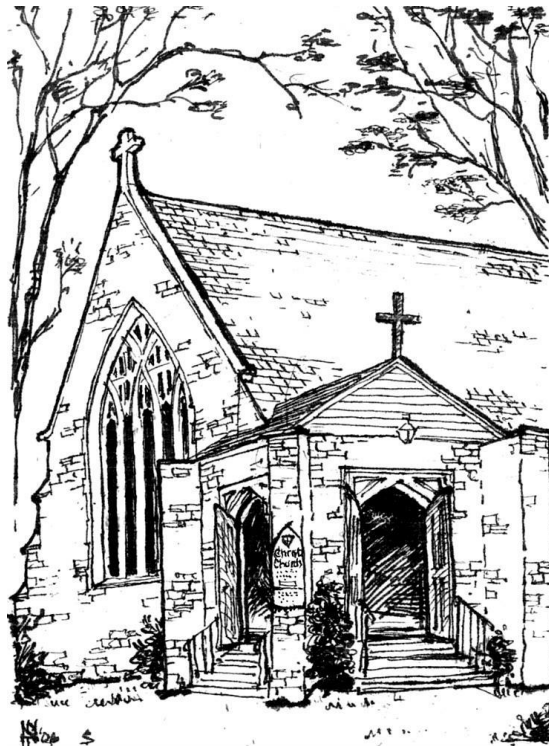


**CHRIST CHURCH PARISH
EPISCOPAL**

5:00 PM

The Fifteenth Saturday after Pentecost

August 31, 2024



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.

The Word of God

ENTRANCE SONG

Our God Reigns

Celebrate 24

OPENING ACCLAMATION

The people standing, the Celebrant says

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

People **And blessed be God's reign, now and for ever.
Amen.**

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 The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Lord of all power and might, the author and giver of all good things: Graft in our hearts the love of your Name; increase in us true religion; nourish us with all goodness; and bring forth in us the fruit of good works; 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:

Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9

The people sit.

A Reading from the book of Deuteronomy.

So now, Israel, give heed to the statutes and ordinances that I am teaching you to observe, so that you may live to enter and occupy the land that the LORD, the God of your ancestors, is giving you. You must neither add anything to what I command you nor take away anything from it, but keep the commandments of the LORD your God with which I am charging you. You must observe them diligently, for this will show your wisdom and discernment to the peoples, who, when they hear all these statutes, will say, "Surely this great nation is a wise and discerning people!" For what other great nation has a god so near to it as the LORD our God is whenever we call to him? And what other great nation has statutes and ordinances as just as this entire law that I am setting before you today? But take care and watch yourselves closely, so as neither to forget the things that your eyes have seen nor to let them slip from your mind all the days of your life; make them known to your children and your children's children.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Silence may follow.

Psalm 15

Remain seated.

¹LORD, who may dwell in your tabernacle? *
who may abide upon your holy hill?

²Whoever leads a blameless life and does what is right, *
who speaks the truth from his heart.

³There is no guile upon his tongue;
he does no evil to his friend; *
he does not heap contempt upon his neighbor.

⁴In his sight the wicked is rejected, *
but he honors those who fear the LORD.

⁵He has sworn to do no wrong *
and does not take back his word.

⁶He does not give his money in hope of gain, *
nor does he take a bribe against the innocent.

⁷Whoever does these things *
shall never be overthrown.

SECOND READING:

James 1:17-27

The people sit.

A Reading from the letter of James.

Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. In fulfillment of his own purpose he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures. You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; for your anger does not produce God's righteousness. Therefore rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls. But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like. But

those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act—they will be blessed in their doing. If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless. Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Silence may follow.

GOSPEL:

Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

All stand.

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

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

Now when the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around Jesus, they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them. For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they thoroughly wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders; and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash it; and there are also many other traditions that they observe, the washing of cups, pots, and bronze kettles. So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, "Why do your disciples not live according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?" He said to them, "Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written, 'This people honors me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me; in vain do they worship me, teaching human precepts as doctrines.' You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition." Then he called the crowd again and said to them, "Listen to me, all of you, and understand: there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile." For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come: fornication, theft, murder, adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, licentiousness, envy, slander, pride, folly. All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person."

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

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

THE SERMON

The Rev. Melissa Howell

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

Deacon: We come before God this day, ready to offer our best efforts and our most perfect gifts of praise and love.

May we be doers of God's will,

And not merely hearers.

Leader: Loving and faithful God, hear our prayers for the church: for Michael our presiding bishop, Sean our presiding bishop-elect, Alan and Carol our bishops, Julia our bishop-elect, Melissa our priest, James our deacon, our lay leaders and for each one of us, as we seek to offer our lives in service of the gospel.

Silence

May we be doers of God's will,

And not merely hearers.

