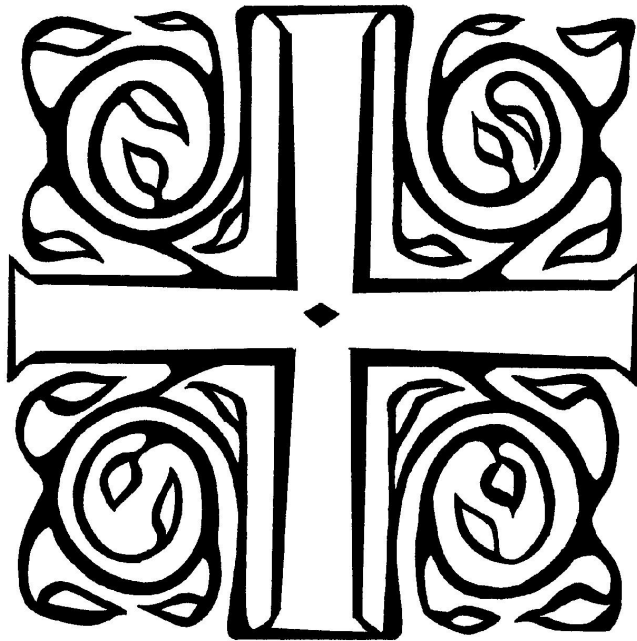


# CHRIST CHURCH of Exeter



---

*Live*  
joyfully in faith

*Connect*  
with God and one another

*Serve*  
the local and global community

---

Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany  
February 1, 2026  
8:00 & 10:00 a.m.

**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 offered today during the later service.

**In recognition of Black History Month**, our services during the month of February will feature musical compositions by Black organists. This week's prelude will be "Retrospection" by Florence Price. Florence Price was a pioneering composer, organist, pianist, and educator whose work holds an important place in American classical music.

### **The Holy Eucharist**

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

|                |               |                |
|----------------|---------------|----------------|
| <b>Prelude</b> | Retrospection | Florence Price |
|----------------|---------------|----------------|

### **Welcome**

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

[10:00 a.m. service]

|                              |                                  |                     |
|------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------|
| <b>Processional Hymn 398</b> | I Sing the Almighty Power of God | <i>Forest Green</i> |
|------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------|

*Presider* Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

*People* **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

*Presider and People:* **Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

[10:00 a.m. service] **Song of Praise**

Great are you, Lord: you are ho-ly and just; by your pow-er we trust in your

love. Great are you, Lord: you are faith-ful and true; by your

mer-cy you prove you are love. Great are you, Lord, and

wor-thy of glo-ry! Great are you, Lord, and wor-thy of praise.

Great are you, Lord. We lift up our voice; we lift up our voice:

great are you, Lord! Great are you, Lord!

Text and Music: Michael W. Smith and Deborah D. Smith

**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 govern all things both in heaven and on earth: Mercifully hear the supplications of your people, and in our time grant us your peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

✠ *The people sit.*

## The First Reading

Micah 6:1-8

*Reader* A Reading from the Book of Micah

---

Hear what the Lord says: Rise, plead your case before the mountains, and let the hills hear your voice. Hear, you mountains, the controversy of the Lord, and you enduring foundations of the earth; for the Lord has a controversy with his people, and he will contend with Israel. "O my people, what have I done to you? In what have I wearied you? Answer me! For I brought you up from the land of Egypt, and redeemed you from the house of slavery; and I sent before you Moses, Aaron, and Miriam. O my people, remember now what King Balak of Moab devised, what Balaam son of Beor answered him, and what

happened from Shittim to Gilgal, that you may know the saving acts of the Lord." "With what shall I come before the Lord, and bow myself before God on high? Shall I come before him with burnt-offerings, with calves a year old? Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams, with tens of thousands of rivers of oil? Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?" He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

