

CHRIST CHURCH of Exeter



Live
joyfully in faith

Connect
with God and one another

Serve
the local and global community

The Seventh Sunday of Easter
May 29, 2022
8:00 and 9:30 a.m.

Reflections on Today's Readings

Today we begin the final week of celebrating the victory Christ won over sin and death at Easter.

There were three aspects to that victory: Jesus' resurrection, his ascension into heaven, and his sending the Holy Spirit. Last Thursday the church celebrated the Ascension and in today's liturgy it is commemorated again. However, added to that is the theme of waiting for the Holy Spirit to come upon the church, empowering it for ministry.

Today's gospel reading is a portion of the "high priestly prayer" of Jesus for all his followers. This prayer, which he offered on the night before his death, was fulfilled at Easter. That unity between him and us for which he prayed was accomplished in the resurrection,

ascension, and giving of the Spirit. We become united in his Spirit and his love by means of Holy Baptism and Holy Eucharist.

In our reading from Acts today, we hear how powerfully God's Spirit was at work in Paul and his friends. He and Silas were rescued from prison by an earthquake. As a result, the jailer was so impressed that he listened to their message, believed, and was baptized along with his family. The second reading is the concluding verses of Revelation in which the Lord's promise to return is anticipated.

Today's liturgy, then, looks forward to next Sunday when we celebrate God's presence with us in the Holy Spirit and the Spirit's gifts to us, equipping us to make Christ known to all people.

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). You may drink from the cup, or place your hand on the base as a sign of devotion. Intinction (dipping the bread/wafer) is not permitted at this time. 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

[9:30 service] **Prelude**

Fugue in B minor

J. S. Bach

Welcome

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

[9:30 service]

Processional Hymn 450, vv.1-3

All hail the power of Jesus' name

Coronation

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.

**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.**

The Collect of the Day

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Let us pray.

O God, the King of glory, you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven: Do not leave us comfortless, but send us your Holy Spirit to strengthen us, and exalt us to that place where our Savior Christ has gone before; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

✠ *The people sit.*

With Paul and Silas, we came to Philippi in Macedonia, a Roman colony, and, as we were going to the place of prayer, we met a slave girl who had a spirit of divination and brought her owners a great deal of money by fortune-telling. While she followed Paul and us, she would cry out, "These men are slaves of the Most High God, who proclaim to you a way of salvation." She kept doing this for many days. But Paul, very much annoyed, turned and said to the spirit, "I order you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her." And it came out that very hour. But when her owners saw that their hope of making money was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the marketplace before the authorities. When they had brought them before the magistrates, they said, "These men are disturbing our city; they are Jews and are advocating customs that are not lawful for us as Romans to adopt or observe." The crowd joined in attacking them, and the magistrates had them stripped of their clothing and ordered them to be beaten with rods. After they had given them a severe flogging, they threw them into prison and ordered the jailer to keep them securely. Following these instructions, he put them in the innermost cell and fastened their feet in the stocks.

About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them. Suddenly there was an earthquake, so violent that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and everyone's chains were unfastened. When the jailer woke up and saw the prison doors wide open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself, since he supposed that the prisoners had escaped. But Paul shouted in a loud voice, "Do not harm yourself, for we are all here." The jailer called for lights, and rushing in, he fell down trembling before Paul and Silas. Then he brought them outside and said, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" They answered, "Believe on the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household." They spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all who were in his house. At the same hour of the night he took them and washed their wounds; then he and his entire family were baptized without delay. He brought them up into the house and set food before them; and he and his entire household rejoiced that he had become a believer in God.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 97 Page 726 in BCP (*read responsively by verse*)

- 1 The Lord is King; let the earth rejoice; *
let the multitude of the isles be glad.
- 2 **Clouds and darkness are round about him, ***
righteousness and justice are the foundations of his throne.
- 3 A fire goes before him *
and burns up his enemies on every side.
- 4 **His lightnings light up the world; ***
the earth sees it and is afraid.
- 5 The mountains melt like wax at the presence of the Lord, *
at the presence of the Lord of the whole earth.

6 The heavens declare his righteousness, *
and all the peoples see his glory.

7 Confounded be all who worship carved images and delight in false gods! *
Bow down before him, all you gods.

8 Zion hears and is glad, and the cities of Judah rejoice, *
because of your judgments, O Lord.

9 For you are the Lord, most high over all the earth; *
you are exalted far above all gods.

10 The Lord loves those who hate evil; *
he preserves the lives of his saints and delivers them from the hand of the wicked.

11 Light has sprung up for the righteous, *
and joyful gladness for those who are truehearted.

12 Rejoice in the Lord, you righteous, *
and give thanks to his holy Name.

The Second Reading

Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21

Reader A Reading from the Revelation to John

At the end of the visions I, John, heard these words: "See, I am coming soon; my reward is with me, to repay according to everyone's work. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end." Blessed are those who wash their robes, so that they will have the right to the tree of life and may enter the city by the gates. "It is I, Jesus, who sent my angel to you with this the descendant of David, the bright morning star."