Hear our prayers for our national and local leaders, and especially for all who work to bring greater understanding and reconciliation among peoples and nations. We pray for the cause of peace and justice as we remember those who suffer from war and civil strife, especially the peoples of Ukraine, the Holy Land, South Sudan, and Haiti. We pray for all who are caught in the web of discrimination and upheaval throughout the world.

Silence

May we be doers of God's will,

And not merely hearers.

We give thanks for God's most perfect gift of the creation. May we honor that gift as we work with those committed to the restoration of the land, the seas, and the air.

Silence

May we be doers of God's will,

And not merely hearers.

We also give thanks for the countless blessings that fill our lives each day. We seek not to take these for granted, but to acknowledge God's generous hand in every aspect of our lives.

Silence

May we be doers of God's will,

And not merely hearers.

Give new hope, O God, to those who suffer illness, depression, and loss of any kind. May they experience new possibilities through the gracious working of the Spirit. We pray 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.

May we be doers of God's will,

And not merely hearers.

We offer our prayers for those who have died, giving thanks for their lives and taking confidence in God's loving care for all people. We remember those who have died especially Rena Melahoures in whose honor and memory the high altar flowers have been given and those we name now, either silently or aloud.

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

May we be doers of God's will,

And not merely hearers.

Celebrant: We come before you, O God, not only as those who dwell in God's house but as those who speak the truth from the heart. May our actions this day match our words and may our lives bear witness to the love and justice of God. We ask this in Christ's name. **Amen.**

CONFESSION OF SIN

The Deacon or Celebrant says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

Minister and People

**Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.**

**We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.**

We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.

For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,

have mercy on us and forgive us;

that we may delight in your will,

and walk in your ways,

to the glory of your Name. Amen.

The Priest stands and says

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord 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 the Lord 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 SONG

Litany

Carey Landry

O Lord, our God, we lift up our hearts to you.
O Lord, our God, your people rejoice in you.

God of the living. God of all people.
Father of life, we lift up our hearts to you.

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.**

God of all power, Source and Sustainer of the Universe,
you are worthy of glory and praise.

Glory to you for ever and ever.

At your command all things came to be: shining light and enfolding dark;
the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns,
and this fragile earth, our island home.

By your will they were created and have their being.

From the primal elements you brought forth the human race,
and blessed us with the capacity for memory, reason, and skill.
You made us the stewards of your creation.

But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust;
and we turned against one another.

Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.

Again and again, you called us to return.

Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law.
And in the fullness of time you sent your eternal Word,
born of your servant Mary,

to fulfill your Law, opening for us the way of freedom and peace.

By his blood, he reconciled us. By his wounds, we are healed.

And therefore we praise you,

joining with the heavenly chorus,

with prophets, apostles, and martyrs,

and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope,
to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

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.

On the night he was betrayed Jesus took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper, Jesus took the cup of wine, gave thanks, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Remembering now his work of redemption and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,

We celebrate Christ's death and resurrection as we await the day of his coming.

Therefore, O God, we who have been redeemed by Jesus Christ, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Savior.

Sanctify us also, and let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.

God of our ancestors; Redeemer and Mother of Israel; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only and not for strength; for pardon only and not for renewal.

Accept these prayers and praises, Almighty God, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation. **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 SONG

Hearts Courageous

Owens-Collins

Give us ears to hear that still, small voice,
And give us lips, forever willing to rejoice.
And may our eyes be lit with wisdom,
May we know the path that's true,
And we'll march with hearts courageous after You.

Refrain:

We're marching on with hearts courageous,
We'll follow where you want us to.
And should you lead us where the battle rages,
Let us march with hearts courageous, after You.

And when sorrow dims the light along our way,
Help us to see each time of darkness through eyes of faith,
A time for hope, a time for courage,
Knowing you will lead us through.
And let us march with hearts courageous, after You. *Refrain*

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

**Almighty and everliving God,
we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food
of the most precious Body and Blood
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;
and for assuring us in these holy mysteries
that we are living members of the Body of Christ,
and heirs of your eternal kingdom.
And now, send us out
to do the work you have given us to do,
to love and serve you
as faithful witnesses of Christ our Savior.
To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory, now and for ever. 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.**

CLOSING HYMN

What a Friend We Have in Jesus!

Celebrate 154

BLESSING

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.

Arnie Kaupp; Bill Lutz; Family of Clara Clements; Caleb Eaton and family; Carol Owen; Cindy Boyer; Dianne Powers; Don Bolt; Doug Perry; Elaine Christian; John Davidson; Karen Guerra; Karen Romero; Kate Taylor; Kim Fillian; Lauren Parnass; Laurie Ghelfi Smith; Linda Garrone; Louise Woodruff; Lynne Neeley; Margie Kaupp; Maryanne Kerrigan; Michael Petringa; Michelle and Michael Almeida; Nicole Smith; Norm Zinger; Owen Smith; Ray Rogers; Sam Barry; Sharon Steadman; Steven Mills-Price; Suzanne and Dave Salois; Suzanne Williamson-Vico; Tim N.; Tina MacAllister; Tyler Christian; Valerie B. Pflock; William Underhill

We ask your prayers for those serving in the military and their families:

Andrew Barton, Austin Vico, Harry Morini, 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.