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

### **Psalm 15** *(read responsively by verse)*

- 1 Lord, who may dwell in your tabernacle? \*  
who may abide upon your holy hill?
- 2 **Whoever leads a blameless life and does what is right, \***  
**who speaks the truth from his heart.**
- 3 There is no guile upon his tongue; he does no evil to his friend; \*  
he does not heap contempt upon his neighbor.
- 4 **In his sight the wicked is rejected, \***  
**but he honors those who fear the Lord.**
- 5 He has sworn to do no wrong \*  
and does not take back his word.
- 6 **He does not give his money in hope of gain, \***  
**nor does he take a bribe against the innocent.**
- 7 Whoever does these things \*  
shall never be overthrown.

## The Second Reading

1 Corinthians 1:18-31

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

---

The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are

being saved it is the power of God. For it is written, "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,

and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart." Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is

stronger than human strength. Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to reduce to nothing things that are, so that no one might boast in the presence of God. He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, in order that, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."

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

[10:00 a.m. service]

**Sequence Hymn 440 vv. 1 & 3**

Blessed Jesus, At Thy Word

*Liebster Jesu*

## The Gospel

**Matthew 5:1-12**

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

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying: "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart, for

they will see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

*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.**

**A Litany of the Beatitudes**

*Leader:* Lord have mercy

*People:* **Lord have mercy**

*Leader:* Christ have mercy

*People:* **Christ have mercy**

*Leader:* Lord have mercy

*People:* **Lord have mercy**

*Leader:* Blessed are the poor in spirit

*People:* **Theirs is the kingdom of heaven**

*Leader:* Blessed are the mourning

*People:* **They will be comforted**

*Leader:* Blessed are the meek

*People:* **They will inherit the land**

*Leader:* Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for righteousness

*People:* **They will be satisfied**

*Leader:* Blessed are the merciful

*People:* **They will receive mercy**

*Leader:* Blessed are the clean in heart

*People:* **They will see God**

*Leader:* Blessed are those who work for peace

*People:* **They will be called children of God**

*Leader:* Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness

*People:* **Theirs is the kingdom of heaven.**

We pray for those we know who are in need of healing and strength:

For Barbara, John, Carol, Casey, Steve, Rick, Sue, Miles

*Silence*

For those who have died.

For Aline Perreault, grandmother of Tyler Turcotte

For Richard Parker, Jr., brother of Allen Parker

For Benjamin Weatherspoon, son of Russell and Jackie, who died last summer

*Silence*

*Leader:* Lord Jesus Christ

*People:* **Hear our prayer**

*Leader:* Savior of the world  
*People:* **Hear our prayer**

*Leader:* Comfort of the sorrowing  
*People:* **Hear our prayer**

*Leader:* Refuge of the weak  
*People:* **Hear our prayer**

*Leader:* Seeker of justice  
*People:* **Hear our prayer**

*Leader:* Brother to the outcast  
*People:* **Hear our prayer**

*Leader:* Light to sinners  
*People:* **Hear our prayer**

*Leader:* Prince of peace  
*People:* **Hear our prayer**

*Leader:* Redeemer of the world  
*People:* **Hear our prayer**

*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.**

### **Confession of Sin**

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

**Most merciful God,  
we confess that we have sinned against you  
in thought, word, and deed,  
by what we have done,  
and by what we have left undone.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.  
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
have mercy on us and forgive us;  
that we may delight in your will,  
and walk in your ways,  
to the glory of your Name. Amen.**



## Absolution

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

## The Peace

*Presider* The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*✠ The people greet one another in the name of the Lord. The Peace may be expressed by shaking hands, bowing, "fist or elbow bumps", namaste greeting, putting hand over heart, waving, making the peace sign, and by offering a smile.*

## February 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.**

## Announcements

## The Holy Communion

[8:00 a.m. service at the Presentation of the Gifts]

*Presider* All things come of thee, O Lord.

