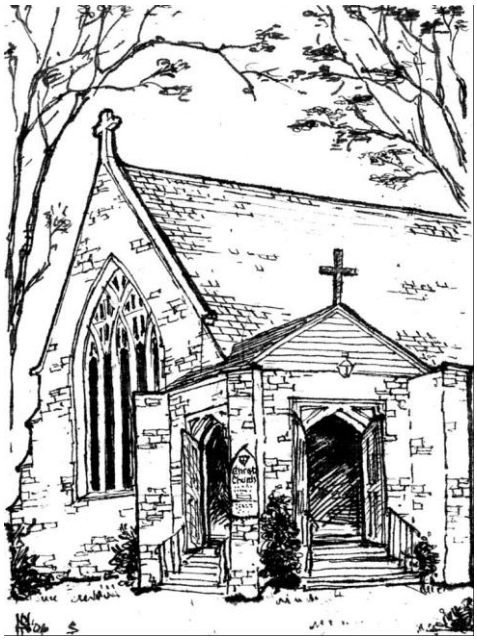
CHRIST CHURCH PARISH
EPISCOPAL

10:00 AM

The Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

October 19, 2025



WELCOME

Christ Church is an Episcopal Parish in the Diocese of Massachusetts. We welcome and honor the God-given gifts that make us unique as individuals and strong as community. You and your family are welcome regardless of age, ethnicity, sexual orientation, marital status or prior religious affiliation.

A Note to Parents and Caregivers with Children in Church

Thank you for bringing your children to church. We are so glad you are here!

We know it can be difficult at times to manage little ones during the service.

For that reason, we have provided some resources which we hope will make it easier for you and your family to enjoy worship together.

You will find books and coloring pages at the back of the Mary Chapel. Please feel free to utilize these at any point during the service.

We have installed a TV in the nursery! You are welcome to visit the nursery with your child during any portion of our service and join us via our livestream.

It is okay to take breaks. If you need to step out with your child, our parish grounds are a great place to get the wiggles out.

Above all, please remember: You and your family are very welcome here!

Though your children may be squirming, talking, or making noise, they are also observing, copying, and learning. Children are a gift and an important part of our community; we are grateful to have them worship with us.

Hearing assistance devices are available in labeled baskets by the sanctuary entrances.

The Word of God

ENTRANCE HYMN ***Praise to the living God*** **1982 Hymnal 372**

OPENING ACCLAMATION
The people standing, the Celebrant says

Celebrant Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.
People **Glory to God for ever and ever.**

COLLECT FOR PURITY
The Celebrant may say

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.**

SONG OF PRAISE
Seek ye first the kingdom of God **1982 Hymnal 711**

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY
Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, in Christ you have revealed your glory among the nations: Preserve the works of your mercy, that your Church throughout the world may persevere with steadfast faith in the confession of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Lessons

FIRST READING: **Jeremiah 31:27-34**

The people sit.

A Reading from the book of the prophet Jeremiah.

The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will sow the house of Israel and the house of Judah with the seed of humans and the seed of animals. And just as I have watched over them to pluck up and break down, to overthrow, destroy, and bring evil, so I will watch over them to build and to plant, says the LORD. In those days they shall no longer say: "The parents have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge." But all shall die for their own sins; the teeth of everyone who eats sour grapes shall be set on edge. The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, "Know the LORD," for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Silence may follow.

Psalm 119:97-104

Remain seated.

97 Oh, how I love your law! *
all the day long it is in my mind.

98 Your commandment has made me wiser than my enemies, *
and it is always with me.

99 I have more understanding than all my teachers, *
for your decrees are my study.

100 I am wiser than the elders, *
because I observe your commandments.

101 I restrain my feet from every evil way, *
that I may keep your word.

102 I do not shrink from your judgments, *
because you yourself have taught me.

103 How sweet are your words to my taste! *
they are sweeter than honey to my mouth.

104 Through your commandments I gain understanding; *
therefore I hate every lying way.

SECOND READING: 2 Timothy 3:14--4:5

The people sit.

