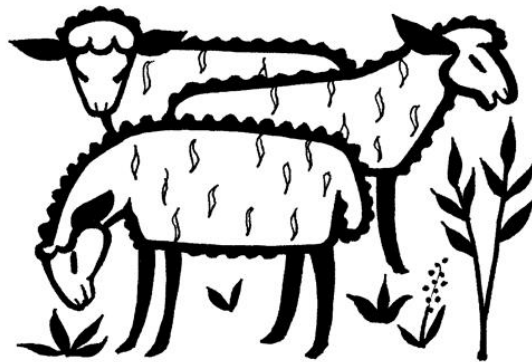


**CHRIST CHURCH PARISH
EPISCOPAL**

8:00 AM

The Holy Eucharist, Rite I: Fourth Sunday of Easter

April 26, 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.

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

The Word of God

The service begins on page 323 of the Book of Common Prayer (BCP). All stand as the ministers enter.

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ is risen.

People **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

The Celebrant prays the Collect for Purity.

All remain standing and pray the Gloria together:

THE GLORIA

BCP p.

324

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

*The Celebrant prays the Collect of the Day. The people respond: **Amen.***

FIRST READING

Acts 2:42-47

*After each reading, the reader says "The Word of the Lord," and the people respond: **Thanks be to God.***

PSALM 23

BCP p. 612

SECOND READING

1 Peter

2:19-25

GOSPEL

John 10:1-10

All stand. Before the Gospel is proclaimed, the Deacon or Celebrant says:

The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to John.

*The people respond: **Glory be to thee, O Lord.***

After the Gospel is proclaimed, the Deacon or Celebrant says:

The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise be to thee, O Christ.

THE SERMON

The Rev. Canon Kelly O'Connell

The people sit. Silence may follow.

THE CREED *All stand.*

BCP p. 326

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE, FORM IV

BCP p. 388

CONFESSION OF SIN

BCP p. 331

THE PEACE

BCP p. 332



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!

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER II

BCP p. 340

THE LORD'S PRAYER

BCP p. 336

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

A moment of silence is held.

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People: Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

THE PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS

BCP p. 337

INVITATION

Celebrant: Wherever you are on your journey, you are welcome at God's table. The Gifts of God for the People of God.

The people come forward to receive Holy Communion or a blessing.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

BCP p. 339

BLESSING

DISMISSAL

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

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; David Flynn; David Mann; **for the repose of the soul of Don Bolt**; Donna Eby; Dorothy Smith; Elizabeth Liuzzi; Ellen Nordquist; Evelyn Ferioli; Francis Ferioli; Forrest Berardi; Greta Couter; James Elksnin; Jim Kelly; John Powderly; John Steele; Karen Guerra; Katharine LiBretto; Kathy Rust; Kenny Blackwell; Keshia Nielsen; Kim Stevenson; **Kristin Denker**; Laurie Ghelfi Smith; Linda Quigley; Mark Poster; Peter Trenouth; Polly Chadwick; Raymond Reid; **Ruth Ghelfi**; Sandy Underhill; Skip Nielsen; Stephanie "Petie" Blanchard; Suzanne and Dave Salois; Sylvia Wade; Theodora DeGaust; Mark Ouellette; Valerie B. Pflock

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

In our Diocesan cycle of prayer, we pray for:

Churches of the Charles River Deanery

Grace Church, Newton

St. John's Church, Newtonville

St. Mary's Church, Newton Lower Falls

Parish of St. Paul, Newton Highlands

Prison Ministries

A Note on Our Sunday 10a Worship

"Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him." — Luke 24:35

The Easter season reminds us that the risen Christ keeps showing up — on the road to Emmaus, behind locked doors, in the breaking of bread — and that the church's calling

has always been to be a place where people can encounter Jesus, again and for the first time.

In this moment, that calling feels especially urgent. The Episcopal Church, like many mainline traditions, is navigating a real decline in the people finding their way through our doors. We don't say that with alarm — we say it with conviction that this is exactly the moment to ask how we make room for people, perhaps unfamiliar with our particular traditions, to meet Jesus through Christ Church Parish. With that vision in mind, we're making a few intentional changes to our Sunday 10am service, effective this Easter season:

Scripture in plain language. We'll use the Common English Bible for our readings — a lively, scholarly translation approved by the Episcopal Church for use in worship and written to be understood by the widest possible range of readers.