*People* **And of thine own have we given thee. Amen.**

[10:00 a.m. service]

**Offertory Anthem**

Like the Murmur of the Dove's Song

Alan Smith

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

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

**Offertory Hymn 374** Come, Let Us Join Our Cheerful Songs *Nun danket all und bringet Ehr*

## The Great Thanksgiving Eucharistic Prayer B BCP Pg. 367

*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. Because in the mystery of the Word made flesh, you have

caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give the knowledge of your glory in the face of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Therefore, we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your name:

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

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

[10:00 a.m. service] **Holy, holy, holy Lord - S 127**

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: Calvin Hampton

*The Presider continues*

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

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

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

*Presider and People*

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

*The Presider continues*

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

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

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

*The Presider then continues*

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

*People and Presider*

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

### **The Breaking of the Bread**

✠ *A period of silence is kept.*

[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](WLP 873) Fraction Anthem: Those Who Eat My Flesh

Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia. Those who

eat my flesh and drink my blood a - bide in me and

I in them. Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia.

Setting: Carl Haywood

### 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.

### Instructions Concerning Communion and Healing

*You are invited to receive Holy Communion. Following the usher's instructions, we begin with those seated in the side sections, starting with the front pews. Please go to the back of the church and proceed down the center aisle to the communion rail. Return to your seat using the outside aisles of those sections. Those seated in the center sections, please come forward beginning with the back pews using the center aisle and return using the diagonal aisles.*

*Communion may be received kneeling or standing at the altar rails. The bread is received in the open palm. (Gluten-free wafers are available). You may drink from the cup, or place your hand on the base as a sign of devotion. Intinction, dipping the wafer into the wine, is also acceptable. Those who do not wish to receive Communion are invited to come forward for a blessing, indicated by crossing your arms over your chest.*

*Communion can also be brought to you in the pews. Please communicate this request to an usher or the clergy. The Healing team is available to offer healing prayers at the side of the church. Please tell your healing minister if you have a specific prayer need and if you would like a laying on of hands, just prayers or both.*

[10:00 a.m. service]

**Communion Hymn 593**      Lord, Make Us Servants of Your Peace

*Dickinson College*

### **Post-Communion Prayer**

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

*Presider and People*

**Eternal God, heavenly Father,  
you have graciously accepted us as living members  
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,  
and you have fed us with spiritual food  
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.  
Send us now into the world in peace,  
and grant us strength and courage  
to love and serve you  
with gladness and singleness of heart;  
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

### **The Blessing**

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

**Recessional Hymn 556 vv. 1-5**

Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart!

*Marion*

### **The Dismissal**

*Priest* Let us bless the Lord.

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

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

**Postlude**

*Fugue from Sonata II*

Felix Mendelssohn

---

*The worship is over \* The service begins*

---

**Participating in Today's Liturgy:**

Preacher: The Rev. Mark Pendleton

Presider: The Rev. Nicole Benevenia

Lector at 8:00 a.m.: Fran Hall

Intercessor at 8:00 a.m.: Cary Einhaus

Lector at 10:00 a.m.: Dale Cavanaugh

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

Eucharistic Minister at 8:00 a.m.: Jeannette McDonald

Eucharistic Minister at 10:00 a.m.: Nancy Fleming, Suzanne Jalbert Jones

Welcome Team/Usher: David Mahoney

Live Streaming Tech: Nick Castillo

Altar Guild: Barbara McGrath, Carla Ranks, Judy Blaisdell

Flower Delivery: Langdon Place

Hospitality: Annie Junkin, Ann Malconian

**Contribution statements** for the year 2025 will be available on Sunday after each service and at the Annual Meeting. Please stop by and pick up your statement. This will save us the cost of mailing them out. If you would like a copy emailed to you, send a message to [treasurer@christchurchexeter.org](mailto:treasurer@christchurchexeter.org).

**Our Men's Group** will offer a special breakfast today between the 8:00 and 10:00 a.m. services, and after the 10:00 a.m. service in the Parish Hall.

