CHRIST CHURCH Of Exeter



Live

joyfully in faith

Connect

with God and one another

Serve

the local and global community

The Fifth Sunday of Easter
May 15, 2022
8:00 and 10:00 a.m.
A Service of Healing at this Moment in the Global Pandemic at the 10:00 a.m. service

Reflections on Today's Readings

As we begin the fifth week of celebrating the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. Each Sunday in the fifty days between Easter and Pentecost, we explore the implications of Jesus' dying and rising for our lives.

Today we hear from John's Gospel some of the Lord's words on the night before his death. The Lord tells his friends that he is going away and gives them his final instructions, "the new commandment" to love one another as he loves us.

This Sunday's reading from the book of Revelation is a vision of the final consummation of God's Kingdom as the new Jerusalem. The redeemed rejoice, for God dwells with them and does away forever with death and grief and weeping.

Today's reading from Acts traces further the extension of the proclamation of Christ's resurrection. Peter describes to the leaders of the church in Jerusalem the astounding discovery that God's call is not only to Jews but to the Gentiles as well, as he tells of the conversion and baptism of Cornelius, the first Gentile Christian.

It is in our relationship of union with Christ in baptism and communion that his love for us is revealed. Our liturgy here equips us to carry out our larger liturgy, our work as God's people, in loving others through ministry, service, and prayer. In that way, the work of extending God's Kingdom will continue to spread in and through us, the Body of the Risen Christ, as we follow his command to love others as he loves us.

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. 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.

Coffee Hour Fellowship: Please join us in the Parish Hall off the kitchen after the service.

Communion: We are returning to the practice of the common cup in addition to the bread for Communion (when we have Eucharistic Ministers scheduled). Intinction (dipping the bread/wafer) is not permitted. Please know that Communion in one kind (bread/wafer only) is sufficient to experience the Real Presence of our Risen Lord. We are also returning to distribute Communion from the altar rails, where kneeling is an option.

The Holy Eucharist

[10:00 service] **Prelude**

There is a Balm in Gilead

arr. by Calvin Taylor

Welcome

■ All stand, as they are able, as the bell tolls.

[10:00 service]

Processional Hymn 494

Crown him with many crowns

Diademata

Presider Alleluia. Christ is risen.
People The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

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.

[8:00 service]

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

[10:00 service] Gloria S-280



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The Collect of the Day

Presider The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Presider Let us pray.

[8:00 service] Almighty God, whom truly to know is everlasting life: Grant us so perfectly to know your Son Jesus Christ to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow his steps in the way that leads to eternal life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen**

[10:00] Loving God, the comfort of all who sorrow, the strength of all who suffer, our light in the darkness of these pandemic years, accept our prayers of healing for ourselves, our community and those we name in our hearts. By the power of your grace, may the weak be strengthened, sickness turned to health, the dying made whole and sorrow turned into joy, through Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen**

№ The people sit.

The First Reading Acts 11-1-18

Reader A Reading from the Book of Acts

Now the apostles and the believers who were in Judea heard that the Gentiles had also accepted the word of God. So when Peter went up to Ierusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him, saying, "Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?" Then Peter began to explain it to them, step by step, saving, "I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. There was something like a large sheet coming down from heaven, being lowered by its four corners; and it came close to me. As I looked at it closely I saw four-footed animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air. I also heard a voice saying to me, 'Get up, Peter; kill and eat.' But I replied, 'By no means, Lord; for nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth.' But a second time the voice answered from heaven, 'What God has made clean, you must not call profane.' This happened three times; then everything was pulled up again to heaven. At that very moment three

men, sent to me from Caesarea, arrived at the house where we were. The Spirit told me to go with them and not to make a distinction between them and us. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man's house. He told us how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saving, 'Send to Joppa and bring Simon, who is called Peter; he will give you a message by which you and your entire household will be saved.' And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as it had upon us at the beginning. And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said, 'John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.' If then God gave them the same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could hinder God?" When they heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God, saying, "Then God has given even to the Gentiles the repentance that leads to life."