A Reading from Paul's Second letter to Timothy.

As for you, continue in what you have learned and firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it, and how from childhood you have known the sacred writings that are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, so that everyone who belongs to God may be proficient, equipped for every good work. In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I solemnly urge you: proclaim the message; be persistent whether the time is favorable or unfavorable; convince, rebuke, and encourage, with the utmost patience in teaching. For the time is coming when people will not put up with sound doctrine, but having itching ears, they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own desires, and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander away to myths. As for you, always be sober, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, carry out your ministry fully.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Silence may follow.

SEQUENCE HYMN
Thanks to God whose Word was spoken **1982 Hymnal 630**
All stand.

GOSPEL: **Luke 18:1-8**
All stand.

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

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

Jesus told the disciples a parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heart. He said, "In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor had respect for people. In that city there was a widow who kept coming to him and saying, 'Grant me justice against my opponent.' For a while he refused; but later he said to himself, 'Though I have no fear of God and no respect for anyone, yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will grant her justice, so that she may not wear me out by continually coming.' " And the Lord said, "Listen to what the unjust judge says. And will not God grant justice to his chosen ones who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long in helping them? I tell you, he will quickly grant justice to them. And yet, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?"

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

THE SERMON **The Rev. Melissa Howell**
Silence may follow.

THE CREED
All stand.

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,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and became truly human.
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,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who 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
All remain standing.

Deacon or Celebrant: In peace, let us pray to God:

Leader: For your Church, that we may be filled with love, generosity and truth to transform our communities and our world;
Holy God:
May your light guide us, change us, and shine through us.

For the leaders of our nation, and the leaders of all nations;
Holy God:
May your light instill in them compassion and good judgment, and guide them in the ways of justice and peace.

For Sean our presiding bishop, Julia our bishop, Melissa our priest, James and Natalie our deacons, all of our lay leaders, and for all who hold authority in your Church, that they may shine your light brightly;

Holy God:
May your Spirit inspire them with creativity, renew their energy, and give them wisdom and love.

For the just and proper use of the beauty and abundance of creation, for blessings on all of our human endeavors, and with gratitude for the blessings we have received, remembering especially those we name now, either silently or aloud.
Silence is held for a time as people share their thanksgivings.
Holy God:
May each of us love and serve you in ways that shine your light in our communities and beyond.

For the sick in body, mind or spirit, especially those on our parish prayer list, and for those we name now, either silently or aloud;
Silence is held for a time as people share their intercessions.
Holy God:
May your light bring hope and healing to all who suffer.

For all who have died, for those who grieve, remembering especially Sharon Steadman, and those we name now, either silently or aloud.
Silence is held for a time as people share their intercessions.
Holy God:
May your perpetual light shine on all the saints who have gone before us.

Celebrant: Oh God, in your infinite generosity you have created the heavens and the earth, and you have created us and all your creatures as your children. We ask you to shine your light so brightly through us that we and our communities might be transformed by your life-giving Gospel of hope, justice, and love. We pray these things in the name of Christ, the Light of the World, who lived, taught, died, and rose to show us a new way of being. **Amen.**

CONFESSION OF SIN
The Deacon or Celebrant says

Let us confess our sins to God.

Silence may be kept.

Minister and People

God of all mercy,
we confess that we have sinned against you,
opposing your will in our lives.
We have denied your goodness in each other,
in ourselves, and in the world you have created.
We repent of the evil that enslaves us,
the evil we have done,
and the evil done on our behalf.
Forgive, restore, and strengthen us
through our Savior Jesus Christ,
that we may abide in your love
and serve only your will. Amen.

The Priest stands and says

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

THE PEACE
All stand.

Celebrant The peace of Christ be always with you.
People **And also with you.**

Then the Ministers and the People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Holy Communion

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

DOXOLOGY **1982 Hymnal 380, v3**

The Great Thanksgiving

The People remain standing.

