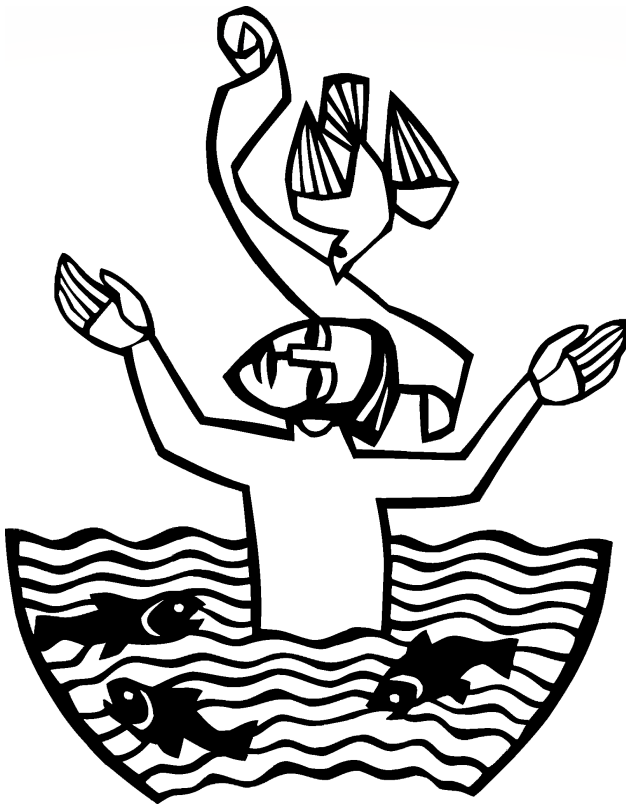


# CHRIST CHURCH of Exeter



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*Live*  
joyfully in faith

*Connect*  
with God and one another

*Serve*  
the local and global community

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January 9, 2022  
The First Sunday after the Epiphany  
8:00 and 10:00 am  
[www.christchurhexeter.org](http://www.christchurhexeter.org)

## Reflections on Today's Readings

Today is one of four occasions in the year particularly appropriate for the celebration of Holy Baptism. (The other three are Easter, Pentecost, and All Saints' Day.) Each of the four days has its particular theme, which enhances our understanding of one aspect of the primary Christian sacrament, Holy Baptism.

On this First Sunday after the Epiphany, we celebrate the Baptism of Our Lord. Jesus' Baptism was for all the Gospel writers, and in the apostolic preaching of the Gospel, the event that initiated the redemptive ministry of the Messiah. It was in that event that Jesus was revealed as Messiah (Christ). God designated him as the beloved Son and he was anointed by the Holy Spirit.

In Holy Baptism, each person is adopted as the child of God. Each Christian becomes a "messianic" person, anointed by the Holy Spirit. We do not simply become passive recipients of the benefits of Christ; we are "christed" or christened. We become sharers in his life and his redemptive ministry.

All those who are baptized are anointed and marked as Christ's own and they are received "into the flock of Christ." They join with that household in confessing the faith of Christ, proclaiming his resurrection and sharing in his eternal priesthood—the priesthood that is enacted sacramentally in Eucharist and daily in lives of self-giving love toward one another and toward the world.

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:** 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.

[10:00 service] Prelude

*Wade in the Water*

arr. by Calvin Taylor

**Welcome** Page 355 in the Book of Common Prayer

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

[10:00 service] **Hymn 121**

Christ, when for us you were baptized

*Caithness*

*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.

Father in heaven, who at the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit: Grant that all who are baptized into his Name may keep the covenant they have made, and boldly confess him as Lord and Savior; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

## The First Reading

Isaiah 43:1-7

*Reader* A Reading from the Book of Isaiah

Thus says the Lord, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior. I give Egypt as your ransom, Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you. Because you are precious in my sight,

and honored, and I love you, I give people in return for you, nations in exchange for your life. Do not fear, for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east, and from the west I will gather you; I will say to the north, "Give them up," and to the south, "Do not withhold; bring my sons from far away and my daughters from the end of the earth--everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made."

*Reader* The word of the Lord.

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

## Psalm 29 (pg 620 in the Book of Common Prayer)

- 1 Ascribe to the Lord, you gods, \*  
ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.
- 2 **Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his Name; \*  
worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.**
- 3 The voice of the Lord is upon the waters; the God of glory thunders; \*  
the Lord is upon the mighty waters.
- 4 **The voice of the Lord is a powerful voice; \*  
the voice of the Lord is a voice of splendor.**
- 5 The voice of the Lord breaks the cedar trees; \*  
the Lord breaks the cedars of Lebanon;
- 6 **He makes Lebanon skip like a calf, \*  
and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.**
- 7 The voice of the Lord splits the flames of fire; the voice of the Lord shakes the wilderness; \*  
the Lord shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.

**8 The voice of the Lord makes the oak trees writhe \*  
and strips the forests bare.**

9 And in the temple of the Lord \*  
all are crying, "Glory!"

**10 The Lord sits enthroned above the flood; \*  
the Lord sits enthroned as King for evermore.**

11 The Lord shall give strength to his people; \*  
the Lord shall give his people the blessing of peace.

### **The Second Reading**

**Acts 8:14-17**

*Reader* A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles

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When the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them. The two went down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit (for as yet the Spirit had not come upon

any of them; they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus). Then Peter and John laid their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit..

*Reader* The word of the Lord.

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

### **The Gospel**

**Luke 3:15-17: 21-22**

*Gospeler* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke

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

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As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

*Gospeler* The Gospel of the Lord.

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

### **Sermon**

The Rev. Melissa Remington

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

## The Renewal of Baptismal Vows

Presider Do you reaffirm your renunciation of evil and  
renew your commitment to Jesus Christ?

