

**CHRIST CHURCH PARISH
EPISCOPAL**

5:00 PM

The Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany

February 14, 2026



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

PRELUDE

Kristen Abbott

ENTRANCE HYMN

Songs of thankfulness and praise

1982 Hymnal 135

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.**

OPENING ANTHEM

The following is said, all standing

**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

Celebrant God be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, who before the passion of your only-begotten Son revealed his glory upon the holy mountain: Grant to us that we, beholding by faith the light of his countenance, may be strengthened to bear our cross, and be changed into his likeness from glory to glory; 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:

Exodus 24:12-18

The people sit.

A Reading from the book of Exodus.

The LORD said to Moses, "Come up to me on the mountain, and wait there; and I will give you the tablets of stone, with the law and the commandment, which I have written for their instruction." So Moses set out with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up into the mountain of God. To the elders he had said, "Wait here for us, until we come to you again; for Aaron and Hur are with you; whoever has a dispute may go to them." Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. The glory of the LORD settled on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it for six days; on the seventh day he called to Moses out of the cloud. Now the appearance of the glory of the LORD was like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain in the sight of the people of Israel. Moses entered the cloud, and went up on the mountain. Moses was on the mountain for forty days and forty nights.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Silence may follow.

Psalm 2

Remain seated.

¹Why are the nations in an uproar? *

Why do the peoples mutter empty threats?

²Why do the kings of the earth rise up in revolt,
and the princes plot together, *
against the LORD and against his Anointed?

³“Let us break their yoke,” they say; *
“let us cast off their bonds from us.”

⁴He whose throne is in heaven is laughing; *
the LORD has them in derision.

⁵Then he speaks to them in his wrath, *
and his rage fills them with terror.

⁶“I myself have set my king *
upon my holy hill of Zion.”

⁷Let me announce the decree of the LORD: *
he said to me, “You are my son;
this day have I begotten you.

⁸Ask of me, and I will give you the nations for your inheritance *
and the ends of the earth for your possession.

⁹You shall crush them with an iron rod *
and shatter them like a piece of pottery.”

¹⁰And now, you kings, be wise; *
be warned, you rulers of the earth.

¹¹Submit to the LORD with fear, *
and with trembling bow before him;

¹²lest he be angry, and you perish; *
for his wrath is quickly kindled.

¹³Happy are they all *
who take refuge in him!

SECOND READING:**2 Peter 1:16-21***The people sit.*

A Reading from the Second letter of Peter.

We did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we had been eyewitnesses of his majesty. For he received honor and glory from God the Father when that voice was conveyed to him by the Majestic Glory, saying, "This is my Son, my Beloved, with whom I am well pleased." We ourselves heard this voice come from heaven, while we were with him on the holy mountain. So we have the prophetic message more fully confirmed. You will do well to be attentive to this as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts. First of all you must understand this, that no prophecy of scripture is a matter of one's own interpretation, because no prophecy ever came by human will, but men and women moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Silence may follow.

GOSPEL:**Matthew 17:1-9***All stand.*

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

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

Six days after Peter had acknowledged Jesus as the Christ, the Son of the living God, Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became dazzling white. Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. Then Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three dwellings here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud a voice said, "This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!" When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Get up and do not be afraid." And when they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone. As they were

coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, “Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead.”

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

THE SERMON

The Rev. Deacon James Thomas

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: God of Love, arise, and shine in our hearts as we offer our prayers and praises to you, saying God in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Leader: Grant to the church wisdom to discern the presence of God in our midst and the courage to follow wherever it leads us. We pray for Sean our Presiding Bishop, Julia, Ian and Mary our Bishops, Melissa our Priest, James and Natalie our Deacons, and each of us in our vocations and ministries. In our Diocesan cycle of prayer, we pray for:

Churches and ministries of the Boston Harbor Deanery, including
Our Cathedral Church of St. Paul, Boston

The Crossing

MANNA Community

The Cathedral Chapter

Episcopal Boston Chinese Ministry

Postulants and Candidates for Holy Orders

Silence

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

Bestow your blessing upon our nation, give our leaders loving hearts and concern for the least among us, and embolden us to act out our faith in our common life.

Silence

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

Be with us today and every day that your glory might show forth in our lives.

Silence

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

We give thanks for all the gifts and blessings we have received, especially those we name now, either silently or aloud.

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

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

We give thanks for your creation. Help us to cultivate gratitude in our hearts and souls, that we might harvest generosity and love toward one another and all your creatures.

Silence

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

Be present for all who suffer. Give courage to the fearful, hope to the despairing, healing to the sick and injured, and comfort to the dying. We pray especially for 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.

