

CHRIST CHURCH of Exeter



The Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ
December 24, 2021
8:00 p.m.

Prelude

*Noël #4 in G
Offertory on Two Carols*

Louis-Claude Daquin
Alexandre Guilmant

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

Hymn 83, vv. 1, 3, 6

O come, all ye faithful

Adeste fideles

The Opening Acclamation Pg. 355 in The Book of Common Prayer

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

People **And blessed be God’s kingdom, now and for ever. 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 caused this holy night to shine with the brightness of the true Light: Grant that we, who have known the mystery of that Light on earth, may also enjoy him perfectly in heaven; where with you and the Holy Spirit he lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

The First Lesson

Isaiah 9:2-7

A Reading from the Book of Isaiah

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness--on them light has shined. You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. For all the boots of the trampling warriors and all the garments rolled in blood

shall be burned as fuel of the fire. For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The Second Lesson

Titus 2:11-14

A Reading from Titus

The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, while we wait for the blessed hope and

the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The Gospel**Luke 2:1-20***Gospeler* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.*People* **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn. In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see - I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is

born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!" When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told to them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

Gospeler The Gospel of the Lord.*People* **Praise to you, Lord Christ.****Homily**

The Rev. Mark B. Pendleton

✠ *A brief period of silence follows the homily.***The Nicene Creed** (*said together*) Pg. 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.**

The Prayers of the People

With angel song bursting through the heavens, shattering the stillness of this night, you have our attention, God! We praise your name, your gift of yourself, with a joyful noise.

With those who have lived before us and those who come after us, we praise you. As your Church, we are amazed at your goodness. Give your church a sense of awe and wonder as we open our hearts to receive the gift of your very self among us. May our lives reflect the joy of your good news.

Silence

We pray for our leaders, who pass laws and make decisions that impact lives around the world. May their decisions reflect wisdom and justice and peace. May we heal the wounds of our nation and bring about the justice you have proclaimed in Christ. May our lives reflect the joy of your good news.

Silence

With people around the world, we rejoice at your presence in our world. With people around the world, we weep with those who are oppressed, hungry, living in fear of violence. For the needs of all of humanity at this moment in the pandemic. For the hope that vaccines may be shared widely to rich and poor countries alike.

May our lives reflect the joy of your good news.

Silence

We pray for those who live and work in our neighborhoods, who rush to our sides when we are in crisis. For those who are crying this night from pain, from broken relationships, from loneliness; with those struggling to be born and with those who are dying, we ask your healing and wholeness.

We lift up their names now.

Silence

May our lives reflect the joy of your good news.

Silence

We pray for those who serve in our Armed Forces domestically and abroad.

We remember those who have died and entered the larger presence of your love.

We pray with special intention for all those for whom Christmas flowers have been offered.

Silence

Presider: God of Hope, birth in us a boundless love and brilliant light that our lives may be offered to the glory of your holy name. **Amen.**

⌘ *The Confession is omitted during the Twelve Days of Christmas.*

The Peace

Presider The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

⌘ *The people may return the greeting and/or greet one another in the name of the Lord.*

The Holy Communion

Offertory Anthem

Ding Dong Merrily on High
Christ Church Choir

Mack Wilberg

The musical score consists of four staves of music in a single system, each with a vocal line and lyrics below it. The first staff is for the Celebrant and the People, with lyrics: "The Lord be with you. And also with you." The second staff is for the Celebrant and the People, with lyrics: "Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord." The third staff is for the Celebrant, with lyrics: "Let us give thanks to the Lord our God." The fourth staff is for the People, with lyrics: "It is right to give him thanks and praise." The music is written in a single system with a key signature of one flat and a common time signature.

✠ *The people remain standing.*

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. Because you gave Jesus Christ, your only Son, to be born for us; who, by the mighty power of the Holy Spirit, was made perfect Man of the flesh of the Virgin Mary his mother; so that we might be delivered from the bondage of sin, and receive power to become your children.

Therefore, we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus S-128 (sung by all)

William Mathias



Ho - ly, ho - ly,
ho - ly Lord, God of power and might,
heaven 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.

From the Hymnal 1982, © 1985 the Church Pension Fund. All rights reserved. Used by permission of Oxford University Press. One License.net A700244.

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 the Blessed Virgin Mary and 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.



The Presider 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.*

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

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.

Music during Communion The First Nowell *Traditional English Carol*
Alyssa DiPalermo, Laura Wyskiel, & Caitlin McGonigle
flute trio

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

Anthem at the Candle lighting *O Gracious Light* John Michael Trotta
Christ Church Choir

Solo *Silent Night* *Stille Nacht*
Jane Young, soprano

The Blessing

Presider May Christ, who by his Incarnation gathered into one thing earthly and heavenly, fill you with his joy and peace; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. *Amen*

The Dismissal

Priest Let us bless the Lord, alleluia, alleluia.