People **I do.**

Presider Do you believe in God the Father?

People **I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

Presider Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

People **I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.  
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the Virgin Mary.  
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.  
He descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again.  
He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

Presider Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

People **I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting.**

Presider Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in  
the prayers?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Presider Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to  
the Lord?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Presider Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Presider Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as your-self?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Presider Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every  
human being?

People **I will, with God's help.**

*The Presider says*

May Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given us a new birth by water and the Holy Spirit, and bestowed upon us the forgiveness of sins, keep us in eternal life by his grace, in Christ Jesus our Lord. **Amen.**

### **Prayers of the People**

May the Lord God give us the blessings of strength and peace. Let us pray, "Walk with us through the waters, O God; *walk with us, we pray*"

Deliver your Church, O God, from fear. Strengthen those you have transformed by your presence. Give us all the courage to keep our baptismal promises.

*Silence*

Walk with us through the waters, O God;

**Walk with us, we pray.**

O God, you have blessed us to be members of your household. Strengthen the unity of the Church—those serving you in the east, west, north, and south.

*Silence*

Walk with us through the waters, O God;

**Walk with us, we pray.**

Your power, O God, is evident in the mysteries of our universe. By water and your Holy Spirit you have made us a new people. We give you thanks and praise.

Walk with us through the waters, O God;

**Walk with us, we pray.**

Break down the walls of division in our towns and cities, and our nation. Bring us together as one human family, formed and made by your great hands.

*Silence*

Walk with us through the waters, O God;

**Walk with us, we pray.**

Heal and comfort your children, O God. Be with the needy in their trials. May they know that they are precious in your sight. We pray for those sick and recovering from Covid and for a quick end to this Pandemic.

We lift up those on our prayer list: Emily and John Hayden, Gregory, Alan, Bobbi, Pat, Maryellen, Judy, Tom, Karen, Lang

Walk with us through the waters, O God;

**Walk with us, we pray.**

God of grace, you have accepted us as your children. You have made us heirs with Christ. In your great mercy, receive us, and all who have died, into glory everlasting.

We remember those who have died.

*Silence*

Walk with us through the waters, O God;  
**Walk with us, we pray.**

*Silence*

*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.**

✠ *The Confession is omitted on a Feast Day.*

*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**      *Ev'ry Time I Feel the Spirit*      Traditional Negro Spiritual  
Christ Church Choir

*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 Eucharistic Prayer B 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 him 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 Jesus Christ our Lord you have received us as your sons and daughters, made us citizens of your kingdom, and given us the Holy Spirit to guide us into all truth. 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:

*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.**

**Sanctus** *(sung by all)*

James MacMillan

Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly - Lord,  
God of - pow - er and might. Heav'n and earth are full of your  
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bles - sed is he, O bles - sed is  
he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na  
in the high - - - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

*Music: James MacMillan © 1997 Boosey & Hawkes, Inc. All rights reserved. Reprinted with permission under 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 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**

✠ *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**

[10:00 service] **Hymn 120, vv. 1-3**      The sinless one to Jordan came      *Solemnis haec festivitas*

**The Dismissal**

*Priest* Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

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

[10:00 service] **Postlude**      *Improvisation on the Eighth Psalm Tone*      Everett Titcomb

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*The worship is over ☩ The service begins*

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**Participating in Today's Liturgy:**

Preacher: The Rev. Melissa Remington

Presider: The Rev. Mark B. Pendleton

Lector at 8:00 a.m. Sue Ingram

Lector at 10:00 a.m.

Welcome Team/Usher:

Live Streaming Tech: Joe DiPalermo

Flower Delivery: Elaine Wiltamuth

Altar Guild: Diane DiPalermo, Shannon Tosatti

**This week at Christ Church  
January 9-15**

Sunday	PSP Rehearsals 1:00 pm
Tuesday	Bible Study ZOOM 11:00 am PSP Rehearsal 6:00 pm Scouts 6:00 pm Vestry 7 p.m. Zoom
Wednesday	Oasis Sisters ZOOM Meeting 10:30 am PSP Rehearsal 4:00 pm Choir Rehearsal 7:00 pm ZOOM

**2022 Pledge Update and Ways to Give:** As of January 4 we have received **125** pledges for a total of **\$310,056**. In 2021 we received **149** pledges for **\$365,561**. Now more than ever, in this prolonged season of exile and disconnection, Christ Church remains a community of hope, welcome, and hospitality. Your pledge helps strengthen our mission and ministry.. You can mail in the paper pledge card, or pick one up in the Narthex entryway of the church.

**The Beatitude Series** in-person offering has been moved to Zoom out of caution for the post-holiday rapid spread of Covid. Here is the updated schedule: Tuesday, 1/18 at 6:30 pm: Peacemaking; Tuesday, 1/25 at 6:30 pm: Living as Citizens of God's Kingdom; Tuesday, 2/1 at 6:30 pm: Foundations. Links to Zoom meetings can be found in the e-news, on the Faithlife Calendar, or on the Events section of our website's homepage. Simply click on the event to pull up the details.

**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.

**The Oasis Sisters:** In light of the current conditions surrounding the omicron variant of COVID19 the Oasis Sisters have decided to suspend our monthly in-person meeting at Christ Church until further notice. "Our meetings are on Wednesdays from 10:30 am until 12 noon on Zoom."

**Annual Meeting (Live Streamed) Jan. 23:** The Annual Meeting of Christ Church of Exeter (our incorporated name in the State of New Hampshire) will gather in person after the 10 a.m. service at 11:15 a.m. in the church. We will live stream on our YouTube channel (stay on worship link). We will meet to elect officers, new vestry members and diocesan delegates and to hear reports including our finances. More news to follow.

## 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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