

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 5, 2026
8:00 a.m. & 9:30 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.

The Holy Eucharist

[9:30 a.m. service]

Prelude Andante espressivo from *Grand Sonata, op. 22* Dudley Buck

Welcome

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

[9:30 a.m. service]

Processional Hymn 718 God of our fathers, whose almighty hand *National Hymn*

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.

O God, you have taught us to keep all your commandments by loving you and our neighbor: Grant us the grace of your Holy Spirit, that we may be devoted to you with our whole heart, and united to one another with pure affection; 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

Genesis 24:34-38, 42-49, 58-67

Reader A Reading from the Book of Genesis

The servant said to Laban, "I am Abraham's servant. The Lord has greatly blessed my master, and he has become wealthy; he has given him flocks and herds, silver and gold, male and female slaves, camels and donkeys.

And Sarah my master's wife bore a son to my master when she was old; and he has given him all that he has. My master made me swear, saying, 'You shall not take a wife for my son from the daughters of the Canaanites, in

whose land I live; but you shall go to my father's house, to my kindred, and get a wife for my son.' "I came today to the spring, and said, 'O Lord, the God of my master Abraham, if now you will only make successful the way I am going! I am standing here by the spring of water; let the young woman who comes out to draw, to whom I shall say, "Please give me a little water from your jar to drink," and who will say to me, "Drink, and I will draw for your camels also" —let her be the woman whom the Lord has appointed for my master's son.' "Before I had finished speaking in my heart, there was Rebekah coming out with her water jar on her shoulder; and she went down to the spring, and drew. I said to her, 'Please let me drink.' She quickly let down her jar from her shoulder, and said, 'Drink, and I will also water your camels.' So I drank, and she also watered the camels. Then I asked her, 'Whose daughter are you?' She said, 'The daughter of Bethuel, Nahor's son, whom Milcah bore to him.' So I put the ring on her nose, and the bracelets on her arms. Then I bowed my head and worshiped the Lord, and blessed the Lord, the God of my master Abraham, who had led me by the right way to obtain the daughter of my master's kinsman for his son. Now then, if you

will deal loyally and truly with my master, tell me; and if not, tell me, so that I may turn either to the right hand or to the left." And they called Rebekah, and said to her, "Will you go with this man?" She said, "I will." So they sent away their sister Rebekah and her nurse along with Abraham's servant and his men. And they blessed Rebekah and said to her, "May you, our sister, become thousands of myriads; may your offspring gain possession of the gates of their foes." Then Rebekah and her maids rose up, mounted the camels, and followed the man; thus the servant took Rebekah, and went his way. Now Isaac had come from Beer-lahai-roi, and was settled in the Negeb. Isaac went out in the evening to walk in the field; and looking up, he saw camels coming. And Rebekah looked up, and when she saw Isaac, she slipped quickly from the camel, and said to the servant, "Who is the man over there, walking in the field to meet us?" The servant said, "It is my master." So she took her veil and covered herself. And the servant told Isaac all the things that he had done. Then Isaac brought her into his mother Sarah's tent. He took Rebekah, and she became his wife; and he loved her. So Isaac was comforted after his mother's death.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 145:8-15 (*read responsively by verse*)

8 The Lord is gracious and full of compassion, *
slow to anger and of great kindness.

**9 The Lord is loving to everyone *
and his compassion is over all his works.**

10 All your works praise you, O Lord, *
and your faithful servants bless you.

**11 They make known the glory of your kingdom *
and speak of your power;**

12 That the peoples may know of your power *

and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.

**13 Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom; *
your dominion endures throughout all ages.**

14 The Lord is faithful in all his words *
and merciful in all his deeds.

**15 The Lord upholds all those who fall; *
he lifts up those who are bowed down.**

The Second Reading

Romans 7:15-25a

Reader A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans

I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. Now if I do what I do not want, I agree that the law is good. But in fact it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me. For I know that nothing good dwells within me, that is, in my flesh. I can will what is right, but I cannot do it. For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do. Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I that do

it, but sin that dwells within me. So I find it to be a law that when I want to do what is good, evil lies close at hand. For I delight in the law of God in my inmost self, but I see in my members another law at war with the law of my mind, making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. Wretched man that I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

✠ *The people stand as they are able.*

[9:30 a.m. service]

Sequence Hymn 11 vv. 1-2 Awake, my soul, and with the sun

Morning Hymn

The Gospel

Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

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

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

Jesus said to the crowd, "To what will I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to one another, 'We played the flute for you, and you did not dance; we wailed, and you did not mourn.' For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, 'He has a demon'; the Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, 'Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!' Yet wisdom is vindicated by her deeds." At that time Jesus said, "I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you

have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him. "Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart,

and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

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.**

The Prayers of the People: Form I BCP pg. 383

Intercessor: With all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord, saying "Lord, have mercy."

