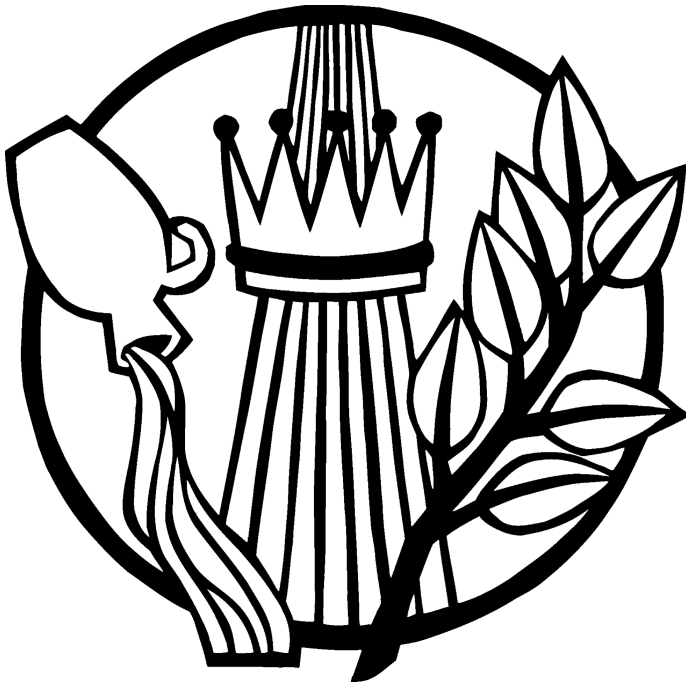


CHRIST CHURCH of Exeter



Live
joyfully in faith

Connect
with God and one another

Serve
the local and global community

September 12, 2021
The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost
8:00 and 10:00 am
www.christchurchexeter.org

Reflections on Today's Readings

Today's liturgy is similar in theme to the feast of the Holy Cross (September 14), which always falls near this Sunday of the Church year. The Gospel reading is Peter's acknowledgement of Jesus as the Messiah, which was followed by Jesus' first prediction of his crucifixion and resurrection. Jesus calls his followers to pattern their own lives on his, sharing in the self-giving love which leads to the Cross.

The Old Testament reading from Isaiah is the third of the poems called the "Servant Songs." In them the prophet foresees the servant of God suffering persecution and death for his faithfulness to God, a death which would be redemptive for all people. The first Christians, following Jesus' teaching, understood Isaiah's oracle to have been fulfilled in the dying and rising of Jesus.

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. Welcome bags available in the narthex entrance hall.

Guidelines for Gathering Indoors: Because New Hampshire (and Rockingham County) is in the "substantial spread" category of Covid-19 infection, we have changed our policy to that of "**Masks Required**" for those worshipping indoors on Sunday mornings and using our buildings. Wearing masks indoors is a proven way to reduce the spread of Covid-19, even for the vaccinated. We encourage all those who can to get vaccinated.

We offer communion in one kind. It should be understood that communion in one kind (bread/wafer only) is sufficient to experience the Real Presence of our Risen Lord.

A Thought to Focus our Day: God is more concerned about what is happening *in* me than what is happening *to* me. *Gordon R. Bear*

[10:00 service] **Prelude**

Prelude and Fugue in G major (BWV 550)

J. S. Bach

Welcome

Page 355 in the Book of Common Prayer

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

[10:00 service] **Hymn 47, vv. 1-3**

On this day, the first of days

Gott Sei Dank

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

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

The Collect of the Day

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 First Reading

Isaiah 50:4-9a

Reader A Reading from the Book of Isaiah

The Lord God has given me the tongue of a teacher, that I may know how to sustain the weary with a word. Morning by morning he wakens--wakens my ear to listen as those who are taught. The Lord God has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious, I did not turn backward. I gave my back to those who struck me, and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard; I did not hide my face from insult and

spitting. The Lord God helps me; therefore I have not been disgraced; therefore I have set my face like flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame; he who vindicates me is near. Who will contend with me? Let us stand up together. Who are my adversaries? Let them confront me. It is the Lord God who helps me; who will declare me guilty?

Reader The word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 116:1-8 (page 759 in the Book of Common Prayer) *(read responsively by verse)*

1 I love the Lord, because he has heard the voice of my supplication, *
because he has inclined his ear to me whenever I called upon him.

2 **The cords of death entangled me; the grip of the grave took hold of me; *
I came to grief and sorrow.**

3 Then I called upon the Name of the Lord: *
"O Lord, I pray you, save my life."

4 **Gracious is the Lord and righteous; *
our God is full of compassion.**

5 The Lord watches over the innocent; *
I was brought very low, and he helped me.

6 **Turn again to your rest, O my soul, *
for the Lord has treated you well.**

7 For you have rescued my life from death, *
my eyes from tears, and my feet from stumbling.

8 **I will walk in the presence of the Lord *
in the land of the living.**

The Second Reading

James 3:1-12

Reader A Reading from the Letter of James

Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers and sisters, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness. For all of us make many mistakes. Anyone who makes no mistakes in speaking is perfect, able to keep the whole body in check with a bridle. If we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we guide their whole bodies. Or look at ships: though they are so large that it takes strong winds to drive them, yet they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs. So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great exploits. How great a forest is set ablaze by a small fire! And the tongue is a fire. The tongue is placed among our members as a world of iniquity; it stains

the whole body, sets on fire the cycle of nature, and is itself set on fire by hell. For every species of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by the human species, but no one can tame the tongue-- a restless evil, full of deadly poison. With it we bless the Lord and Father, and with it we curse those who are made in the likeness of God. From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this ought not to be so. Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and brackish water? Can a fig tree, my brothers and sisters, yield olives, or a grapevine figs? No more can salt water yield fresh.