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.**
Presider

All thanks and praise are yours at all times and in all places, our true and loving God; through Jesus Christ, your eternal Word, the Wisdom from on high by whom you created all things. You laid the foundations of the world and enclosed the sea when it burst out from the womb; You brought forth all creatures of the earth and gave breath to humankind. Wondrous are you, Holy One of Blessing, all you create is a sign of hope for our journey; And so as the morning stars sing your praises we join the heavenly beings and all creation as we shout with joy:

SANCTUS ***Holy, holy, holy*** **1982 Hymnal S 129**
Presider and People

The Presider continues

Glory and honor are yours, Creator of all, your Word has never been silent; you called a people to yourself, as a light to the nations, you delivered them from bondage and led them to a land of promise. Of your grace, you gave Jesus to be human, to share our life, to proclaim the coming of your holy reign and give himself for us, a fragrant offering. Through Jesus Christ our Redeemer, you have freed us from sin, brought us into your life, reconciled us to you, and restored us to the glory you intend for us.

We thank you that on the night before he died for us Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, gave it to his friends and said: “Take, eat, this is my Body, broken for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.”

After supper Jesus took the cup of wine, said the blessing, gave it to his friends and said: “Drink this, all of you: this cup is the new Covenant in my Blood, poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.”

And so, remembering all that was done for us: the cross, the tomb, the resurrection and ascension, longing for Christ’s coming in glory, and presenting to you these gifts your earth has formed and human hands have made, we acclaim you, O Christ:

Presider and People

Dying, you destroyed our death.
Rising, you restored our life.
Christ Jesus, come in glory!

The Presider continues

Send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts of bread and wine that they may be to us the Body and Blood of your Christ. Grant that we, burning with your Spirit’s power, may be a people of hope, justice and love. Giver of Life, draw us together in the Body of Christ, and in the fullness of time gather us with [blessed _____, and] all your people into the joy of our true eternal home. Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, we worship you our God and Creator in voices of unending praise.

Presider and People

Blessed are you now and for ever. *AMEN*.

