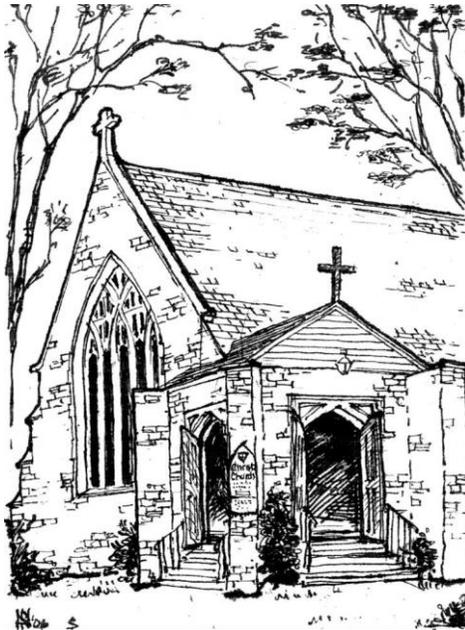


**CHRIST CHURCH PARISH
EPISCOPAL**

9:00 AM

The Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

August 24, 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.

The Word of God

PRELUDE

ENTRANCE HYMN

I come with joy to meet my Lord

1982 Hymnal 304

OPENING ACCLAMATION

The people standing, the Celebrant says

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

People **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever.
Amen.**

COLLECT FOR PURITY AND GREAT COMMANDMENTS

The Celebrant says

Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ saith:

Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it: Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.

SONG OF PRAISE

Come now, O Prince of Peace

WLP 795

1. Come now, O Prince of Peace, make us one bod - y,
2. Come now, O God of love, make us one bod - y,
3. Come now and set us free, O God, our Sav - ior,
4. Come, Hope of U - ni - ty, make us one bod - y,

come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile your peo - ple.
come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile your peo - ple.
come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile all na - tions.
come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile all na - tions.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Grant, we beseech thee, merciful God, that thy Church, being gathered together in unity by thy Holy Spirit, may manifest thy power among all peoples, to the glory of thy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the same Spirit, one God, world without end. Amen.

The Lessons

FIRST READING:

Isaiah 58:9b-14

The people sit.

A Reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

If you remove the yoke from among you, the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil, if you offer your food to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted, then your light shall rise in the darkness and your gloom be like the noonday. The LORD will guide you continually, and satisfy your needs in parched places, and make your bones strong; and you shall be like a watered garden, like a spring of water, whose waters never fail. Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt; you shall raise up the foundations of many generations; you shall be called the repairer of the breach, the restorer of streets to live in. If you refrain from trampling the sabbath, from pursuing your own interests on my holy day; if you call the sabbath a delight and the holy day of the LORD honorable; if you honor it, not going your own ways, serving your own interests, or pursuing your own affairs; then you shall take delight in the LORD, and I will make you ride upon the heights of the earth; I will feed you with the heritage of your ancestor Jacob, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Silence may follow.

Psalm 103:1-8

Remain seated.

¹Bless the LORD, O my soul, *
and all that is within me, bless his holy Name.

²Bless the LORD, O my soul, *
and forget not all his benefits.

³He forgives all your sins *
and heals all your infirmities;

⁴He redeems your life from the grave *
and crowns you with mercy and loving-kindness;

⁵He satisfies you with good things, *
and your youth is renewed like an eagle's.

⁶The LORD executes righteousness *
and judgment for all who are oppressed.

⁷He made his ways known to Moses *
and his works to the children of Israel.

⁸The LORD is full of compassion and mercy, *
slow to anger and of great kindness.

SECOND READING:

Hebrews 12:18-29

The people sit.

A Reading from the letter to the Hebrews.

You have not come to something that can be touched, a blazing fire, and darkness, and gloom, and a tempest, and the sound of a trumpet, and a voice whose words made the hearers beg that not another word be spoken to them. (For they could not endure the order that was given, "If even an animal touches the mountain, it shall be stoned to death." Indeed, so terrifying was the sight that Moses said, "I tremble with fear.") But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering, and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel. See that you do not refuse the one who is speaking; for if they did not escape when they refused the one who warned them on earth, how much less will we escape if we reject the one who warns from heaven! At that time his voice shook the earth; but now he has promised, "Yet once more I will shake not only the earth but also the heaven." This phrase, "Yet once more," indicates the removal of what is shaken—that is, created things—so that what cannot be shaken may remain. Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us give thanks, by which we offer to God an acceptable worship with reverence and awe; for indeed our God is a consuming fire.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Silence may follow.