Reader The Word of the Lord. People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 148 Page 805 in BCP (read responsively by verse)

- 1 Hallelujah! Praise the Lord from the heavens; * praise him in the heights.
- 2 Praise him, all you angels of his; * praise him, all his host.
- 3 Praise him, sun and moon; * praise him, all you shining stars.
- 4 Praise him, heaven of heavens, * and you waters above the heavens.
- 5 Let them praise the Name of the Lord; * for he commanded, and they were created.
- 6 He made them stand fast for ever and ever; * he gave them a law which shall not pass away.
- 7 Praise the Lord from the earth, * you sea-monsters and all deeps;
- 8 Fire and hail, snow and fog, * tempestuous wind, doing his will;
- 9 Mountains and all hills, * fruit trees and all cedars;
- 10 Wild beasts and all cattle, * creeping things and winged birds;
- 11 Kings of the earth and all peoples, * princes and all rulers of the world;
- 12 Young men and maidens, * old and young together.
- 13 Let them praise the Name of the Lord, * for his Name only is exalted, his splendor is over earth and heaven.
- 14 He has raised up strength for his people and praise for all his loyal servants, * the children of Israel, a people who are near him. Hallelujah!

The Second Reading Revelation 21:1-6

Reader A Reading from the Book of Revelation

I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride

adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them as their God; they will be his peoples, and God

himself will be with them; he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away. "And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new."

People The Word of the Lord. Reader **Thanks be to God.**

 \blacksquare The people stand as they are able.

Also he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true." Then he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life.

[10:00 service]

Sequence Hymn 620, vv. 1-3

Jerusalem, my happy home

Land of Rest

The Gospel

John 13:31-35

Gospeler The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

At the last supper, when Judas had gone out, Jesus said, "Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the

Jews so now I say to you, 'Where I am going, you cannot come.' I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

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

№ *The people sit.*

Sermon

The Rev. Melissa Remington

 \blacksquare 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

Please Stand or Kneel

Holy and Gracious God, Your will for all people is health and salvation. Your Son Jesus came that we might have life and might have it more abundantly. In praise and gratitude we lift up our prayers.

God of mercy, restore to wholeness whatever is broken by human sin, in our lives, in our nation, and in the world. We pray for peace in Ukraine, the end of the war there and in all parts of the world.

Silence

Fix our hearts where joy is found.

Heal us, O Lord of life.

God of goodness, grant your healing grace to all who are sick, injured or disabled, that they may be made whole.

Silence

Fix our hearts where joy is found.

Heal us, O Lord of life.

God of comfort, grant to all who seek guidance, and to all who are lonely, anxious or despondent, a knowledge of your will and awareness of your presence.

Silence

Fix our hearts where joy is found.

Heal us, O Lord of life.

God of faithfulness, with humble hearts we give you thanks for sustaining us through the trials and sorrows of the coronavirus pandemic. We lift up all those who have experienced the physical, mental, spiritual, emotional and financial burdens caused by Covid-19. The cost has not been equal for all.

Silence

Fix our hearts where joy is found.

Heal us, O Lord of life.

God of love, we bless you and praise you for your commandment to love one another. You filled us with the desire to love and care for each other through protective measures for our common good.

Silence

Fix our hearts where joy is found.

Heal us, O Lord of life.

God of hope, grant us willing hearts to continue to embrace new and creative ways of connecting with each other. Continue to bring us safely back together, strengthened by your faithfulness and abiding love.

Silence

Fix our hearts where joy is found.

Heal us. O Lord of life.

God of vision, bless our parish community with an openness of mind and spirit to look beyond a desire to simply go back to normal. Gift us with a heart of renewed awareness of the needs around us and of opportunities to serve the vulnerable as ambassadors of your love for all.

Silence

Fix our hearts where joy is found.

Heal us, O Lord of life.

God of wonders, do a new thing in all your Church, O Lord. From our dry places spring forth new life. Turn our fears into assurance of your plan for our abundant life. Refresh your bishops, priests and deacons and all Christians in their vocations.

Silence

Fix our hearts where joy is found.

Heal us, and make us whole.