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

We pray that all who have died may rest in your eternal care, and that we too may one day enter into the glory and heavenly peace of your presence. We pray for all our beloved dead, remembering especially Jack Willett 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: Manifest God, hear our prayers, refresh and embolden us by your Holy Spirit, and help us to follow the example of Christ as our guiding and transforming beacon of hope. **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

*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

Christ, whose glory fills the skies

1982 Hymnal 7

The Great Thanksgiving

The People remain standing.

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Celebrant

We praise you and we bless you, holy and gracious God, source of life abundant. From before time you made ready the creation. Your Spirit moved over the deep and brought all things into being: sun, moon, and stars; earth, winds, and waters; and every living thing. You made us in your image, and taught us to walk in your ways. But we rebelled against you, and wandered far away; and yet, as a mother cares for her children, you would not forget us. Time and again you called us to live in the fullness of your love. And so this day we join with Saints and Angels in the chorus of praise that rings through eternity, lifting our voices to magnify you as we say:

SANCTUS

Celebrant 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.

The Celebrant continues

Glory and honor and praise to you, holy and living God. To deliver us from the power of sin and death and to reveal the riches of your grace, you looked with favor upon Mary, your willing servant, that she might conceive and bear a son, Jesus the holy child of God. Living among us, Jesus loved us. He broke bread with outcasts and sinners, healed the sick, and proclaimed good news to the poor. He yearned to draw all the world to himself yet we were heedless of his call to walk in love. Then, the time came

for him to complete upon the cross the sacrifice of his life, and to be glorified by you.

On the night before he died for us, Jesus was at table with his friends. He took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to them, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine. Again, he gave thanks to you, gave it to them, and said: "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Now gathered at your table, O God of all creation, and remembering Christ, crucified and risen, who was and is and is to come, we offer to you our gifts of bread and wine, and ourselves, a living sacrifice. Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ. Breathe your Spirit over the whole earth and make us your new creation, the Body of Christ given for the world you have made. In the fullness of time bring us, with [_____ and] all your saints, from every tribe and language and people and nation, to feast at the banquet prepared from the foundation of the world. Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and 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

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

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 and 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 as you pass by the cup bearers to return to your seat.

If you would prefer a blessing, come forward, cross your arms across your chest, and the minister will bless you.

COMMUNION HYMN *As we gather at your table* WLP 763

1. As we gath - er at your
2. Turn our wor - ship in - to

Ta - ble, as we lis - ten to your Word, help us
 wit - ness in the sac - ra - ment of life; send us

know, O God, your pres - ence; let our hearts and minds be
 forth to love and serve you, bring - ing peace where there is

stirred. Nour - ish us with sa - cred sto - ry till we
 strife. Give us, Christ, your great com - pas - sion to for -

claim it as our own; teach us through this ho - ly
give as you for - gave; may we still be - hold your

ban - quet how to make Love's vic - t'ry known.
im - age in the world you died to save. to verse 3

Optional Descant

3. Gra - cious Spi - rit, help us
3. Gra - cious Spi - rit, help us
3. Gra - cious Spi - rit, help us

sum - mon oth - er guests to share that Feast where tri -

sum - mon oth - er guests to share that Feast where tri -

The first system of the musical score consists of two vocal staves and a piano accompaniment. The vocal staves are in treble clef with a key signature of three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat). The piano accompaniment is in grand staff (treble and bass clefs). The lyrics are "sum - mon oth - er guests to share that Feast where tri -".

um - phant Love will wel - come those who had been last and

um - phant Love will wel - come those who had been last and

The second system of the musical score continues the vocal and piano parts. The lyrics are "um - phant Love will wel - come those who had been last and".

least. There no more will en - vy blind us nor will

least. There no more will en - vy blind us nor will

The third system of the musical score concludes the vocal and piano parts. The lyrics are "least. There no more will en - vy blind us nor will". At the bottom of the piano part, there is a pedal point instruction: "(Ped.)" with a curved line connecting two fermatas.

pride our peace des - troy, as we join with saints and

pride our peace des - troy, as we join with saints and

an - gels to re - peat the sound - ing joy.

an - gels to re - peat the sound - ing joy.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

Celebrant 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.
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.**

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

May Christ, the Son of God, be manifest in you, that your lives may be a light to the world; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and upon all those you love, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN

O wondrous type! O vision fair

1982 Hymnal 137 vs 1-3

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; Arnie Kaupp; Barbara Hulme; Bob Pirie; Carol MacPhee; David Flynn; David Mann; Don Bolt; Donna Eby; **Dorothy Smith**; Ellen Nordquist; Evelyn Ferioli; Forrest Berardi; Greta Couter; **for the repose of the soul of Jack Willett**; James Elksnin; Jim Kelly; John Powderly; John Steele; Karen Guerra; Katharine LiBretto; Kathy Rust; Kenny Blackwell; Kim Stevenson; Laurie Ghelfi Smith; Mark Poster; Nancy Dixon; Peter Trenouth; Polly Chadwick; Raymond Reid; Sandy Underhill; Skip Nielsen; Stephanie "Petie" Blanchard; Suzanne and Dave Salois; Sylvia Wade; Theodora; Mark Ouellette; Valerie B. Pflock; for the repose of the soul of 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, Peter Leone

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.