SEQUENCE HYMN

Glorious things of thee are spoken

1982 Hymnal 523

All stand.

GOSPEL:

Luke 13:10-17

All stand.

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

People **Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

Now Jesus was teaching in one of the synagogues on the sabbath. And just then there appeared a woman with a spirit that had crippled her for eighteen years. She was bent over and was quite unable to stand up straight. When Jesus saw her, he called her over and said, "Woman, you are set free from your ailment." When he laid his hands on her, immediately she stood up straight and began praising God. But the leader of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had cured on the sabbath, kept saying to the crowd, "There are six days on which work ought to be done; come on those days and be cured, and not on the sabbath day." But the Lord answered him and said, "You hypocrites! Does not each of you on the sabbath untie his ox or his donkey from the manger, and lead it away to give it water? And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham whom Satan bound for eighteen long years, be set free from this bondage on the sabbath day?" When he said this, all his opponents were put to shame; and the entire crowd was rejoicing at all the wonderful things that he was doing.

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

THE SERMON

The Rev. Deacon Natalie Thomas

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: Healing God, as we gather to express the longings of our hearts, shower on us your mercy and grace as we say, God in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Leader: Holy God, awaken your church and tumble us out into the world to continue the ministry of Jesus, who brings wholeness to a broken world.

Silence

God in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For the churches in our diocese, for Sean our Presiding Bishop, Julia our Bishop, Melissa our Priest, James and Natalie our Deacons, and each of us in our vocations and ministries.

Silence

God in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Move the hearts of this nation and its leaders, that joining together we might build a just and merciful society.

Silence

God in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Open our ears, our eyes, and our hearts to hear your call and empower our hands and feet to move closer to you through our service to others.

Silence

God in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Fill us with awe in contemplation of the glory of your Creation and shake us out of our complacency, that we might be effective stewards and champions of our natural world.

Silence

God in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Tend those who suffer, bring to wholeness what is broken, reconciliation to what has been separated, and lift up what has been pressed down. We pray especially for those on our parish prayer list and those we name now, either silently or aloud.

Silence is held for a time as people share their intercessions.

God in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Fulfill your promises to the dying, care for the grieving, and grant us all an entrance into your eternal loving presence. We pray for all our beloved dead and those we name now, either silently or aloud.

Silence is held for a time as people share their intercessions.

God in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Celebrant: Holy God, you have allowed no barriers to your loving action. Hear and fulfill our longings as may be best for us, and grant us your salvation. All this we ask in the name of Jesus, our Lord, who abides with you and the Holy Spirit forever. **Amen.**

CONFESSION OF SIN

The Deacon or Celebrant says

Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

Silence may be kept.

Minister and People

**Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against thee
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved thee with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of thy Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in thy will,
and walk in thy ways,
to the glory of thy Name. Amen.**

The Priest stands and says

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

All stand.

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Holy Communion

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

*If you wish to make a gift to support the ministries of Christ Church Parish, you may place your offering in the plate, or scan the QR code to the right to donate online.
Thank you!*



OFFERTORY HYMN

O bless the Lord, my soul

1982 Hymnal 411

The Great Thanksgiving

The People remain standing.

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is meet and right so to do.**

Facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God.

Creator of the light and source of life, who hast made us in thine image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

SANCTUS

Holy, holy, holy

WLP 850

Ho-ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,—

hea-ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na

in the high - est._____ *Bless-ed is he who comes in the

name of the Lord._____ Ho - san - na, Ho - san - na,

Ho - san - na in the high - est, the high - est._____

*optional text 

Bless-ed is the one

The people kneel or stand.

Then the Celebrant continues

All glory be to thee, O Lord our God, for that thou didst create heaven and earth, and didst make us in thine own image; and, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to take our nature upon him, and to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption. He made there a full and perfect sacrifice for the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks to thee, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink this, all of you; for this is my Blood of the New Covenant, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me."