THE LORD’S PRAYER
As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

People and Celebrant

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

FRACTION ANTHEM ***Jesus, Lamb of God*** **1982 Hymnal S 164**

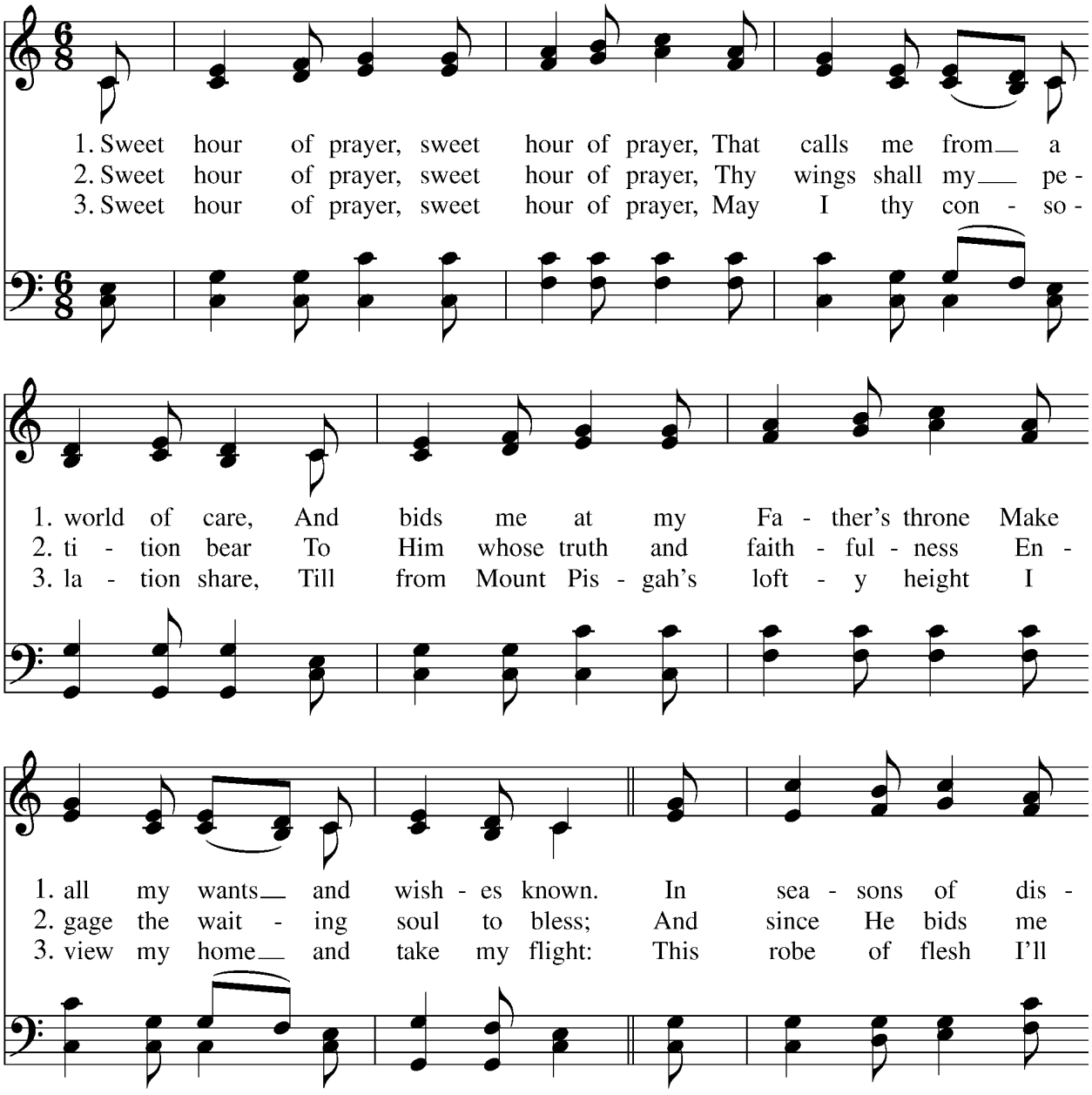
INVITATION
The Presider invites the people to Communion with these or similar words:
Wherever you are on your journey, you are welcome at God's table.