For the peace from above, for the loving-kindness of God, and for the salvation of our souls, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the world, for the welfare of the Holy Church of God, and for the unity of all peoples, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For our Bishop Rob, and for all the clergy and people, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For our President, for the leaders of the nations, and for all in authority.

We give thanks for the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. For those who imagined this vision, and for those who continue advocating for and pursuing a land of peace, liberty, and equity for all.

May we hold fast to the dream and unity within our country.

Let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For this town of Exeter and the Seacoast region, for every city and community, and for those who live in them, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the good earth which God has given us, and for the wisdom and will to conserve it, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the sick and the suffering. For those impacted by high temperatures.

Silence

We pray for Susan, Phill, David, Sue, Steve.

We remember those for whom you are praying, either silently or aloud.

Silence

Let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the poor and the oppressed, for the unemployed and the destitute, for prisoners and captives, and for all who remember and care for them, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, and for all the departed.

Silence

Let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy

For deliverance from all danger, violence, oppression, and degradation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

That we may end our lives in faith and hope, without suffering and without reproach, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

In the communion of saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life, to Christ our God.

To you, O Lord our God.

Silence

Presider: Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth: Mercifully accept the prayers of your people, and strengthen us to do your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Confession of Sin

Presider

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

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

[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 offering is brought forward.*

[9:30 a.m. service]

Offertory Hymn 644

How sweet the Name of Jesus sounds

St. Peter

The Great Thanksgiving from the Iona Community in Scotland

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 our thanks and praise.**

Presider

It is indeed right, for you made us, and before us,
you made the world we inhabit,
and before the world, you made the eternal home
in which, through Christ, we have a place.

All that is spectacular, all that is plain have their origin in you;
all that is lovely, all who are loving, point to you as their fulfillment.

And grateful as we are for the world we know,
and the universe beyond our ken,
we particularly praise you, whom eternity cannot contain,
for coming down to earth and into time in Jesus.
For his life which informs our living,
for his compassion which changes our hearts,
for his clear speaking which contradicts our harmless generalities,
for his disturbing presence,
his innocent suffering, his fearless dying, his rising to life breathing forgiveness,
we praise you and worship him.

Here too our gratitude rises for the promise of the Holy Spirit,
who even yet, even here, confronts us with your claims
and attracts us to your goodness.

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.**

[9:30 a.m. service]

Wonder, Love, and Praise #859 - Holy, holy, holy Lord

The musical score is written on two staves in G major (one sharp) and 2/2 time. The first staff begins with a whole rest, followed by a whole note G4, a half note A4, a quarter note B4, a quarter note C5, a quarter note B4, a quarter note A4, and a whole note G4. The lyrics "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord," are aligned under these notes. The second staff begins with a whole note G4, a half note A4, a quarter note B4, a quarter note C5, a quarter note B4, a quarter note A4, and a whole note G4. The lyrics "God of power and might," are aligned under these notes. This is followed by a double bar line with a repeat sign, then a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note B4, a quarter note C5, a quarter note B4, a quarter note A4, and a quarter note G4. The lyrics "hea-ven and earth are" are aligned under these notes. This is followed by a double bar line with a repeat sign, then a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note B4, a quarter note C5, a quarter note B4, a quarter note A4, and a quarter note G4. The lyrics "full of your glo-ry." are aligned under these notes. There are triplets over the last two groups of notes.

Ho-san-na, Ho-san-na, Ho-san-na in the high - est.

**Bles - sed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Ho-san-na, Ho-san-na, Ho-san-na in the high - est.

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

The Presider continues

Jesus was always the guest. In the homes of Peter and Jairus, Martha and Mary, Joanna and Susanna, he was always the guest. At the meal tables of the wealthy where he pled the case of the poor, he was always the guest. Upsetting polite company, befriending isolated people, welcoming the stranger, he was always the guest.

But here, at this table, he is the host. Those who wish to serve him must first be served by him. Those who want to follow him must first be fed by him. For this is the table where God intends us to be nourished. This is the time when Christ can make us new. So come, you who hunger and thirst for a deeper faith, for a better life, for a fairer world. Jesus Christ, who has sat at our tables, now invites us to be guests at his.

On the night on which he was betrayed, and as they were sitting at a meal, Jesus gave thanks, took a piece of bread and broke it. He gave it to the disciples saying, "This is my body. It is broken for you. Do this to remember me."

Later, after they had eaten, he took a cup of wine, gave thanks and said, "This cup is the new relationship with God made possible because of my death. Drink this all of you, to remember me."

So now we do as Jesus did. We take this bread and this wine, the produce of the earth and the fruit of human labor. In these, Jesus has promised to be present; through these, Christ can make us whole.

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Presider and People
Christ has died.

**Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.**

Presider We ask, merciful God, that you send, in kindness, your Holy Spirit to settle on this bread and wine and fill them with the fullness of Jesus. Let that same Spirit rest on us, converting us from the patterns of this passing world, until we conform to the shape of him whose food we now share.

All **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. & 9:30 a.m. service]

Presider Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

Instructions Concerning Communion & 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. Return to your seat using the outside aisles of those sections. Those seated in the center sections, please come forward beginning with the front 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 693

Just as I am, without one plea

Woodworth

Post-Communion Prayer

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

Presider and People

**In deep gratitude for this moment,
this meal, and for each other,
we give ourselves to you, most holy God.
Take us out into the world
to live as changed people
because we have shared the Living Bread
and cannot remain the same.
Ask much of us,
expect much from us,
enable much by us,
encourage many through us.
May we dedicate our lives to your glory. Amen.**

The Blessing

In darkness and in light, in trouble and in joy, help us God, to trust your love, to serve your purpose, and to praise your name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. The Lord bless you and watch over you, the Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you, the Lord look kindly on you and give you peace; and the blessing of God almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be with you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

[9:30 a.m. service]

Recessional Hymn 717

My country, 'tis of thee

America

The Dismissal

Priest Let us go forth to love and serve the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

[9:30 a.m. service]

Postlude

Allegro con brio from *Grand Sonata, op. 22*

Dudley Buck

*The worship is over * The service begins*

Participating in Today's Liturgy:

Presider/Preacher: The Rev. Mark Pendleton

Organist: Adam Peithmann

Lector at 8:00 a.m.: Ally Carrico

Intercessor at 8:00 a.m.: Ally Carrico

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

Lector at 9:30 a.m.: John Kunowski

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

Eucharistic Ministers at 9:30 a.m.: Judy Blaisdell, Dale Cavanaugh

Welcome Team/Ushers: Dave Mahoney, Athens Pullias

Live Streaming Tech: Nick Castillo

Altar Guild: Cynthia Swierk, Shannon Tosatti, Jean Andreson

Flower Delivery: Langdon Place

Hospitality: Adrienne Spear, Jen Murray

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. This past week we were able to send \$500 of food to fund weekly meals at our companion parish in Cardenas, Cuba.

ABOUT THE IONA COMMUNITY: The Iona Community is an ecumenical Christian community off the coast of western Scotland that is committed to seeking new ways of living the Gospel in today's world. Initially its purpose was expressed through the rebuilding of the monastic quarters of the mediaeval abbey on Iona, and pursued in mission and ministry throughout Scotland and beyond. The Community remains committed to rebuilding the common life through working for social and political change, striving for the renewal of the church with an ecumenical emphasis, and exploring new, more inclusive approaches to worship.

Summer Impromptu Choir: No experience, no special rehearsal, no problem! Our Impromptu choirs are open to anyone who loves to make a joyful noise. Simply show up at 9 am on the July 12 and August 2 help us fill the sanctuary with joyful song.

The Sunday morning book group will meet after the 9:30 am service once a month in July and August. In the coming weeks, we will be reading [*Wholehearted Faith*](#) by Rachel Held Evans. Our next meeting to share our thoughts and inspirations will be on **Sunday, July 12th, after the 9:30 am service**, under the trees between the Memorial Garden and the Labyrinth. Please bring your own chairs if the weather allows us to meet outside.

Zoom Morning Prayer and Compline on Zoom: A gathering of Christ Church Exeter members will continue to meet for 9 am Morning Prayer and now 8 pm Compline on Wednesdays throughout the Season of Pentecost. As your schedules allow, please join us for [Morning Prayer and Compline on Zoom](#) in the weeks to come, beginning and ending our day with prayerful reflection on God's word. In Pentecost, we will be praying the beautiful Daily Office in the [Green Mountain Online Abbey](#), developed and updated each week by the Episcopal Diocese of Vermont. If you are interested in learning more, being formed, and experiencing this ancient Christian practice, please reach out to Dale Pinkham Cavanaugh at 508-783-7798 or email her at dale.cavanaugh@yahoo.com

No experience, no special rehearsal, no problem! Our **Impromptu choirs** are open to anyone who loves to make a joyful noise. Simply show up at 9 am on the Sundays listed below and help us fill the sanctuary with joyful song. The next dates are **July 12 and August 2**.

Christ Church hosts a participant-run **Grief Support Group** on the second Monday of every month. The group meets from 2-3:30 p.m. in Room #4 of the Harris Building. The group welcomes those interested in exploring their grieving process in a supportive environment. Sessions are free. No registration is needed and participants are not expected to make an ongoing commitment to attend. For further information, contact Christ Church parishioner Becky Moore, 603-778-8312.

The next **Labyrinth Walk** will be Sunday, July 19 at 11:00 a.m. All are welcome.

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



CHRIST CHURCH

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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