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, we thy people do celebrate and make, with these thy holy gifts which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; and looking for his coming again with power and great glory.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us, and, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, to bless and sanctify these gifts of bread and wine, that they may be unto us the Body and Blood of thy dearly-beloved Son Jesus Christ.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, whereby we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies. Grant, we beseech thee, that all who partake of this Holy Communion may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, and be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction; and also that we and all thy whole Church may be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord;

By whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end.

AMEN.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

The Celebrant then continues

And now, as our Savior Christ hath taught us, we are bold to say,

People and Celebrant

**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,
forever and ever. Amen.**

The Breaking of the Bread

FRACTION ANTHEM

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

PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS

The following prayer may be said. The People may join in saying this prayer

We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

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.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

The People may join in saying this prayer

Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

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

I'm Goin'-a Sing When the Spirit Says Sing

LEVAS 117

I'm goin' - a sing* when the Spir - it says sing.

I'm goin' - a sing when the Spir - it says sing.

I'm goin' - a sing when the Spir - it says sing, and o -

bey the Spir - it of the Lord.

*2. pray 3. moan 4. shout

DISMISSAL

The Deacon or Celebrant dismisses the people.

*The people respond: **Thanks be to God.***

POSTLUDE

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; Brad Bradley; Don Bolt; Donna Eby; Ellen Nordquist; Forrest Berardi; Greta Couter; Jack Willett; Jane Murphy; Jim Kelly; Katharine LiBretto; Kenny Blackwell; Laurie Ghelfi Smith; Mark Poster; Norm Harbinson; Peter Trenouth; Raymond Reid; Sandy Underhill; Sharon Steadman; Skip Nielsen; Suzanne and Dave Salois; 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.

Summer Office Hours - In July and August, our church office will be closed on Fridays. We will resume our normal Monday through Friday office schedule in September.

Sunday Worship Schedule Changes - Starting September 7, Christ Church will transition to our regular worship schedule. We warmly invite you to join us for our Saturday service of Holy Eucharist at 5pm or Sunday service of Holy Eucharist at 8am or 10am.

Christ Church Food Pantry – All are welcome to the Christ Church Food Pantry! We are open by appointment: Tuesday 12:00-1:15, 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 Wojtkiewicz at 617-291-4634, or by email at barbara.wojtkiewicz@gmail.com

Evening Women's Group will meet for fellowship and a dinner hosted by Thrift Shoppe volunteers on Wednesday, September 3rd at 5:00pm in the parish hall.

If you have never attended an EWG dinner, or it's been a while since you have, please consider joining us. Come enjoy dinner, meet new parishioners, connect with old friends, share fellowship, and hear about the Food Pantry and Thrift Shoppe ministries. EWG's outreach activities planned for the coming year will also be discussed.

A traditional or vegetarian option chili and baked potato dinner with a full topping bar will be served. All women of the parish are invited and welcome. Please RSVP drewlench19@gmail.com

Faith Based Book Study: For several years now, a small group has been reading and discussing various faith based books; often incorporating music, art, poetry, and audio visual material. We are currently reading through the Psalms using a workbook and reading them from different bible versions. Our discussions are lively and thought provoking.

Our study group meets on most Thursdays from 1pm to about 2:30 pm at the church (space for this year TBD).

Each week a different person opens and closes the meeting with prayers, a reading, or mediation.

If you are interested in joining us please email Debbie Hill at hillysfilly@mac.com. We will be starting up again on Thursday, 9/11/25, after our summer break. Space is limited.

Christ Church Thrift Shoppe - It may still be August on the calendar, but at the Thrift Shoppe, the fall season is in full swing, with the clothing racks filled with lots of new selections. So if you want to do a wardrobe update, but don't want to break the bank, be sure to stop by this week.

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

Week At - A - Glance * August 24, 2025 – August 31, 2025

SUNDAY	9:00 AM	Holy Eucharist – The Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost
	10:30 AM	Lemonade on the Lawn
	10:30 AM	Worship Team Meeting
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
	12:00 PM – 1:15 PM	Food Pantry
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
	10:30 AM – 11:30 AM	Fore & Aft
	12:00 PM – 1:15 PM	Food Pantry
	4:00 PM – 5:15 PM	Food Pantry
FRIDAY	9:30 AM – 3:00 PM	Office Closed
	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 Twelfth Saturday after Pentecost
SUNDAY	9:00 AM	Holy Eucharist – The Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost
	10:30 AM	Lemonade on the Lawn

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