**Christ Church Exeter, a Creation Story:** Several years ago, David Corbett wrote a short play about the origins and history of Christ Church, including the Phillips Exeter students who called for the opening of an Episcopal Church in Exeter, and the work and fundraising of Caroline Harris, who made the construction possible. Join us following the 10:00 a.m. service **today** in the Parish Hall (a.k.a. Harris Hall!) for a reading of this play by a group of parishioners. Come and learn about the wonderful people who made our church possible.

**Labyrinth Mini-Retreat:** Join us for a "mini-retreat" for the season of Epiphany on Thursday, February 5 from 5:30-7:30 PM. We'll gather first for a simple soup supper, followed by a candlelit guided labyrinth walk in the Parish Hall lead by Robin Yergeau. We'll conclude with a compline service in the chapel. Please find the sign up link in the enews, or directly email Robin at [ryerg03@gmail.com](mailto:ryerg03@gmail.com)

**Collecting Medicine for Companion Parish in Cuba for our March Mission Trip:** There is an urgent humanitarian need for any medication that we can carry down with us, so we are again asking for donations of the following: (Generics are fine!) Most need: Tylenol and Advil, Children's Tylenol, Benadryl tablets, Aspirin, Glucosamine / Chondroitin, B12 vitamins, Vitamin E, Vitamin C, Folic acid, Adult multivitamins, Bengay type muscle rub, Voltaren Arthritis cream, Centrum. Antibiotic creams, Probiotics, Bandages. Omeprazole (brand names Zegerid OTC, OmePPi, Prilosec OTC) and Ranitidine (Zantac 75, Wal-Zan 150). You can drop off any donations at the church office or in the bin in the Narthex. We are also looking for **suitcases**.

**Music on Good Friday at Christ Church:** On April 3 at 7 pm, the Christ Church Exeter Choir will present Seven Last Words by Michael John Trotta during the Good Friday service, accompanied by

a chamber orchestra. Singers from the parish and the wider community are warmly invited to participate—no prior choir or church experience required. To sign up or learn more, contact Adam Peithmann, Director of Music and Organist, at [apeithmann@christchurchexeter.org](mailto:apeithmann@christchurchexeter.org). Or feel free to speak with Adam after Sunday services.

Rehearsal Schedule:

Wednesday, February 11 – 7:00–8:30 pm  
 Wednesday, February 25 – 7:00–8:30 pm  
 Wednesday, March 4 – 7:00–8:30 pm  
 Wednesday, March 11 – 7:00–8:30 pm  
 Wednesday, March 18 – 7:00–8:30 pm  
 Wednesday, March 25 – 7:00–8:30 pm  
 Wednesday, April 1 – 7:00–9:00 pm (with instrumentalists)

Good Friday Service:

Friday, April 3 – 6:00 pm call, 7:00 pm service

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



**This week at Christ Church  
February 1-7**

|           |  |
|-----------|--|
| Sunday    | PSP Rehearsal 1:00 p.m.                              |
| Tuesday   | Bible Study 11:00 a.m.<br>PSP Rehearsal 5:30 p.m.    |
| Wednesday | PSP Rehearsal 4:00 p.m.<br>Choir Rehearsal 7:00 p.m. |
| Thursday  | Labyrinth Mini Retreat 5:30 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**

The Rev. Mark Pendleton

[cell phone 860 490-8544]

mpendleton@christchurchexeter.org

### **ASSOCIATE RECTOR**

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

ssexton@christchurchexeter.org

## **VESTRY FOR 2026**

Senior Warden

Patricia Gianotti

Junior Warden

Jennifer Murray

Treasurer

Richard Ingram

Clerk

Susan Dixon

Scott Anders

Elizabeth Bauman

Kate Mignone

Blake Carrico

Cindy Eaton

Matthew Rigatti

Juliette Gavin

Athens Pullias, Jr.

Laura Tetrault