People The Word of the Lord.

Reader **Thanks be to God.**

✠ *The people stand as they are able.*

The Gospel

John 17:20-26

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

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

Jesus prayed for his disciples, and then he said. "I ask not only on behalf of these, but also on behalf of those who will believe in me through their word, that they may all be one. As you, Father, are in me and I am in you, may they also be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. The glory that you have given me I have given them, so that they may be one, as we are one, I in them and you in me, that they may

become completely one, so that the world may know that you have sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me. Father, I desire that those also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory, which you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world. "Righteous Father, the world does not know you, but I know you; and these know that you have

sent me. I made your name known to them, and I will make it known, so that the love with which

you have loved me may be in them, and I in them."

Gospeler The Gospel of the Lord.

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

✠ *The people sit.*

Sermon

The Rev. Mark Pendleton

✠ *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

Our hope is found in the presence of the King of Glory, so let us appeal to the Lord, saying, "Lord, hear our prayer."

We pray, Jesus, that your prayers might be answered: may your Church be one as you and the Father are one. And through our unity, may the whole world come to know your love.

Silence

Lord, **hear our prayer.**

As we await your return Lord Christ, we long for your reign of justice. Now, even as we wait, deliver the innocent from the hands of the wicked; bless the truehearted with gladness.

Silence

Lord, **hear our prayer.**

O Lord, the heavens declare your righteousness. Give us eyes to see, ears to hear, lungs to breathe in your holy presence.

Silence

Lord, **hear our prayer.**

We pray, Lover of souls, for all those who are being exploited. We pray for those in bondage. We pray for those who suffer because of the greed of others.

Silence

Lord, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for those who thirst for wholeness, for healing, for deliverance. We pray for all those who thirst. Give to the thirsty the gift of the water of life.

Silence

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

Allan, Christine, Jessie, Bobby, Erik, Tea, Ina, Amanda Buck, Alex, Calvin, Harrison, Jackie, Bobbi, Phil, Martha, Tom, Pat.

Lord, **hear our prayer.**

Alpha and Omega, you bid your people, "Come!" May we, and all who have died, be with you, where you are, forever and ever.

Silence

On this holiday weekend, we remember those who served this country and died in wars and conflicts. May their sacrifice inspire us all to be stewards of peace in our nation and the world.

Lord, **hear our prayer.**

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, Ovlover of souls, and to you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever. 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 Peace may be expressed by shaking hands, bowing, "fist or elbow bumps", namaste greeting, putting hand over heart, waving, making the peace sign, and by offering a smile.*

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.**

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

[9:30 service]

Offertory Hymn 215

See the Conqueror mounts in triumph

In Babilone

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 God 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. After his glorious resurrection he openly appeared to his disciples, and in their sight ascended into heaven, to prepare a place for us; that where he is, there we might also be, and reign with him in glory.

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.

[9:30 service] **Sanctus S-125**

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,
 heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
 san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
 Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
 san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

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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.*

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.*

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

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 may be received kneeling or standing at the altar rails.. The bread is received in the open palm. (Gluten-free wafers are available). You may drink from the cup, or place your hand on the base as a sign of devotion. Intinction (dipping the bread/wafer) is not permitted at this time.

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.

[9:30 service]

Communion Hymn 459

And have the bright immensities

Halifax

✠ *The people kneel or stand as they are able.*

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

✠ *The people stand as they are able.*

[9:30 service]

Recessional Hymn 214, vv. 1-3

Hail the day that sees him rise

Llanfair

The Dismissal

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

People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

[9:30 service] **Postlude**

Fantasia in C major

J. S. Bach

The worship is over. ✠ The service begins.

Participating in Today's Liturgy:

Preacher/Presider: The Rev. Mark Pendleton

Lector at 8:00 a.m.: Fran Hall

Lector at 9:30 a.m.:

Eucharistic Minister at 8:00 a.m. Cary Einhaus; 9:30 a.m. Barb Hyer

Greeter/Usher 9:30: Jeff Neil

Live Stream: Leslie Pendleton

Altar Guild: Sue Ingram, Diane DiPalermo

Flower Delivery: Elaine Wiltamuth

Altar Flowers Given by:

**This week at Christ Church
May 22-28**

Sunday	PSP Rehearsal 1:00 p.m.
Monday	Office Closed
Tuesday	PSP Rehearsal 6:00 p.m. Scouts 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday	Oasis Sisters 10:30 a.m. PSP Rehearsal 4:00 p.m.

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.* So far we have Greek, and German covered.

Sunday Counters: Do you have 15 minutes to spare on an occasional Sunday morning after the 10 a.m. 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.

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

HONORING GRADUATES ON JUNE 12:: IS SOMEONE IN YOUR FAMILY GRADUATING from high school or an institution of higher learning? We would like to list them in the bulletin and celebrate with them on June 12th at the 9:30 a.m. service. Please submit the following form (information) to: Darla at office@christchurchexeter.org ***Please note that the deadline is June 5..***

Name: _____

Parents: _____

School/College _____

Degree _____

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