfully in faith

Connect
with God and one another

Serve
the local and global community

The Sixth Sunday After Pentecost
July 20, 2025
8:00 a.m. & 9:30 a.m.

Reflections on Today's Readings

The term "liturgy" has two meanings: time spent in Christ's presence and time spent in service to others. If our lives do not express both of these activities, then we are failing to celebrate the liturgy (the work of the people of God) which is the mark of being a Christian.

Today's reading from the Gospel of Luke gives priority to the time spent in Christ's presence. This is not to say that our work of ministry is unimportant or only secondary, but that it can only be done adequately and without anxiety if it is based on and finds its strength from our communion with our Lord.

The first reading is again from the prophet

Amos. In his preaching, Amos often used symbols for the message. Last Sunday was the plumb line, today it is a basket of summer fruit. He uses a pun—in Hebrew, the word for "fruit" and the word for "end" sound alike—to announce that the end has come, God's patience has run out for Israel, and it will be destroyed as a nation.

In today's reading from Colossians, Paul tells us that the mystery that lies behind reality has been revealed in Christ. It is the life that we share in Christ by virtue of his dying and rising. In baptism, we enter that life, and it becomes our life. It is in that sharing of Christ's life that we are empowered to minister and to pray as members of Christ's Body.

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.

The Holy Eucharist

[9:30 a.m. service]

Prelude

Nun bitten wir den heiligen Geist, BuxWV 208
(Now we pray to the Holy Spirit)
Richard Benefield, *guest organist*

Dietrich Buxtehude

Welcome

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

[9:30 a.m. service]

Processional Hymn 390

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

Lobe den Herren

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.

The Collect of the Day

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Let us pray.

Almighty God, the fountain of all wisdom, you know our necessities before we ask and our ignorance in asking: Have compassion on our weakness, and mercifully give us those things which for our unworthiness we dare not, and for our blindness we cannot ask; through the worthiness of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

✠ *The people sit.*

The First Reading

Amos 8:1-12

Reader A Reading from the Book of Amos

This is what the Lord God showed me-- a basket of summer fruit. He said, "Amos, what do you see?" And I said, "A basket of summer fruit." Then the Lord said to me, "The end has come upon my people Israel; I will never again pass them by. The songs of the temple shall become wailings in that day," says the Lord God; "the dead bodies shall be many, cast out in every place. Be silent!" Hear this, you that trample on the needy, and bring to ruin the poor of the land, saying, "When will the new moon be over so that we may sell grain; and the sabbath, so that we may offer wheat for sale? We will make the ephah small and the shekel great, and practice deceit with false balances, buying the poor for silver and the needy for a pair of sandals, and selling the sweepings of the wheat." The Lord has sworn by the pride of Jacob: Surely I

will never forget any of their deeds. Shall not the land tremble on this account, and everyone mourn who lives in it, and all of it rise like the Nile, and be tossed about and sink again, like the Nile of Egypt? On that day, says the Lord God, I will make the sun go down at noon, and darken the earth in broad daylight. I will turn your feasts into mourning, and all your songs into lamentation; I will bring sackcloth on all loins, and baldness on every head. I will make it like the mourning for an only son, and the end of it like a bitter day. The time is surely coming, says the Lord God, when I will send a famine on the land; not a famine of bread, or a thirst for water, but of hearing the words of the Lord. They shall wander from sea to sea, and from north to east; they shall run to and fro, seeking the word of the Lord, but they shall not find it.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 52 (read responsively by verse)

- 1 You tyrant, why do you boast of wickedness *
against the godly all day long?
- 2 **You plot ruin; your tongue is like a sharpened razor, ***
O worker of deception.
- 3 You love evil more than good *

and lying more than speaking the truth.

4 You love all words that hurt, *
O you deceitful tongue.

5 Oh, that God would demolish you utterly, *
topple you, and snatch you from your dwelling, and root you out of the land of the living!

6 The righteous shall see and tremble, *
and they shall laugh at him, saying,

7 "This is the one who did not take God for a refuge, *
but trusted in great wealth and relied upon wickedness."

8 But I am like a green olive tree in the house of God; *
I trust in the mercy of God for ever and ever.

9 I will give you thanks for what you have done *
and declare the goodness of your Name in the presence of the godly.

The Second Reading

Colossians 1:15-28

Reader A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Colossians

Christ Jesus is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers-- all things have been created through him and for him. He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross. And you who were once estranged and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, he has now reconciled in his fleshly body through death, so as to present you holy and blameless and irreproachable before him-- provided that you continue securely

established and steadfast in the faith, without shifting from the hope promised by the gospel that you heard, which has been proclaimed to every creature under heaven. I, Paul, became a servant of this gospel. I am now rejoicing in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh I am completing what is lacking in Christ's afflictions for the sake of his body, that is, the church. I became its servant according to God's commission that was given to me for you, to make the word of God fully known, the mystery that has been hidden throughout the ages and generations but has now been revealed to his saints. To them God chose to make known how great among the Gentiles are the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. It is he whom we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone in all wisdom, so that we may present everyone mature in Christ.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

[9:30 a.m. service]

Sequence Hymn 708, vv. 1-2

Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us

Sicilian Mariners

The Gospel

Luke 10:38-42

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

As Jesus and his disciples went on their way, Jesus entered a certain village, where a woman named Martha welcomed him into her home. She had a sister named Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to what he was saying. But Martha was distracted by her many tasks; so she came to him and asked,

"Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to do all the work by myself? Tell her then to help me." But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things; there is need of only one thing. Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her."

Gospeler The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ**

✠ *The people sit.*

Sermon

The Rev. Nicole Benevenia

✠ *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

Please Stand or Kneel

Intercessor: Let us welcome the strangers at our door with food and prayer in the name of Christ.
For Sean our Presiding Bishop, Rob our Bishop, for this holy gathering, and for the people of
God in every place.