Bible Study - Our Thursday morning Bible study is beginning the Gospel of John. We meet from 10:00 - 11:30am in our Hospitality room. We have space for 2-3 more participants. No knowledge of the Bible is required. Our focus for all Bible studies is relating the passages to our everyday lives.

If you would like to join us or have questions, please call (508-224-1680), text (609-240-8640) or email (fergusondandb@gmail.com) Dee and Bill Ferguson.

Men's Group – The Men's Group will be meeting Wednesday, February 18th at 6pm in the Parish Hall for dinner and plan for next Sunday's (February 22nd) Brunch. All men of the Parish are welcome to attend.

All are welcome to Ash Wednesday services – Wednesday, February 18th, 2026
12p – Holy Eucharist with imposition of ashes – a quiet, meditative service with no music
7p – Holy Eucharist with imposition of ashes – a service with music and hymns

Services for Jack Willett - Services for Jack Willett will be held on Saturday, February 21st here at Christ Church. Visitation will take place at the church from 10a-11a, followed by the funeral service at 11a.

Sharing Our Grief Journey –

Save the Dates

The 3rd Friday of every month from 1:00 PM – 2:30 PM

February 20, March 20, April 17, May 15, June 19.

Meeting in the Christ Church Hospitality Suite

Christ Church is offering a series of get togethers designed for anyone who is grieving the loss of a loved one, whether the death is recent or in the past. Participants will have the opportunity to share where they are on their grief journey, receive mutual support, share ways to cope, and may, through prayer and meditation, find new strength and hope to continue on their healing journey. Please join us for one session or all.

Question? - Please contact: Margery Buckingham 617-710-0174

morganbuckingham@msn.com , Ann Fowler 207-751-2004 dafowler2@comcast.net, or

Louise Woodruff 508-380-2922 Lwoodr1451@aol.com .

2026 Stewardship Campaign Shining Our Light Support Christ Church and its Ministries



Week At - A - Glance * February 15, 2026 – February 22, 2026

SUNDAY	7:00 AM 8:00 AM 9:00 AM 9:00 AM 9:00 AM 10:00 AM 11:30 AM	Overnights of Hospitality End Holy Eucharist Rite I – The Last Sunday After the Epiphany Church School, Grades PreK-5 Adult Sunday School Youth Formation Holy Eucharist EOW – The Last Sunday after the Epiphany Coffee Hour
MONDAY	9:00 AM 9:30 AM – 3:00 PM 10:30 AM – 11:30 AM	Morning Prayer – Facebook Live Office Closed Fore & Aft
TUESDAY	10:30 AM – 11:30 AM	Fore & Aft
WEDNESDAY	9:00 AM 10:30 AM – 11:30 AM 12:00 PM 6:00 PM 7:00 PM	Morning Prayer – Facebook Live Fore & Aft Ash Wednesday Service Men's Group Ash Wednesday Service
THURSDAY	10:00 AM – 4:00 PM 10:00 AM 10:30 AM – 11:30 AM 12:00 PM – 1:15 PM 1:00 PM 4:00 PM – 5:15 PM	Thrift Shoppe Bible Study Fore & Aft Food Pantry Faith Based Book Study Food Pantry
FRIDAY	9:00 AM 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM 10:30 AM – 11:30 AM	Morning Prayer – Facebook Live Thrift Shoppe Fore & Aft
SATURDAY	10:00 AM – 11:15 AM 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM 10:00 AM 11:00 AM 5:00 PM	Food Pantry Thrift Shoppe Jack Willett Visitation Jack Willett Funeral Holy Eucharist Rite II – The First Saturday in Lent
SUNDAY	8:00 AM 9:00 AM 9:00 AM 9:00 AM 10:00 AM 11:30 AM	Holy Eucharist Rite I – The First Sunday in Lent Church School, Grades PreK-5 Adult Sunday School Youth Formation Holy Eucharist Rite II – The First Sunday in Lent Men's Group Brunch

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
Alex Manchester, Junior Warden
Ray Rogers, Treasurer
Amanda Peterson, Clerk

Wil Bernard, Tom Choinski, Donna Eby, David Greene, Don Hill,
Barb Hurney, Judy Lutz, Melissa Pechey, and Nancy Ricks

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Scan here to visit our website:

<https://www.christchurchplymouth.org/>



Office Hours

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