People **Thanks be to God, alleluia, alleluia.**

Hymn 87 Hark! the herald angels sing *Mendelssohn*

Postlude *Toccata on 'Mendelssohn'* David Willcocks

*The worship is over * The service begins*

Preacher/Presider	The Rev. Mark B. Pendleton
Assisting	The Rev. David D. Holroyd
Lector	Lucia Savage
Acolyte	Christine Staller
Director of Music	Maggie O'Neill
Organist	Bruce Adami
Video Tech Support	Joe DiPalermo

CHRIST CHURCH CHOIR

Sopranos

Patti Andrews
Emily Ellis
Katy Kramer
Danielle Larson-Clark
Gretchen McBride
Laura Nickerson-Smith
Mary Nicol

Altos

Alyssa DiPalermo
Diane DiPalermo
Suzanne Fong
Catherine Hammon
Elease Latimer
Maryann MacKenzie
Toy Maull
Adrienne Spear

Tenors

Joe DiPalermo
Zoe Harper
Jack Maul
Claudia McQueen

Basses

Burt Dibble
David Nicol

CHRISTMAS SERVICE TIMES

Christmas Day

10:00 am – Christmas Day Holy Communion & Carols

Sunday, December 26

8:00 am – Holy Eucharist

10:00 am – Lessons and Carols – Holy Eucharist*

**services will be livestreamed*

The office will be closed December 27-31.

The flowers and poinsettia plants are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of departed family and friends including:

Given By:	In Memory of:
Dick & Sue Ingram	Don & Jane Palmer, Elmer & Dottie Dalrymple.
Tom & Mimi Adams	Anne Adams Masalsky.
Martha & Michael LaPerle	Nancy M. Alward, Nancy Roberts.
Betty Wescott	Harvey M. Wescott, III; Harvey M. Wescott, Jr.
Kent & Cathy Hammon	Lonnie & Ann Hammon, Jack & Evelyn Stoltz.
Lang Plumer	Karen Plumer.
George & Linzee Bagge	George A. Bagge, Loring & Katinka Coleman.
Greg Brackett	Family, Friends & Loved ones.
David & Susan Camlin	Andy & Kim Camlin, Reg & Margaret Smith, Michael W. Gallagher.
Toy Fountain & John Maull	Loved ones of the Maull Fountain Family & all those who suffered during our time of covid.
Danielle Larson-Clark	Phyllis Jean Pierce.
The Faria Family	Allyson Elizabeth Mullen, Walton & Priscilla Ross, Paul Ducharme, Patrick M. D'Agostino, Madalena Machado, Olimpo & Ana DaSilva, Joaquim & Amelia Faria.
Becky Moore	Roger Moore, Robert & Nelia Goff, Flohill & George McCully.
Barbara & Jim Cutting	Michael Cutting, Jane Cutting, Barbara Randall, Andrea Nelson, James Lyons Sullivan, Janet Carrier.
Jennifer Murray	Jim & Seiko Shields.
Brenda Schrempf	Loved ones of the Schrempf family.
DiPalermo Family	Ben DiPalermo, Donald Thacker.
Caren Schubart	Rick Schubart.
Hays Family	Eden McGurk, Patricia Bottomley.

CHRIST CHURCH

43 Pine St., Exeter, NH 03833

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

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

RECTOR

The Rev. Mark Pendleton

Ext. 12 [cell phone 860 490-8544]
mpendleton@christchurchexeter.org

PRIEST ASSOC. FOR PASTORAL CARE

The Rev. David Holroyd

dholroyd@christchurchexeter.org

PRIEST ASSOCIATE

The Rev. Melissa Remington

EXT. 13
mremington@christchurchexeter.org

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC AND COMMUNICATIONS

Maggie O'Neill

choircccexeter@gmail.com

ORGANIST

Bruce Adami

bruce@christchurchexeter.org

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Darla Watt

Ext. 11
office@christchurchexeter.org

BOOKKEEPER

Normand Tremblay

bookkeeper@christchurch.org

SENIOR SEXTON

George Malgeri

ssexton@christchurchexeter.org

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR OF PINE STREET PLAYERS

Lexi Meunier

thepinestreetplayers@gmail.com

EVENTS COORDINATOR

Christina DeMaio

events@christchurchexeter.org

VESTRY

Senior Warden

Patricia Gianotti

Junior Warden

John Gilbert

Treasurer

Lucia Savage

Clerk

Suzanne Fong

Deb Fournier

Barbara Beardsley

Lauri Ayers

Jeff Neil

Shannon Hays

Gordon Rehnborg

Christopher Sera

Richard Ingram

John Cofer