Three Scripture readings instead of four. This allows more space for each reading to land, and a little more breathing room in the liturgy overall.

A changed ending. After the table is cleared, we'll pray the postcommunion prayer, sing a closing hymn together, and receive the blessing and dismissal from the altar. The postlude will follow, and clergy will come forward to greet the congregation — giving us a much richer opportunity to welcome people as they leave, and to make sure no one slips out without being seen. You're warmly invited to stay, listen, and linger — or to depart when you need to. Both are a blessing.

We know that change in worship is never neutral. These liturgies are where many of us have encountered God, buried loved ones, baptized children. If something about these changes gives you pause, or if you find yourself with questions or concerns — that matters, and we want to hear from you.

Please share your thoughts using the short form accessible by scanning the QR code. Your responses go directly to Rev. Melissa, Deacons Natalie and James, and Lea, so that we can listen and respond as a team. We'll also be hosting a conversation after the 10am service on June 7th — all are welcome to come.



Envelopes — Due to the high increase of the cost of parish envelopes we have decided to eliminate them. When putting your gift in the offering plate, please write in the memo line where it is to go (pledge, flowers, etc).

Also, you can send your check through your bank to be mailed to the church. Please put your name and envelope # as your account #.

You can also pay through Realm: use the QR code in this worship bulletin at the

offertory, or go to our website, click on Donate, and then click Give Now Online.

If you have questions, please contact Donna Lawrence at 508-243-2293
or donnamL21@comcast.net

Thank you for your continuous support to Christ Church.

Evening Women - Our next gathering will be May 6 at 72° West, 114 Water St (old Isaacs) for dinner. The cost is \$35 \$30 + 5 dollars for a tip please RSVP. I cannot have any walk-ins. Contact me at 508-243-2293 or let me know at church. Thank you, Donna Lawrence.

Please help us with SUNDAY PARKING - On Sunday mornings, please be mindful of one another and leave the main church lot for those who need it most, as accessible parking spots for people with disabilities and families with infants are limited.

Additional parking is always available on Lothrop Street. The Cartmell-Davis lot across from the church on Grant Street is also available to Christ Church worshipers on Sundays. Thank you!

Christ Church Thrift Shoppe - If you haven't visited the Thrift Shoppe recently, you should definitely swing by and take a look at our fresh new look. Spring fashions brighten every corner, and new household items come in every week, generously donated by our kind supporters.

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

2026 Bishop's Annual Appeal As a diocesan community, Bishop Julia Whitworth has asked us to support the Bishop's Annual Appeal, which launches this weekend for the Fourth Sunday of Easter, also known as Good Shepherd Sunday. This year's appeal highlights ways that we, as a diocese, support shepherds, lay and ordained alike, who are strengthening the vitality of our congregations.

Packets including Bishop Julia's appeal letter and a donation envelope are available at the doors of our sanctuary. To support the appeal, please place your gift in the offering plate next weekend (May 2nd and 3rd). You can also mail your donation directly to the diocesan office. Together, we are able to accomplish that which we cannot do alone!

Week At - A - Glance * April 26, 2026 – May 3, 2026

SUNDAY	8:00 AM	Holy Eucharist Rite I – The Fourth Sunday of Easter
	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 Fourth Sunday of Easter
	11:30 AM	Coffee Hour
	11:30 AM	Vestry meets with Canon Kelly O'Connell
	11:30 AM	Resource Committee 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
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
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 Fifth Saturday of Easter
	7:00 PM	Congregation Beth Jacob
SUNDAY	8:00 AM	Holy Eucharist Rite I – The Fifth Sunday of Easter
	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 Fifth Sunday of Easter
	11:30 AM	Coffee Hour
	11:30 AM	Creation Care 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
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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E-mail: office.christchurchplymouth@gmail.com

Scan here to visit our website: [https://
www.christchurchplymouth.org/](https://www.christchurchplymouth.org/)



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

