

CHRIST CHURCH of Exeter



I WILL FULFILL TO YOU MY
PROMISE AND BRING YOU
BACK TO THIS PLACE.
FOR SURELY I KNOW THE
PLANS I HAVE FOR YOU,
SAYS GOD, PLANS FOR
YOUR WELFARE AND NOT
FOR HARM, TO GIVE YOU
A FUTURE WITH HOPE.

+ JEREMIAH 29:10-11

November 21, 2021
Harvest Sunday
The Last Sunday after Pentecost
8:00 and 10:00 am
www.christchurchexeter.org

Today is Harvest Sunday. Over the last few weeks, we have written to the extended Christ Church community about how Christian life includes cycles of exile and return. We've given thanks for the tools that God has given us to connect—allowing us to be together in Spirit even if we are not together in body.

There is exile, there is return, and then there is a third movement: being sent back out into the world for the sake of our neighbors and creation as a whole. It's being sent for the sake of God's love and justice, God's future of hope.

Christ Church is a community of return, a place of homecoming. And it's also a community of sending, a place that commissions us as agents of God's love and grace, so that all may experience a sense of homecoming into God's world of compassion, dignity, and joy.

We hope that you have considered how you can contribute to the ongoing returning and sending that makes Christ Church who we are today, and who we'll be tomorrow.

Christianity was made for this: building bridges of homecoming, sending and returning, welcoming the stranger, and being sent forth to visit the sick and the imprisoned. Christ Church is made for crossing those bridges, too, as is each one of us, a child of God in the image of God. We are made to do this together, offering up all our skills, our hopes, our ideas, our money, and our hearts to answer God's call.

If you have not done so already, please fill out a pledge card and place it in the alms basin/plate. We have extra cards in the entrance way/Narthex.

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: For now **masks are required** for those worshipping indoors and using our buildings. Please allow for good and healthy **distancing** from other worshippers outside your household pod or community circle. We will be running our air handling system, equipped with HEPA filters behind the organ pipes, through the morning. We encourage all those who can to get vaccinated. With God's help, we will see this through;

Communion: 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 for Today: "Ring the bells that still can ring, Forget your perfect offering. There is a crack in everything. That's how the light gets in." -Leonard Cohen

[10:00 service] Prelude Fugue et Variation, Op. 18 César Franck
Richard Benefield, Guest Organist

Welcome and Announcements Page 355 in the Book of Common Prayer

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

[10:00 service] **Hymn 290** Come, ye thankful people, come *St George's, Windsor*

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.

Almighty and everlasting God, whose will it is to restore all things in your well-beloved Son, the King of kings and Lord of lords: Mercifully grant that the peoples of the earth, divided and enslaved by sin, may be freed and brought together under his most gracious rule; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The First Reading

Jeremiah 29:10-14

Reader A Reading from Jeremiah

For thus says our God: Only when Babylon's seventy years are completed will I visit you, and I will fulfill to you my promise and bring you back to this place. For surely I know the plans I have for you, says God, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope. Then when you call upon me and come and pray to me,

I will hear you. When you search for me, you will find me; if you seek me with all your heart, I will let you find me, says God, and I will restore your fortunes and gather you from all the nations and all the places where I have driven you, and I will bring you back to the place from which I sent you into exile.

Reader The word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 37 v. 1-8 (page 792 in the Book of Common Prayer) *(read responsively by verse)*

1 By the waters of Babylon we sat down and wept, *
when we remembered you, O Zion.

**2 As for our harps, we hung them up *
on the trees in the midst of that land.**

3 For those who led us away captive asked us for a song, and our oppressors called for mirth: *
"Sing us one of the songs of Zion."

**4 How shall we sing the LORD'S song *
upon an alien soil?**

5 If I forget you, O Jerusalem, *
let my right hand forget its skill.

**6 Let my tongue cleave to the roof of my mouth if I do not remember you, *
if I do not set Jerusalem above my highest joy.**

7 Remember the day of Jerusalem, O LORD, against the people of Edom, *
who said, "Down with it! down with it! even to the ground!"

8 O Daughter of Babylon, doomed to destruction, *

happy the one who pays you back for what you have done to us!

The Second Reading

Revelation 1:4b-8

Reader A Reading from the Book of Revelation

Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to

him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. Look! He is coming with the clouds; every eye will see him, even those who pierced him; and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail. So it is to be. Amen. "I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

Reader The word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The Gospel

John 18:33-37

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

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

Pilate entered the headquarters again, summoned Jesus, and asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" Jesus answered, "Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?" Pilate replied, "I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?" Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom

were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here." Pilate asked him, "So you are a king?" Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice."

Gospeler The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ**

Sermon

The Rev. Mark Pendleton

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

The Nicene Creed (*said together*) Page 358 in the Book of Common Prayer

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

God of love and generosity, for the gifts you have dispersed into the world, the people, the hope, and the life—we give you thanks.

For all that has been gathered here in this worship community, we thank you.

Silence

Lord in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

Give us the strength to be separated and the courage to be faithful and to come together again; give us the grace to be generous and the wisdom to send ourselves and our money where you would have them go. Let your Spirit come to us, wherever we are.

