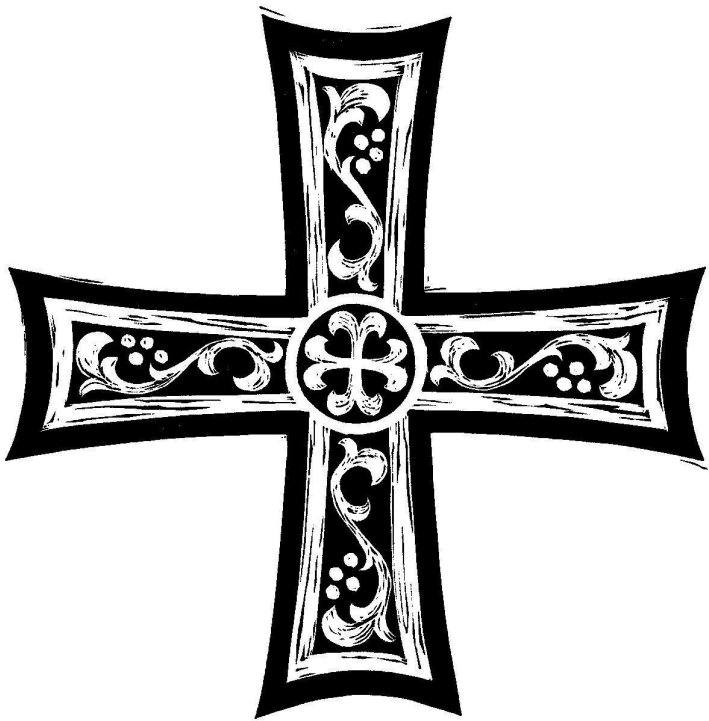


CHRIST CHURCH of Exeter



Live

joyfully in faith

Connect

with God and one another

Serve

the local and global community

The Seventeenth Sunday After Pentecost
October 5, 2025
8:00 a.m. & 10:00 a.m.

Reflections on Today's Readings

Today's liturgy focuses on faith. In the gospel reading, the disciples ask Jesus to increase their faith. His response is to teach that faith is expressed by being God's obedient servants, not doing so in expectation of a reward.

The prophet Habakkuk, writing at a time when powerful enemies threatened the very existence of Israel, also speaks of faith. After describing the terrible power of their foes, he brings a message from God that the day is coming when God will intervene on the people's behalf. The prophet says that, while the proud will be destroyed, the righteous will live by their faith.

The second reading is from the second letter to Timothy. The writer, after reminding Timothy of his heritage of a faithful family, speaks of his own vocation. Paul as a herald, apostle, and teacher has persevered, certain that God will be faithful to the promise to all people.

We gather as people on pilgrimage toward God. Like our forebears, the outcome of our journey cannot be seen now, but we trust that it will bring us to our true home with God. Faith is not merely a vague yearning for God, nor is it summed up in believing the correct doctrines about God. It is remaining true to God's call as we persevere in the journey as obedient servants.

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. Sunday School and childcare are both offered during the 10 a.m. service today.

The Holy Eucharist

[8:00 and 10:00 a.m. service]

Prelude "Allegretto" from Sonata no. 4 Felix Mendelssohn

Welcome

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

[10:00 a.m. service]

Processional Hymn 360 Only-begotten, Word of God Eternal Rouen

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
 Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you
 take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy
 on us; 5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re -
 ceive our prayer. 6. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One,
 you a - lone are the Lord, 7. you a - lone are the Most
 High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the
 glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

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

The Collect of the Day

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Let us pray.

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

✠ *The people sit.*

The First Reading

Habakkuk 1:1-4, 2:1-4

Reader A Reading from the Book of Habakkuk

The oracle that the prophet Habakkuk saw. O Lord, how long shall I cry for help, and you will not listen? Or cry to you "Violence!" and you will not save? Why do you make me see wrong-doing and look at trouble? Destruction and violence are before me; strife and contention arise. So the law becomes slack and justice never prevails. The wicked surround the righteous-- therefore judgment comes forth perverted. I will stand at my watchpost, and station myself on the rampart; I will keep watch to

see what he will say to me, and what he will answer concerning my complaint. Then the Lord answered me and said: Write the vision; make it plain on tablets, so that a runner may read it. For there is still a vision for the appointed time; it speaks of the end, and does not lie. If it seems to tarry, wait for it; it will surely come, it will not delay. Look at the proud! Their spirit is not right in them, but the righteous live by their faith.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 37:1-10 *(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.**

