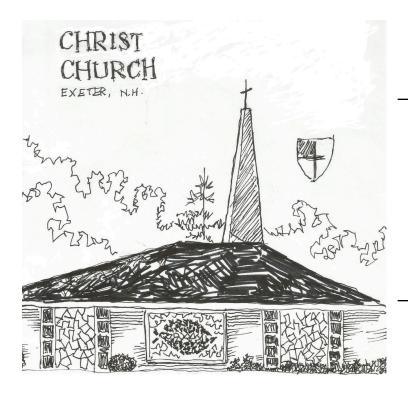
CHRIST CHURCH of Exeter



Live joyfully in faith

Connect with God and one another

Serve the local and global community

The Fourteenth Sunday After Pentecost September 14, 2025 8:00 a.m. & 10:00 a.m.

Reflections on Today's Readings

Sin and the need to repent are central to the liturgy today. In the reading from Luke, Jesus speaks in reply to those who complained that he had table fellowship with sinners. God, he says, cares about each person, seeks out each one, and rejoices as each sinner repents.

In the first reading Jeremiah laments what he foresees to be the consequence of the people's turning away from God. Like the hot wind from the desert which dries out and destroys, the prophet says, God will wipe away the kingdom of Judah. Jeremiah is known for his gloomy predictions; unfortunately for Judah, those predictions came true.

We begin a series of readings from the first

letter to Timothy today. Paul is described as the greatest of sinners because he persecuted the faith. However, his life is held up as proof of God's forgiveness. His having been accepted by God has equipped him to proclaim God's love to all people. Paul will urge Timothy to bring others into the goodness of God as well.

In our life of pilgrimage into God's Kingdom, Jesus—God among us—is the embodiment of God's unremitting call to us to come home to our true lover and friend. We are empowered by the Holy Spirit in baptism to share the vocation of Paul and Timothy (and countless other people of faith) to be instruments of God's love and forgiveness to the world.

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 a.m. service in our side chapel. Childcare is also offered today for during the later service in the nursery downstairs.

The Holy Eucharist

[10:00 a.m. service]

Prelude Melody Samuel Coleridge-Taylor

Welcome

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

[10:00 a.m. service]

Processional Hymn 408 Sing Praise to God who Reigns Above Mit Freuden zart

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.] Gloria 1. Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace to his peo-ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa ther, we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you Christ, on - ly Son of the take of the world: have the \sin a - way mer cy 5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of Fa-ther: the \mathbf{on} prayer. 6. For ceive our you a - lone the Lord, 7. you a - lone are the Most you a - lone are High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho ly Spi - rit,

Music: Robert Powell (b. 1932), rev. Setting: Copyright © Church Publishing Inc.

God

The Collect of the Day

ry of

A

men.

Fa - ther.

the

Presider The Lord be with you. People And also with you.

Presider Let us pray.

O God, because without you we are not able to please you, mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through 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

Jeremiah 14:11-12, 22-28

Reader A Reading from the Book of Jeremiah

At that time it will be said to this people and to Jerusalem: A hot wind comes from me out of the bare heights in the desert toward my poor people, not to winnow or cleanse-- a wind too strong for that. Now it is I who speak in judgment against them. "For my people are foolish, they do not know me; they are stupid children, they have no understanding. They are skilled in doing evil, but do not know how to do good." I looked on the earth, and lo, it was waste and void; and to the heavens, and they had no light.

I looked on the mountains, and lo, they were quaking, and all the hills moved to and fro. I looked, and lo, there was no one at all, and all the birds of the air had fled. I looked, and lo, the fruitful land was a desert, and all its cities were laid in ruins before the Lord, before his fierce anger. For thus says the Lord: The whole land shall be a desolation; yet I will not make a full end. Because of this the earth shall mourn, and the heavens above grow black; for I have spoken, I have purposed; I have not relented nor will I turn back.

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

Psalm 14 (read responsively by verse)

- 1 The fool has said in his heart, "There is no God." *
 All are corrupt and commit abominable acts; there is none who does any good.
- 2 The Lord looks down from heaven upon us all, * to see if there is any who is wise, if there is one who seeks after God.
- 3 Every one has proved faithless; all alike have turned bad; * there is none who does good; no, not one.
- 4 Have they no knowledge, all those evildoers * who eat up my people like bread and do not call upon the Lord?
- 5 See how they tremble with fear, * because God is in the company of the righteous.
- 6 Their aim is to confound the plans of the afflicted, * but the Lord is their refuge.
- 7 Oh, that Israel's deliverance would come out of Zion! *

when the Lord restores the fortunes of his people, Jacob will rejoice and Israel be glad.