Silence

Lord in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

O God, and bless this gathering of our offerings, for we have gathered ourselves and our offerings in the name of the One who lives in exile with us, the One who leads us home again. Amen.

Silence

Lord in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

We pray for peace throughout the world. For the people of Haiti and for the missionaries still being held captive. For refugees fleeing war and violence. For our companion parish in Cardenas, Cuba who continue to live through an extended period of food scarcity and political oppression. May God walk with them and be their light through darkness.

Silence

Lord in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

We continue to give thanks for the ministry that is the Pine Street Players. For the flexibility and openness that allows this congregation to transform this sacred space into a place for creativity and expression. We lift up all children and young persons that this program impacts and the dedicated staff and volunteers who shepherd them through these years.

Silence

Lord in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

Bless those who give comfort to the sick and dying. We lift before you those who are ill and hopeful for your healing:

We pray for Emily, Lee, Richard, Megan, Pat, Lois & Greg, Maryellen, Judy, Tom

We pray for those who have died, that they may be welcomed into the new life you have prepared for them in eternity.

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.**

Presider:

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.**

The Holy Communion

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

Alleluia! Allelu, sing praises
Christ Church Choir

Michael Jothen

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 Page 361 in the Book of Common Prayer 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 our thanks and praise.**

The Presider continues

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 your dearly beloved Son 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: [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 he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

WLP 850 Sanctus

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

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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 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 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

✠ *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***

Presider The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Invitation to Communion

Communion is distributed to those gathered

Instructions for Receiving Communion

You are invited to receive Holy Communion.

Those seated in the side sections please come forward for communion beginning with the front pews using the diagonal aisles and returning by the outside of those sections. Those seated in the center sections please come forward beginning with the back pews using the center aisle and returning to their seats using the diagonal aisles.

Communion is received standing. The bread is received in the open palm. (Gluten-free wafers are available).

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, so as not to impair walking back to your seat.

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**

The Post Communion Prayer (Page 365) in the Book of Common Prayer

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

God be your comfort, your strength;
God be your hope and support;
God be your light and your way;
and the blessing of God,
Creator, Redeemer and Giver of life,
remain with you now and forever.
Amen.

[10:00 service] **Hymn 397**

Now thank we all our God

Nun danket alle Gott

The Dismissal

Priest Let us go forth in the name of Christ.
People **Thanks be to God.**

[10:00 service] **Postlude**

Fugue in G Minor, BWV 578 (Little)

J. S. Bach

The worship is over ☩ The service begins

Participating in Today's Liturgy:

Preacher: The Rev. Mark B. Pendleton

Presider: The Rev. David D. Holroyd

Lector at 8:00 a.m. Sue Ingram

Lector at 10:00 a.m. Danielle Larson-Clark

Welcome Team/Usher: Carol Waters

Live Streaming Tech: Leslie Pendleton

Flower Delivery: Jeannette McDonald

Altar Flowers given:

**This week at Christ Church
November 21-27**

Sunday	Sunday School 9:00 - 9:45 am (No "bigs" class) Harvest Sunday 8:00-12:30 PSP Show 12:00 pm Cast Party 5:00 pm
Tuesday	NO Bible Study
Wednesday	Oasis Sisters Zoom 10:30 am Choir Rehearsal 6:45 pm
Thursday	Office Closed-Happy Thanksgiving
Friday	Office Closed

The guest organist today is Richard Benefield.

Beatitudes Sessions: Beginning on December 7th, we will offer a Tuesday evening Advent Series based on The Beatitudes. Extending through December and January, five sessions will be held on Tuesdays, via zoom from 6:30-7:45 pm. There will be one in-person session in the middle of the series where we will gather in Harris Hall following 10:00 worship. Our hope is to learn and grow together by sharing personal reflections on the Beatitudes, as we prepare for the birth of Christ and seek the wisdom of Jesus's Sermon on the Mount. Several folks from the RW team will be speaking to you each week from the lectern during the month of November explaining more about this offering. Information can also be found in the E-Newsletter. Please plan to join us for any or all of these gatherings!

Christmas Pageant Sign Ups: Email leximeunier@gmail.com or choircccexeter@gmail.com to sign up your child for this year's outdoor Christmas Pageant at 4 pm on Christmas Eve!

Seacoast Family Promise: Our host week is November 28th – December 4th. To learn more, receive the SFP weekly updates, or to volunteer, please contact Christine Nelson at sfpcce@gmail.com. More information and forms to register can be found on the website, www.seacoastfamilypromise.org.

Granite State Organizing Project: Do reach out to the Rector if you would like to get connected with this organization that seeks to leverage our members' active interest in addressing social issues and putting faith into action. Currently there is a four-part training on the basics of faith-based community organizing. The series is an opportunity for us to build relationships with each other and develop skills to create a powerful advocacy network.

Sunday School (in-person): Both Mark and the Rev. Melissa Remington will be teaching a faith formation program for children from ages 3 to 11. We are dividing the two age groups between "the littles" and "the bigs." We gather Sunday in the Parish Hall at 9:00 a.m. and wrap up at 9:45. Masks required.

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).

CHRIST CHURCH

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Office Hours: Mon, Tue, Thur 9 am - 12 Noon, Weds 9 am - 4 pm OFFICE CLOSED FRIDAYS

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