Christ, have mercy.

For all peoples on earth and their leaders.

Christ, have mercy.

For mercy, justice, and peace in the world.

Christ, have mercy.

For those on vacation, and for safety from violent storms.

Christ, have mercy.

For all those in danger and need: refugees in search of shelter, travelers on their journey, and for
those who give them hospitality.

Christ, have mercy.

For those who rest in Christ and for all the dead.

Christ, have mercy.

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

Today we pray for Joe DiPalermo, Dale, Peter, Chris, Sue, Chris Clark

We invite your prayers either silently or aloud.

Silence

We pray:

Christ, have mercy.

Lifting our voices with all creation, with all the saints, let us offer ourselves and one another to the
living God through Christ.

To you, O Lord.

Presider

God who comes among us in the person of Jesus, hear the prayers we offer today and grace our homes with your presence in word and at table; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

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.**

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

The Holy Communion

[9:30 a.m. service]

Offertory Music

Adagio (Sonata I, Op.65, No.1)

Felix Mendelssohn

[9:30 a.m. service]

Offertory Hymn 530

Spread, O Spread, Thou Mighty Word

Gott sei Dank

[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: Enriching Our Worship Prayer I

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 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 9:30]

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.

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.

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

The Presider continues

Blessed are you, gracious God,
creator of the universe and giver of life.
You formed us in your own image and called us to dwell in your infinite love.

You gave the world into our care
that we might be your faithful stewards
and show forth your bountiful grace.

But we failed to honor your image
in one another and in ourselves;
we would not see your goodness in the world around us;
and so we violated your creation,
abused one another,
and rejected your love. Yet you never ceased to care for us,
and prepared the way of salvation for all people.

Through Abraham and Sarah
you called us into covenant with you.
You delivered us from slavery
sustained us in the wilderness
and raised up prophets to renew your promise of salvation.
Then, in the fullness of time,
you sent your eternal Word,
made mortal flesh in Jesus.
Born into the human family,
and dwelling among us,
he revealed your glory.
Giving himself freely to death on the cross,
he triumphed over evil,
opening the way of freedom and life.

On the night before he died for us,
Our Savior Jesus Christ took bread,
and when he had given thanks to you,
he broke it, and gave it to his friends, and said:
"Take, eat: This is my Body which is given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, Jesus 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 poured out for you and for all
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

Remembering his death and resurrection,
we now present to you from your creation
this bread and this wine.
By your Holy Spirit may they be for us
the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ.
Grant that we who share these gifts
may be filled with the Holy Spirit
and live as Christ's Body in the world.
Bring us into the everlasting heritage
of your daughters and sons,

that with all your saints,
past, present, and yet to come,
we may praise your Name for ever.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
to you be honor, glory, and praise,
for ever and 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.

[9:30 a.m. service]

Communion Hymn 666

Out of the Depths I Call

St. Bride

Post-Communion Prayer

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

Presider and People

God of abundance,

you have fed us

with the bread of life and cup of salvation;

you have united us

with Christ and one another;

and you have made us one

with all your people in heaven and on earth.

Now send us forth

in the power of your Spirit,

that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world

and continue for ever

in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

The Blessing

[9:30 a.m. service]

Recessional Hymn 544

Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun

Duke Street

The Dismissal

Priest Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People **Thanks be to God.**

[9:30 a.m. service]

Postlude

Praeludium in C, BuxWV 137

Dietrich Buxtehude

*The worship is over * The service begins*

Participating in Today's Liturgy:

Presider: The Rev. Mark Pendleton

Preacher: The Rev. Nicole Benevenia

Organist: Richard Benefield

Lector at 8:00 a.m.: Lucia Savage

Lector at 9:30 a.m.: Dale Cavanaugh

Intercessor at 9:30 a.m.: Athens Pullias

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

Eucharistic Ministers at 9:30 a.m.: Carol Allard, Robin Yergeau

Welcome Team/Usher: Elaine & Steve Portalupi

Live Streaming Tech: Will Sera

Altar Guild: Judy Blaisdell, Jeannette McDonald, Cynthia Swierk

Flower Delivery: Elaine Wiltamuth

Hospitality: Hospitality Team

A special thank you today for **Richard Benefield**, our organist today and a member of Christ Church. Richard has filled in on many Sundays this past year and was invaluable in our music staff transition as well as helping in the recruitment of Adam Peithmann as our new Director of Music and Organist. We could not have made it through without him!

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



This week at Christ Church
July 20-26

Sunday	PSP Rehearsal 12:30 p.m.
Mon-Fri	PSP Summer Session 9:00 a.m.
Friday	PSP Performance Hamlet 6:00 p.m.
Saturday	PSP Performance Hamlet 6:00 p.m.

CHRIST CHURCH

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VESTRY FOR 2025

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.



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 planned gift is: (check one or more that may apply)

- ☐ A bequest in my/our will
- ☐ Annuity, life insurance or retirement plan
- ☐ Direct gifts of cash, securities, real estate and other items
- ☐ Charitable gift annuities with lifetime payments
- ☐ Personal trust account
- ☐ Other: _____

I/we accept the invitation to join the Anchor Legacy Society.

I/we consent for my/our name/s to appear with others on the public roster of the Legacy Society.

On the roster of the Anchor Legacy Society, I/we wish my/our name/s to appear as:

Or ☐ I/we wish to remain anonymous.

Signature(s)

Date

Name/s

Address, City, State, Zip

Phone, Email

Tear off and send this form to: Office Administrator, Christ Church 43 Pine Street Exeter NH 03833