The Second Reading

1 Timothy 1:12-17

Reader A Reading from the First Letter of Paul to Timothy

I am grateful to Christ Jesus our Lord, who has strengthened me, because he judged me faithful and appointed me to his service, even though I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and a man of violence. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief, and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that

Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners-- of whom I am the foremost. But for that very reason I received mercy, so that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display the utmost patience, making me an example to those who would come to believe in him for eternal life. To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

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

[10:00 a.m. service]

Sequence Hymn 706 vv. 1-2 In Your Mercy, Lord, you Called Me

Halton Holgate

The Gospel Luke 15:1-10

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

All the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to Jesus. And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them." So he told them this parable: "Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? When he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.' Just

so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance. Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? When she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.' Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

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

Intercessor: Let us pray for the Church and for the world. Grant Almighty God, that all who confess your name may be united in truth, live together in love, and reveal your glory in the world.

We pray for your holy Catholic Church:

That we all may be one.

We pray for the Episcopal Church in New Hampshire. We give thanks for the ministry of our bishop Rob, who has announced his retirement in 2027, and called for the election of a new bishop. Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you.

That your Name may be glorified by all people.

We pray for the clergy and lay leaders of this parish. That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

And guide your people with your light and love.

We pray for the President, for Congress and our state legislature, for the Supreme Court and for all courts; for all who govern and seek to govern in our nation and the nations of the world. **That they will seek your justice and your will.**

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake.

That our works may find favor in your sight.

Praise God for all those in whom Christ has been honored.

As we remembered the anniversary of 9/11 this week, we give thanks for all first responders, chaplains, and civil servants who respond to disasters and civil unrest. That we too may have grace to glorify Christ when we respond to those in need in our own day.

Silence

Have compassion on all who suffer from illness, bereavement and brokenness.

That they may be delivered from their distress.

We praise you for all your saints who have entered into joy.

That we may also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others, silently or aloud.

Silence

Today we pray for Mary, Andrew, Rourke, Tim, Bonnie, Carol, Casey, Sue, Janis, and Faith.

We invite your prayers either silently or aloud.

Silence

We pray for our rector Mark's visit to Cuba this next week. For his safe travel and return, and for the many bishops and guests traveling to Havana to attend the consecration of the next Bishop of Cuba on Thursday.

Presider

Lord of creation whose glory is around and within us: open our eyes to your wonders, that we may serve you with reverence and know your peace in our lives. To you we give glory, Father, Son and Holy Spirit now and forever. **Amen.**

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

Silence may be kept.

Leader and People

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

The Holy Communion

[10:00 a.m. service]

Offertory Anthem Jubilate (Let Us Praise You) attrib. Mozart/arr. A. Bullard

[10:00 a.m. service]

Offertory Hymn 448 O Love, How Deep Deus tuorum militum

[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.

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:

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

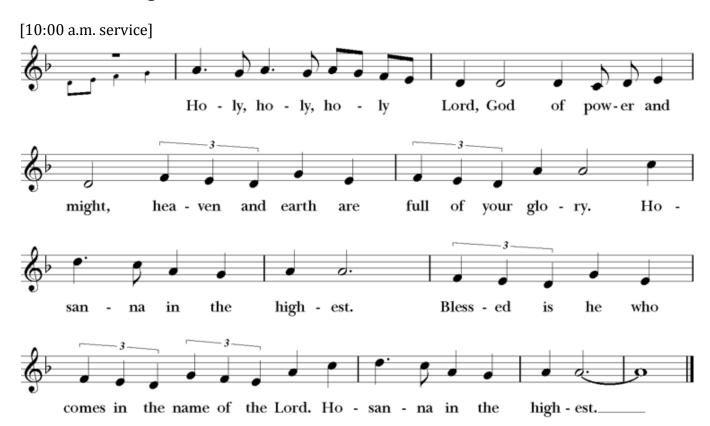
Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,

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.