Reader The word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The Gospel

Mark 8:27-38

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

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

Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi; and on the way he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that I am?" And they answered him, "John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets." He asked them, "But who do you say that I am?" Peter answered him, "You are the Messiah." And he sternly ordered them not to tell anyone about him. Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."

Gospeler The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Sermon

The Rev. Mark B. Pendleton

✠ *A brief period of silence follows the sermon.*

**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

Almighty God, you spoke, and your words brought endless worlds into existence.

Remind us that our words and our lives matter. May our words and actions partner with each other in your holy purpose.

Silence

Empower the body of Christ to speak your truth to the world. Let our words and our actions be both simple and powerful, kind, and gentle. Bless our leadership with language to encourage your people to deepen their relationship with you.

Silence

Speak peace to the hearts of the world's leaders. Let their words and actions be those of integrity. Bless the children of all ages and all nations with a future that reflects your justice and loving-kindness. Give your people the courage to speak up for those who have no voice in this world.

Silence

Whisper words of hope and healing to the hearts of those who are ill or anxious and struggle with themselves or with their families. We pray for wholeness for Frank, David, Pat, Judy, Karen, Tom

Silence

We pray for those who have recently been called home and pray for those who mourn their loss. When words fall short, let our presence reflect your love for them in their grief.

We remember the lives lost on September 11, 2001 and the members of our Armed Services who served and lost their lives in the following wars in Afghanistan and Iraq.

Silence

We remember those for whom altar flowers are given (if any)

May the words of our mouths and the meditations of our hearts always be acceptable to you O Lord, our strength and our redeemer. Amen.

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

The Presider or Assistant says Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

**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

✠ *The people stand as they are able. Bow or gesture to those outside of your household or community.*

Presider The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Announcements:

The Holy Communion

[10:00 service] **Offertory Music**

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
Christ Church Choir

Alan Smith

Alms Basins (offertory plates) are placed near the baptismal font each Sunday and brought forward during the offertory just before the Eucharistic Prayer begins. For now, we are foregoing the practice of "passing the plate." Offertory envelopes are available in the entranceway Narthex.

The Great Thanksgiving from the Iona Community

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 fulfilment.

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 gladly join our voices to the song of the Church on earth and in heaven: (Said at 8:00, sung at 10:00)

Presider and People

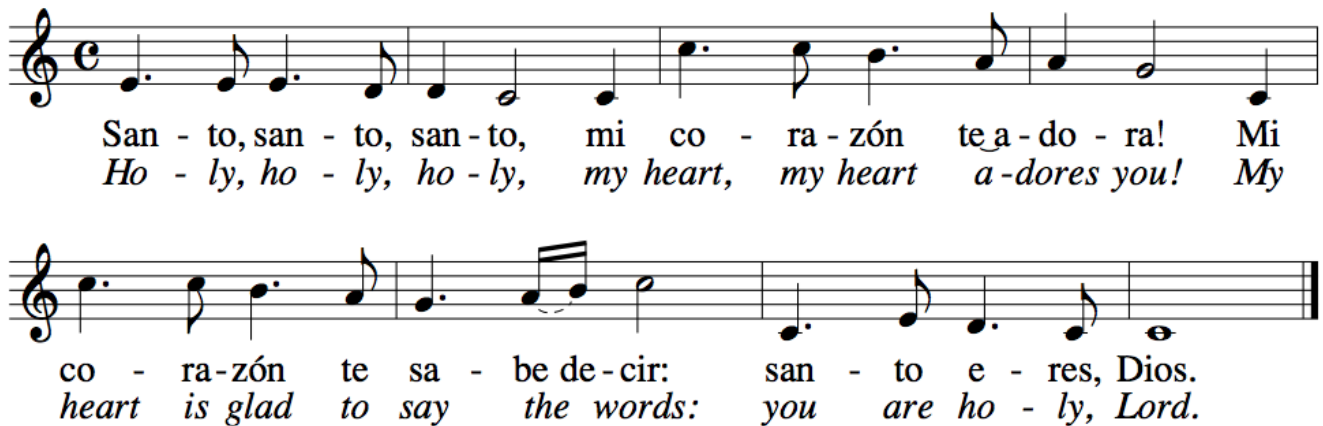
**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

WLP 785 Sanctus



San - to, san - to, san - to, mi co - ra - zón te a - do - ra! Mi
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, my heart, my heart a - dores you! My

co - ra - zón te sa - be de - cir: san - to e - res, Dios.
heart is glad to say the words: you are ho - ly, Lord.