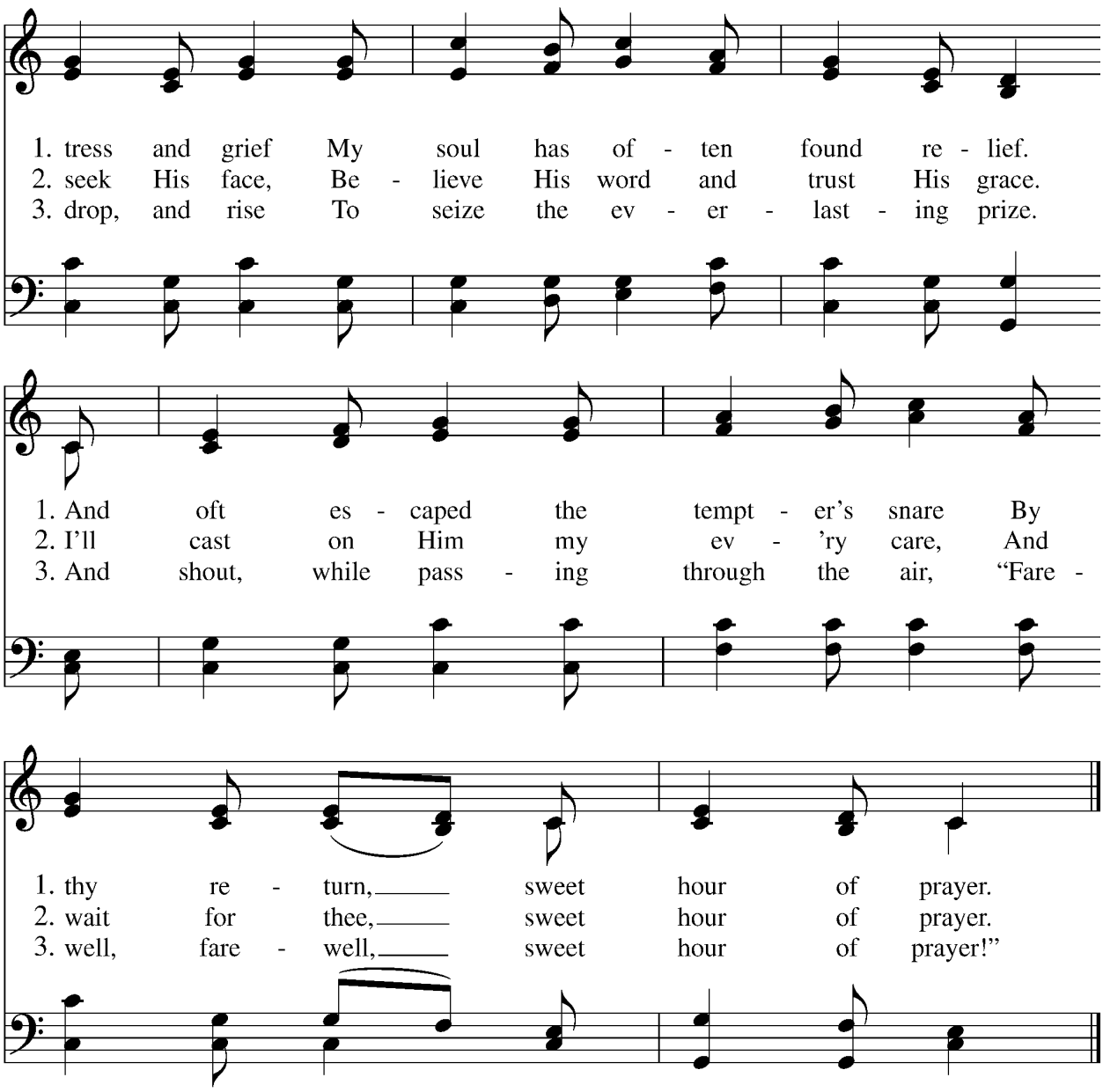
The Gifts of God for the People of God.

To receive the Sacrament, come forward in two lines down the center aisle, to either the main altar or the chapel altar rail. Please fill in all the spaces along the rail. Standing or kneeling, hold out your hands. The minister will place the bread in your palm. You may then receive the wine by drinking from the larger cup or intincting (dipping) the bread in the smaller cup. If you do not wish to receive the wine, cross your arms across your chest as the cup bearers come to you. If you would prefer a blessing, come forward to the rail, cross your arms across your chest, and the minister will bless you.

At the main altar, once you have received, stand and exit through the side door closest to you (either left past the organ or right through the choir room) to walk around and back into the sanctuary, using the side aisles to return to your seat.

COMMUNION HYMN ***Sweet Hour of Prayer*** **LEVAS 178**





POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

Celebrant 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.

If Lay Eucharistic Visitors are being sent out to bring the Sacrament to those who cannot be with us in-person, the following is said as the Visitors are handed the bread and wine:

Celebrant: In the name of this congregation, I send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the Communion of Christ's body and blood.
People: **We who are many are one body, for we all share one bread and one cup.**

BLESSING
The Priest blesses the people, saying

Life is short, and we do not have much time to gladden the hearts of those who travel with us on the way. So make haste to love. Be quick to be kind. And the blessing of the One, Holy, and Triune God be upon you, and all those you love, this day and always. **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN
New every morning is the love **1982 Hymnal 10**

DISMISSAL
The Deacon or Celebrant dismisses the people.
The people respond: **Thanks be to God.**

Announcements

Please keep the following people in your prayers during the coming week. Any names added this week are in bold.