Setting: Robert Powell (b. 1932)

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

[10:00 a.m. service]

Fraction Anthem: Wonder, Love and Praise Hymnal #875 Setting: Gary James (b. 1957)

(Cantor and Congregation sing refrain)

Refrain: Be known to us, Lord Jesus, in the breaking of the bread.

(Cantor) The bread which we break, alleluia, is the communion of the body of Christ. (Refrain)

(Cantor) One body are we, alleluia, for though many we share one bread. (Refrain)

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 684

O For a Closer Walk with God

Caithness

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 334 Praise the Lord, Rise Up Rejoicing Alles ist an Gottes Segen

The Dismissal

Priest Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People Thanks be to God.

[10:00 a.m. service]

Postlude Fantasia Eurydice V. Osterman

*The worship is over * The service begins*

Participating in Today's Liturgy:

Preacher/Presider: The Rev. Mark Pendleton

Children's Chapel at 10:00 a.m.: The Rev. Nicole Benevenia

Organist: Adam Peithmann Lector at 8:00 a.m.: Cary Einhaus

Intercessor at 8:00 a.m.:

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

Intercessor at 10:00 a.m.:

Eucharistic Minister at 8:00 a.m.: Sue Ingram

Eucharistic Ministers at 10:00 a.m.: Judy Blaisdell, Robin Yergeau

Welcome Team/Usher: Elizabeth Bauman, Elaine Portalupi

Live Streaming Tech: Nick Castillo

Altar Guild: Sue Ingram, Cindy Eaton, Jean Andreson

Flower Delivery: Carol Allard

Hospitality: Ann Junkin, Ann Malconian

Our rector Mark will be traveling to **Cuba** tomorrow for the consecration of Angel Rivera as the next Bishop of Cuba. He will spend 3 days in Cardenas, and preach next Sunday at our companion parish and share a community meal with the congregation. He will be back in the office Tuesday, September 23. Please reach out to the Rev. Nicole for any pastoral emergencies.

A Letter From Bishop Hirschfeld

September 5, 2025

Dear Friends in Jesus Christ,

It is with a full heart that I write to let you know of my intention to retire in March of 2027. Thirteen years ago, this beautiful and vibrant diocese conferred a tremendous honor upon me by asking if I would accept your election as the 10^{th} Bishop of New Hampshire. You had asked for someone you hoped would be your pastor through whatever right pathways God would lead us. I humbly accepted that vocation of bishop, sensing that I was not equipped or ready, but that if I were to be a bishop, I was called to this particular diocese, to this special people. It has been my deepest honor to be your bishop to the most of my ability.

Now, as I begin a 14th blessed year in your service, God is calling me to begin to step aside and to allow the diocese to prepare to welcome its next bishop. I have shared this discernment with both Presiding Bishop Sean Rowe and the Standing Committee who have already begun to put in place the necessary procedures for an episcopal election to take place on October 24, 2026.

Based upon the timing of garnering the necessary consents from the wider church, its standing committees and bishops, and upon the calendar of the Presiding Bishop, the new bishop would be ordained and given the crosier on March 6, 2027. At that time, I will have reached 66 years of age and will be in the $15^{\rm th}$ year of my consecration. The person whom God and people choose to succeed me will indeed be blessed to serve in this faithful place in God's pasture.

I bid your prayers, assure you of mine, and I look forward to the next year and half of Tending the Vine of Christ together for the sake of the world God cherishes with a love that is stronger than even death.

Gratefully Yours in the Abiding Christ,

The Rt. Rev. A. Robert Hirschfeld, Bishop of New Hampshire

This week at Christ Church September 14-20

Sunday	Children's Chapel at 10:00 a.m.
	Coffee Hour 11:15 a.m. in the Parish Hall

	Vestry 11:30 a.m. in the Community Room
	PSP Rehearsal 1:00 p.m.
Tuesday	Bible Study 11:00 a.m.
	PSP Rehearsal 5:30 p.m.
Wednesday	PSP Rehearsal 4:00 p.m.
	Choir Rehearsal 7:00 p.m.

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



CHRIST CHURCH

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

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SEXTON

Nick Castillo ncastillo@christchurchexeter.org

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:
/we accept the invitation to join the Anchor Legacy Society.
/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:
\mathbf{Dr} I/we wish to remain anonymous.
Signature(s) Date
Name/s
Address, City, State, Zip

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