We pray for those on our ongoing prayer list:

We name, silently or aloud, those who we hold in our hearts. May they receive healing and peace.

We remember Leon "Lee" Legare who died this week.

Altar Flowers are given in memory of Denny Waters by his wife Carol, daughter Erin, and son Casey.

To be prayed in unison

Gracious God our Healer, whose mercy is like a refining fire:

We come seeking your healing grace.

By the loving kindness of Jesus, heal us and those for whom we pray;

that being renewed by you, we may witness your wholeness to our broken world.

Give us patience and hope in our distress;

strengthen and uphold us in body, mind and spirit;

and by your healing intervention, make us whole according to your desire.

Through Jesus Christ and in the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

▼ The Confession is omitted during the Great Fifty Days of Easter.

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 Holy Communion

[8:00 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.

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

It is well with my soul
Christ Church Choir

Philip P. Bliss

◼ *The people stand for the hymn as they are able.*

[10:00 service] **Offertory Hymn 488**

Be thou my vision

Slane

The Great Thanksgiving

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; but chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us 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:

[8:00 a.m.] Presider and People

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,

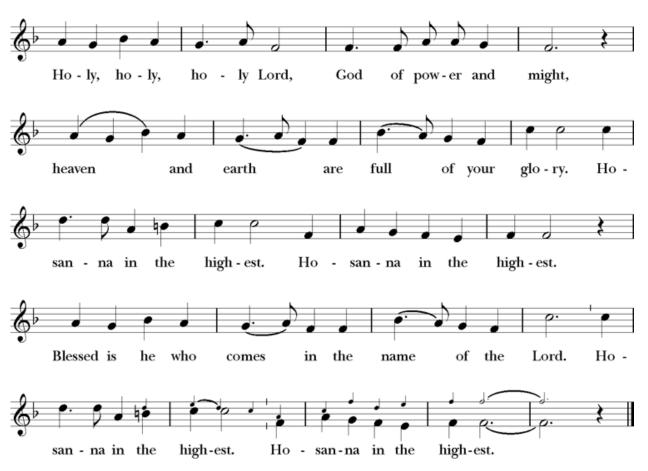
heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

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

Hosanna in the highest.

[10:00 service] **Sanctus S-125**



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◼ The people kneel or stand as they are able.

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

[8:00 Traditional Lord's Prayer]

[10:00] On this day of hope for healing, we pray with new words to express the prayer Jesus taught his followers: (from the New Zealand Prayer Book)

People and Presider

Eternal Spirit,

Earth-maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver,

Source of all that is and that shall be,

Father and Mother of us all,

Loving God, in whom is heaven.

The hallowing of your name echo through the universe!

The way of your justice be followed by the peoples of the world!

Your heavenly will be done by all created beings!

Your commonwealth of peace and freedom sustain our hope and come on earth.

With bread we need for today, feed us.

In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.

In times of temptation and test, strengthen us.

From trials too great to endure, spare us.

From the grip of all that is evil, free us.

For you reign in the glory of the power that is love, now and forever.

Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

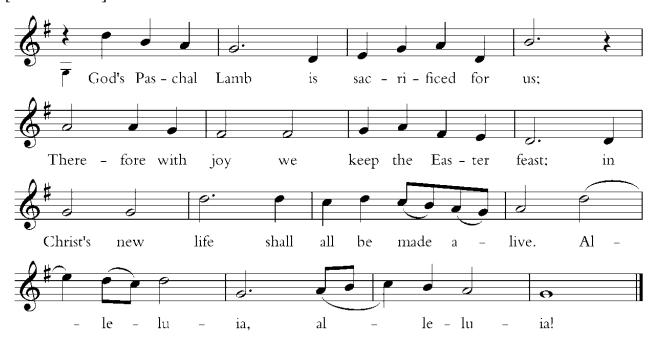
■ A period of silence is kept.

[8:00]

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

[10:00 service] Fraction Anthem



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Invitation to Communion

The gifts of God for the people of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

Instructions Concerning Communion and Healing

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).

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.

[10:00 service]

Communion Hymn WLP 812

I, the Lord of Sea and Sky

Schutte

◼ The people kneel or stand as they are able.