The Second Reading

2 Timothy 1:1-14

Reader A Reading from the Second Letter of Paul to Timothy

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, for the sake of the promise of life that is in Christ Jesus, To Timothy, my beloved child: Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord. I am grateful to God-- whom I worship with a clear conscience, as my ancestors did-- when I remember you constantly in my prayers night and day. Recalling your tears, I long to see you so that I may be filled with joy. I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that lived first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, lives in you. For this reason I remind you to rekindle the gift of God that is within you through the laying on of my hands; for God did not give us a spirit of cowardice, but rather a spirit of power and of love and of self-discipline. Do not be ashamed, then, of the testimony about our Lord or of me his prisoner, but join with

me in suffering for the gospel, relying on the power of God, who saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works but according to his own purpose and grace. This grace was given to us in Christ Jesus before the ages began, but it has now been revealed through the appearing of our Savior Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. For this gospel I was appointed a herald and an apostle and a teacher, and for this reason I suffer as I do. But I am not ashamed, for I know the one in whom I have put my trust, and I am sure that he is able to guard until that day what I have entrusted to him. Hold to the standard of sound teaching that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. Guard the good treasure entrusted to you, with the help of the Holy Spirit living in us.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

[10:00 a.m. service]

Sequence Hymn 691 vv. 1-2

My Faith Looks Up To Thee

Olivet

The Gospel

Luke 17:5-10

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

The apostles said to the Lord, "Increase our faith!" The Lord replied, "If you had faith the size of a mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it would obey you. "Who among you would say to your slave who has just come in from plowing or tending sheep in the field, 'Come here at once and take your place at the

table'? Would you not rather say to him, 'Prepare supper for me, put on your apron and serve me while I eat and drink; later you may eat and drink'? Do you thank the slave for doing what was commanded? So you also, when you have done all that you were ordered to do, say, 'We are worthless slaves; we have done only what we ought to have done!'"

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: (Adapted from “Unfinished Prayers,” by the Rev. Nadia Bolz-Weber)

Let us pray for the church, which is itself unfinished. And let us pray for this unfinished world. And let us pray also for each other - for we who, till the day we complete our baptismal journey, are also ever unfinished.

For our Bishop Rob, and for all the clergy and people. For our companion parish in Cárdenas, Cuba.

Silence

Lord in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

Holy God, Who makes all things new, we pray for your whole church – for those who call upon your name in every language and every manner. If agreement in doctrine eludes us, may our shared and desperate need for your mercy unite us. Knit us together with strands of your love, make us one, and help us to always take you more seriously than we take ourselves.

Silence

Lord in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

We pray for leaders of nations, that they may know that only you are God and act accordingly. We pray for peace that isn't just the absence of gunfire but the presence of dignity, and for justice that doesn't wait for the next election cycle.

Silence

Lord in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

We pray for those who suffer - and also for those who love them. For the sick and the dying, for the addicted and the incarcerated, for those whose pain is visible and those whose wounds are carefully hidden. We name them before you now, out loud or in our hearts...comfort them, Lord. Today we pray for Alice, Mary, Andrew, Rourke, Carol, Casey, Sue, Janis, and Faith.

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

Silence

Lord in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

And we remember those who have died —may their faults be forgiven and their strengths be borrowed. We remember Marcia McCallum, a one-time member of this parish whose Memorial Service will be held here tomorrow.

Silence

Lord in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

Presider: Gracious God, you have promised to be with us, and today we are claiming that promise as our own as we drop these prayers at your feet. Grant us wisdom. Grant us courage. For the facing of this hour, and the living of these days, lest we miss thy kingdom's goal. Through Jesus Christ, the friend of sinners, we pray: **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

October Birthday Prayer:

Watch over your children, O Lord, as their days increase; bless and guide them wherever they may be. Strengthen them when they stand; comfort them when discouraged or sorrowful; raise them up if they fall; and in their heart may your peace which passes understanding abide all the days of their life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Holy Communion

[8:00 a.m. service]

Offertory Music

Bye and Bye

arr. William Farley Smith

[10:00 a.m. service]

Offertory Anthem

Amazing Grace
Laura Wyskiel, Flute

David Ashley White

[10:00 a.m. service]

Offertory Hymn 607

O God of Every Nation

Llangloffan

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

[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 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.**

[10:00 a.m. service]

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er 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._____

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 623 O What Their Joy and Their Glory Must Be

O quanta qualia

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 551

Rise Up, Ye Saints of God

Festal Song

The Dismissal

Priest Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People **Thanks be to God.**