Anita Chase; Barbara Hulme; Carol MacPhee; Don Bolt; Donna Eby; Ellen Nordquist; Forrest Berardi; Greta Couter; Jack Willett; Jane Murphy; Jim Kelly; **John Powderly;** Katharine LiBretto; **Kathy Rust;** Kenny Blackwell; Laurie Ghelfi Smith; Mark Poster; Norm Harbinson; Peter Trenouth; Raymond Reid; Sandy Underhill; Skip Nielsen; Stephanie "Petie" Blanchard; Suzanne and Dave Salois; Sylvia Wade; Valerie B. Pflock; William Underhill

We ask your prayers for those serving in the military and their families:
Aidan McKinney, Andrew Barton, Austin Vico, Harry Morini, Joel Carveiro, Josh Zabin

From the Office

In order to have your announcements included in the weekly bulletin and *Keeping Connected,* please send them to the office by 12 Noon on Wednesday. They should include date, time, place, description of event and contact information and should be written exactly the way you want them to appear.

Christ Church Food Pantry – All are welcome to the Christ Church Food Pantry! We are open by appointment: Thursday 12:00-1:15 and 4:00-5:15, and Saturday 10:00-11:15. Call the pantry message line: 508-746-4959, ext 6, BY 1 PM THE DAY BEFORE YOU WISH TO PICK UP YOUR ORDER. Our volunteers check messages and return your call from their homes to ask you what you need.

If you wish to volunteer, contact Eileen Paris at eileenpca@aol.com
For more information, please contact Barbara Wojtklewicz at 617-291-4634, or by email at barbara.wojtklewicz@gmail.com

Celebration of Veterans Day at Christ Church November 9, 2025 - In 1918, On the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month, an armistice, or temporary cessation of hostilities, was declared between the Allied nations and Germany in World War I, then known as "the Great War." Commemorated in many countries as Armistice Day the following year, the U. S. honors veterans always on November 11 and is known as Veterans Day. Christ Church Parish invites our veterans to share their stories and photos in preparation for a special presentation on Sunday, November 10th. If you are interested in this project, please contact Lynne Neeley at lneeley123@gmail.com or 973-760-3063

Christ Church Thrift Shoppe - The autumn leaves will soon be falling, the summertime birds will soon be migrating, but if you stop in the Thrift Shoppe you'll find some bargains are to be had *right now*. For boutique rack shoppers at the Thrift Shoppe, this week it's all half-off for everyone! And for Seniors, *everything* in the Thrift Shoppe is half-off.

Thrift Shoppe Hours
Thursday and Friday 10-4
Saturday 10-1

Help Wanted - Parishioner and Vestry member David Greene is looking for someone to help him with his work with the Salvation Army picking up, boxing, and moving food. Ability to lift 25+ lbs. and availability twice a month on Tuesdays for 3 hours are required. The volunteer would meet Dave at the Salvation Army at 10:30 AM and be done by 2 PM. Email Dave at: the4greenes@yahoo.com or phone him at 781-294-8486 with any questions or to volunteer. Thank you.

Apple Pies – The Evening Women's Group is taking Apple Pie orders $15 each. The last day to order is Sunday, November 2. Contact Cynthia, Connie or Donna L. Claim November 5th after 8 PM, frozen, unbaked.

Choral Evensong for All Souls – Sunday, November 2nd at 5PM we at Christ Church will hold a service of Evensong to commemorate all faithful departed. All are invited to attend this service of music and remembrance.

Dear Christ Church Family,

As we look around our world today, we are painfully aware of the many conflicts, uncertainties, and hardships that affect people across our country and our world. The images of turmoil and stories of suffering weigh heavily on our hearts, and it is easy to feel overwhelmed by the magnitude of these challenges. In such times, we are reminded all the more of our calling as followers of Jesus: to be instruments of His peace, to shine His light in the darkness, and to hold fast to hope.

Our parish stands as a haven—a place where all are welcomed, supported, and loved. Here, we gather not only to worship but to care for one another, to encourage each other in faith, and to serve our neighbors with compassion. In the midst of a world in need, our church community is a living sign of God's presence, offering comfort, strength, and a sense of belonging to all who seek it.

We are called to share the good news of Jesus Christ, both in word and in deed. Each act of kindness, each prayer, and each effort to serve others reflects His love. Together, we are making a difference—whether feeding the hungry, clothing those in need, comforting the grieving, or teaching our children about God's grace. The work we do as a parish is vital, and it is made possible by your generosity, prayers, and commitment.