Presider and People

Loving God, we give you thanks for restoring us in your image and nourishing us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood.

We give you thanks for the promise of your healing power and your desire that we may know abundant life.

Now send us forth a people forgiven, healed, renewed; that we may proclaim your love to the world and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen

An Easter Blessing

 \blacksquare The people stand as they are able.

[10:00 service]

Recessional Hymn 473

Lift high the cross

Crucifer

The Dismissal

[8:00]

Priest Let us go forth in the name of the Risen Christ. Alleluia! Alleluia!

People Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

[10:00]

Priest

Deep peace of the running wave to you;

Deep peace of the flowing air to you;

Deep peace of the quiet earth to you;

Deep peace of the shining stars to you;

Deep peace of the gentle night to you;

Moon and stars pour their healing light on you.

Deep peace of Christ the light of the world to you;

Deep peace of Christ to you.

And now let us go forth in the name of the Risen Christ. Alleluia! Alleluia! People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

[10:00 service] **Postlude**

March

David N. Johnson

The worship is over. \blacksquare The service begins.

Participating in Today's Liturgy:

Preacher: The Rev. Melissa Remington Presider: The Rev. Mark Pendleton Lector at 8:00 a.m.: Fran Hall

Lector at 10:00 a.m.: Laurel Patterson

Eucharistic Minister at 10:00 a.m.: Barb Hyer Greeter/Usher: Jen Murray, Kim Billings

Live Stream: Leslie Pendleton

Altar Guild: Patti Buck, Priscilla Santiago

Flower Delivery: Patti Buck

This week at Christ Church May 15-21

Sunday	PSP Auditions 2:00 p.m. Rockingham Choral Society Concert 3:30 p.m.
Tuesday	Last Bible Study of the Program Year ZOOM 11:00 a.m. Rotary Club 12:00 p.m. Scouts 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday	Oasis Sisters ZOOM Meeting 10:30 a.m. Choir Rehearsal 7:00 p.m.

Sunday Counters: Do you have 15 minutes to spare on an occasional Sunday morning after the 10 AM service? We are in need of two volunteers each Sunday who will confirm the contents of the collection plates. If you are able to help with the small task, please contact Darla or Mark in the office, or Lucia Savage at Luciasavage@gmail.com

Usher/Greeter - Readers Needed: With more and more folks attending in-person church, we are building up our **Usher/Greeter** and Lector team. Would you be willing to serve as a friendly welcoming face? Contact Mark for instructions to get on the list. Would you like to **read** a lesson at the 8 or 10 a.m. service. See Mark for instructions to get on the list.

Vacation Bible School is back! Children ages 4-11 are eligible to attend **Compassion Camp, June 20-24** from 9 a.m.-noon, at Exeter Congregational Church (21 Front St, Exeter). Registration is open until May 31. Registration forms can be found on the board outside the church office, or online in our e-newsletter. Christ Church is joining with the UCC churches in Stratham and Exeter to offer this formation to guide our youth to change the world with loving kindness.

Auditions for **the Pine Street Players**' production of William **Shakespeare's** *The Tempest* continue this afternoon. Performances will be the weekend of July 8-10, on our outdoor stage. Bring a camp chair or blanket, and enjoy some Shakespeare en plein air this summer. Mark your calendars!

Do you speak or read a language other than English? The Feast of Pentecost is June 5 and we would like to include the readings of the Acts passage in various languages at the 9:30 a.m. service. So dust off that Arabic, Greek, Latin, Spanish, German, or any other language ancient or modern. Reach out to Mark if you'd like to participate. *Gracias*.

Ages 11-17 are asked to **volunteer** at the Exeter End 68 Hours of Hunger office (Tuck Learning Center) to volunteer, with pizza & s'mores to follow (weather permitting) on Friday, May 20 from 5-7 PM. Contact Christina or Maggie with questions: events@christchurchexeter.org, choircccexeter@gmail.com.

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 gather to share life experiences, prayer concerns, praises and studying the word of God. Our meetings are on Wednesdays from 10:30 a.m. 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

CHRIST CHURCH

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