[8:00 and 10:00 a.m. service]

Postlude

Fantasy on Walk Together, Children

Spiritual/arr. André J. Thomas

*The worship is over * The service begins*

Participating in Today's Liturgy:

Preacher: The Rev. Nicole Benevenia

Presider: The Rev. Mark Pendleton

Organist: Adam Peithmann

Lector at 8:00 a.m.: Barb Cutting

Intercessor at 8:00 a.m.:

Lector at 10:00 a.m.: Rhys Cunningham

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

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

Eucharistic Ministers at 10:00 a.m.: Nancy Fleming

Welcome Team/Usher: Wendy MacArthur-Keith, Lissa Simard

Live Streaming Tech: Nick Castillo

Altar Guild: Shannon Tosatti, Carla Ranks, Danielle Larson-Clark

Flower Delivery: Langdon Place

Hospitality: Jen Murray, Kim Billings

The Rector's Discretionary Fund: The first Sunday of each month the loose plate cash or check offering/collection (not connected to pledges or general donations) will go towards this fund that supports people in need. Donations can be made to the fund at any time by check or online through our giving page on our website.

There will be a **Red Door Forum** today at 11:15, presented by the stewardship team and Adam Peithmann: our **Music Survey Reveal and Hymn Sing**. All are welcome!

Gifts for Children of Incarcerated Parents (CHiPS) Children of prison inmates can live lonely lives believing that a parent they seldom see just doesn't care. Similarly, inmates also find

themselves feeling isolated and abandoned, unable to provide for or to be a part of their families. Christmas is a time when we can help bridge that gap of loneliness with your help by donating one \$25 gift and a book to inmates in five different prisons in New Hampshire.

Both the families and the incarcerated parents themselves are deeply grateful for the opportunity that ChIPs afford them. Being able to offer their children a gift at the Christmas visit gives the inmates an opportunity for connection, for a sliver of normalcy in their family relations.

"I was sick, and you took care of me, in prison and you visited me." Matthew 25:35

Details below regarding gift guidelines:

- Gifts group according to the following age groups: birth to 1; ages 2 to 4; ages 5 to 7; ages 8-11; and ages 12-15
- Gifts should have a retail value of about \$25. It's fine to buy a gift that you got on sale for less, but please don't send something worth more than you got on sale for \$25. Equality in gifts for all important.
- One \$25 gift is preferable to five \$5 gifts as it is difficult to group items together to equal a \$25 gift
- If you purchase a gift that requires batteries, please include those with the gift. Consider buying a gift that would be appropriate for both boys and girls such as balls or board games.

Don't forget the older children. It is often easier to buy gifts for younger children. There is always a shortage of gifts for older children. Used items, homemade items, cash or gift cards cannot be accepted. The following items are NOT acceptable: jewelry, balloons, crayons, play dough, glue, bubbles, make up, long sticks, knitting needles, crochet hooks, paint brushes, glass items, clothing, sharp tools, or toy weapons of any kind. We'll be collecting gifts in our narthex leading up to October 26 in order to bring them to our annual Diocesan Convention on November 1. Jeanette McDonald is leading this project for us. jpmcdonald243@gmail.com

Did you misplace a pair of glasses, sunglasses, or jewelry at church? Check in with our administrator Darla during office hours to see if your missing item is in our **lost and found** area in the main office. Items left in the lost and found for multiple months will be donated.

Reminder for young families: there will be **no children's programming or childcare next week**, October 12 due to school break week. Childcare resumes on October 19, as does Sunday School. Please see the children's table and enews for the posted October 2025 schedule.

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



**This week at Christ Church
September 28-October 4**

Sunday	Red Door Forum 11:15 a.m. PSP Rehearsal 1:00 p.m.
Monday	Memorial Service for Marcia McCallum at 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.

CHRIST CHURCH

43 Pine St., Exeter, NH 03833

Phone: (603) 772-3332 *E-mail:* office@christchurchexeter.org

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

RECTOR

[cell phone 860 490-8544]

The Rev. Mark Pendleton	mpendleton@christchurchexeter.org
CURATE The Rev. Nicole Benevenia	nbenevenia@christchurchexeter.org
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC & ORGANIST Adam Peithmann	apeithmann@christchurchexeter.org
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT & SAFE CHURCH MINISTER Darla Watt	office@christchurchexeter.org
BOOKKEEPER Jason Mignone	bookkeeper@christchurchexeter.org
ARTISTIC DIRECTOR OF PINE STREET PLAYERS Lexi Meunier	thepinestreetplayers@gmail.com
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.