To continue our ministries and to care for our church home, we rely on the faithful stewardship of our members. Maintaining our facilities, supporting our staff, and reaching out to those in need all require resources. This is why we enter once again into our annual stewardship season, inviting each member to reflect on how you might support our shared mission in the coming year.

We ask you to prayerfully consider how you can contribute—financially or through your time and talents—according to your ability. Stewardship is not merely about fundraising; it is about gratitude, trust, and partnership with God in building His kingdom here and now. We know that each family's situation is unique, and we are deeply grateful for whatever you are able to give. Your pledge, no matter the size, is an expression of faith and a testament to your commitment to our community.

Thank you for being a part of our parish family, for your prayers, your presence, and your support. Together, we will continue to be a beacon of hope in uncertain times, trusting in God's promise and sharing Christ's love with the world. May God bless you and your loved ones with peace, courage, and joy as we journey together.

With gratitude and hope,

Your Resource Ministry

Week At - A - Glance * October 19, 2025 – October 26, 2025

SUNDAY	**8:00 AM**	**Holy Eucharist Rite I – The Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost**
	9:00 AM	Church School, Grades PreK-5
	9:00 AM	Adult Sunday School
	9:00 AM	Youth Formation
	10:00 AM	**Holy Eucharist Rite II – The Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost**
	11:30 AM	Men's Group Brunch
MONDAY	**9:00 AM**	**Morning Prayer –** Facebook Live
	10:30 AM – 11:30 AM	Fore & Aft
TUESDAY	10:30 AM – 11:30 AM	Fore & Aft
	6:30 PM	Invite Welcome Connect Book Study
WEDNESDAY	**9:00 AM**	**Morning Prayer –** Facebook Live
	10:30 AM – 11:30 AM	Fore & Aft
THURSDAY	10:00 AM – 4:00 PM	Thrift Shoppe
	10:00 AM	Bible Study
	10:30 AM – 11:30 AM	Fore & Aft
	12:00 PM – 1:15 PM	Food Pantry
	1:00 PM	Faith Based Book Study
	4:00 PM – 5:15 PM	Food Pantry
FRIDAY	**9:00 AM**	**Morning Prayer –** Facebook Live
	10:00 AM – 4:00 PM	Thrift Shoppe
	10:30 AM – 11:30 AM	Fore & Aft
SATURDAY	10:00 AM – 11:15 AM	Food Pantry
	10:00 AM – 1:00 PM	Thrift Shoppe
	5:00 PM	**Holy Eucharist Rite II – The Twentieth Saturday after Pentecost**
SUNDAY	**8:00 AM**	**Holy Eucharist Rite I – The Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost**
	9:00 AM	Church School, Grades PreK-5
	9:00 AM	Adult Sunday School
	9:00 AM	Youth Formation
	10:00 AM	**Holy Eucharist Rite II – The Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost**
	11:30 AM	Coffee Hour
	11:30 AM	Worship Team Meeting

Christ Church Parish
Seeking Christ in Ourselves * Serving Christ in the World

JESUS CHRIST IS THE HEAD OF THE CHURCH

MINISTERS

All the people of Christ Church Parish

Staff
The Rev. Melissa Howell, Rector
The Rev. Deacons James & Natalie Thomas
David Tyler, Parish Administrator
Lea Tyler, Choir Director
Peter Litchfield, Accompanist
Sam Stevenson, Sexton

Officers and Vestry Representatives
Robb Pflock, Senior Warden
John Steele, Junior Warden
Ray Rogers, Treasurer
Amanda Peterson, Clerk

Wil Bernard, David Greene, Don Hill, Barb Hurney, Kat LiBretto, Judy Lutz, Makenzie Manchester, Melissa Pechey, and Nancy Ricks

149 Court Street, Plymouth, MA 02360
Phone: 508-746-4959
E-mail: office.christchurchplymouth@gmail.com

Scan here to visit our website:
https://www.christchurchplymouth.org/

Office Hours
Monday - Friday 9:30 AM to 3:00 PM