Letra: Anónima de Argentina, alt.; tr. inglesa, anónima

Música: Melodía popular de Argentina; arm. por John L. Bell, n.1949, © 1990, Iona Community, GIA Publications, Inc., agente

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

✠ *The Presider breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.*

Presider Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

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

Invitation to Communion

Communion is distributed to those gathered

Instructions for Receiving Communion

You are invited to receive Holy Communion. As you approach the altar from the center aisle (side sections going first), please go to the center aisle to receive standing. The bread is received in the open palm. Gluten-free wafers are available. Please ask the priest at the communion rail to receive.

Please take the wafer back to your pew and consume it then. (We thus avoid multiple persons removing their masks in the same location). If you are using a cane or walker, you may consume the bread as you receive it.

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.

[10:00 service] **Music at Communion**

Post Communion Prayer

Let us pray.

**All 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

[10:00 service] **Hymn 460, vv. 1-3**

Alleluia, sing to Jesus

Hyfrydol

The Dismissal

Priest Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People **Thanks be to God.**

[10:00 service] **Postlude**

Fugue in G major (Gigue)

Bach

The worship is over ☩ The service begins

Participating in Today's Liturgy:

Presider: The Rev. Melissa Remington at 10:00 a.m.

Preacher: The Rev. Mark Pendleton

Lector: *Becky Moore* (8:00); Cary Einhaus (reader) (10:00)

Welcome Team/Usher: Patricia Gianotti, Carol Waters

Director of Music: Maggie O'Neill

Organist: Bruce Adami

Live Streaming Tech: Carole Brooks

Flower Delivery: Ann Malconian

Altar Flowers given:

This week at Christ Church September 12-18

Sunday	Fall Kickoff 11:00 - Lexie's Burger Truck PSP Family Meeting & Rehearsal 12:00 NOON
Tuesday	PSP Rehearsal 6:00 pm Vestry Meeting 7:00 pm
Wednesday	PSP Rehearsal Fall Show 4:00 pm Choir Rehearsal 7:00 pm

Welcome to The Rev. Melissa Remington as our new Priest Associate.

Choir at Christ Church: The Christ Church Choir will resume rehearsals and regular Sunday services this fall, beginning on September 12 for our Kickoff Sunday. We will offer two rehearsal times: Wednesday evenings from 7-8:30 pm, and Sundays from 11:15-12:30. The choir sings at the 10:00 am service most Sundays between Labor Day and Memorial Day, with special offerings on Christmas Eve and Good Friday. We will provide singers' masks for the safety of all. Music reading is not required, but singing experience is helpful. Email Director of Music, Maggie O'Neill at choircccexeter@gmail.com with inquiries.

The Oasis Sisters are a group of women who began meeting in October 2019 in person and continued to meet via Zoom throughout the pandemic. We have grown closer through the sharing of current life experiences, prayer concerns, praises and studying the word of God. Our meetings are on Wednesdays from 10:30 am until 12 noon. We currently meet in person on the first Wednesday of each month in the Dodd Room and the remainder of the month we meet via Zoom. New members are always welcome. For more information contact Kim Storms at 817-905-8987 or stormspk84@gmail.com.

This Fall Christ Church as a community is invited to read The 1619 Project, an ongoing project from The New York Times Magazine that “aims to reframe the country’s history by placing the consequences of slavery and the contributions of black Americans at the very center of our national narrative.” Join us in reading The 1619 Project. Zoom gatherings will be on Monday evenings at 7 p.m. on September 13, 20 and 27. Special Q&A on October 7 at 6 p.m. From the New York Times description of the project: “The 1619 Project began with the publication, in August 2019, of a special issue of The New York Times Magazine containing essays on different aspects of contemporary American life, from mass incarceration to rush-hour traffic, that have their roots in slavery and its aftermath. Each essay takes up a modern phenomenon, familiar to all, and reveals its history.”

The Healing team is available to offer healing prayers during the Eucharist, 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.

Prayer Concerns: If you wish for continued prayer, please notify the church office. (Names are updated monthly)

Join our Faithlife Online Community and stay connected: Get started today by visiting Faithlife.com with your PC or Mac by creating an account with your email. It will invite you to find the Christ Church Exeter group. You can also download a free app for your phone. Faithlife is a way for you to stay up-to-date on upcoming parish events, learn more about opportunities to serve, share prayer requests, deepen your faith and connect in small groups. You control how often you receive notices and updates.

A Note on Privacy and Live Streaming: Now that we have begun to live stream the main service on our YouTube channel, our practice is to not video worshippers during the distribution of communion. The camera is reset to the cross over the altar. The camera can pick up the backs of the heads of those in the front pews, and at times those in the side pews. If you do not want to be seen by the camera, please sit in any of the five (5) center back pews. The aim of our live streaming is to focus on the altar and the lectern and not to broadcast who is coming to church.

CHRIST CHURCH

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John Gilbert

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Lauri Ayers

Jeff Neil

Shannon Hays

Gordon Rehnborg

Christopher Sera

Richard Ingram

John Cofer