Keeping Connected – Christ Church's weekly eNewsletter can now be found on our website christchurchplymouth.org. Visit our website to view the newsletter or scroll to the bottom of the page and enter your name and email to have it sent directly to your inbox.

Sunday Worship Schedule Changes – Our regular program year worship schedule, with Holy Eucharist at 5pm on Saturdays, 8am and 10am on Sundays, will resume on September 7th and 8th.

Church School News - The first day of Church School for PreK-5 is Sunday, September 8. We will have class at 9 AM and a special Welcome Back Ice Cream Social at Coffee Hour! Older students, and adults are invited to join Rev. Melissa at 9 AM in the Hospitality Suite for a discussion focused on the lessons for the day.

- **PreK-1 Students:** Meet with Amanda Peterson in the basement classroom (that sounds ominous, but it is a *great* space for this age group!)
- **Grade 2-5 Students:** Meet with Makenzie Manchester and Su D'Ambrosio in the classrooms on the 2nd floor of Hall House. Please enter by the door in the driveway.

Church School Help Needed! We are always looking for volunteers to help in our classrooms. Volunteers assist the lead teacher with class activities and ensure that we adhere to minimum adult supervision requirements for Safe Church guidelines. You can volunteer for one week, be on call as a substitute teacher, or join our Church School team. Please consider sharing your time and talent with our youngest parishioners by volunteering to help in our Church School classes! Use the link below to let us know you want to participate or contact Su D'Ambrosio at assunta999@gmail.com for more information.

Interested In Acolyting? - With our regular Sunday church schedule about to begin, we are looking to add to our current group of acolytes. Acolytes assist the ministers during the service to help things run smoothly. This enhances the worship service and is an important ministry. Traditionally acolytes are youth over the age of 9. With the complexity of everyone's schedules we will be having a few different training sessions or refreshers for anyone interested in serving as an acolyte. These will take place at 9 a.m on 3 Sundays throughout September. September 15th, 22nd, and 29th. Please email Rebecca Metzger- radmetzger@gmail.com with a date that you are available. Please respond to Rebecca even if you are already on the acolyte list. Thank you!

Bloomin' 4 Good Program - For the month of September, the purchase of a \$10.99 bouquet in the sleeve marked "Bloomin' 4 Good" from the Stop & Shop at 127 Samoset St in Plymouth will brighten a home or make someone's day while also directing a \$1 donation to the Christ Church Food Pantry. This is a great way to broaden awareness in the local community and raise donations for our organization to help fight hunger. The more bouquets sold, the greater the donation we will receive from Stop & Shop! To learn more about this program, please visit stopandshop.2givelocal.com.

Christ Church Food Pantry – This week we are low on: baked beans, kidney beans, spaghetti sauce, coffee and snack bars.

All are welcome to the Christ Church Food Pantry!

We are open by appointment:

Tuesday 4:00-5:15, 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.

Leave a message if you wish to donate non-perishable food and household items, or you may leave your donations under the mailboxes outside the office or in the front entrance to the sanctuary. Squirrels like to get into any bags left on the porch of the food pantry!

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

Christ Church Thrift Shoppe - Summer Sales are in progress. Please stop by, shop our dollar racks and help us make room for fall clothing and seasonal items.

Thanks to those who have generously donated to our collection bin located in the Narthex. We will continue to collect home decor, fiction books, jewelry, kitchenwares and gently used items from non-smoking homes throughout the month of August.

Summer Shoppe Hours

Thursday and Friday 10-4

Saturday 10-1

Week At - A - Glance * September 1, 2024 – September 8, 2024

SUNDAY	9:00 AM 10:15 AM	Holy Eucharist Rite II – The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost Lemonade on the Lawn
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	9:30 AM – 3:00 PM 10:00 AM 10:30 AM – 11:30 AM 4:00 PM – 5:15 PM	Office Closed Companions Group Fore & Aft Food Pantry
WEDNESDAY	9:00 AM 10:30 AM – 11:30 AM	Morning Prayer – Facebook Live Fore & Aft
THURSDAY	10:00 AM – 4:00 PM 10:30 AM – 11:30 AM 12:00 PM – 1:15 PM 4:00 PM – 5:15 PM	Thrift Shoppe Fore & Aft Food Pantry 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 – 1:00 PM 10:00 AM – 11:15 AM 5:00 PM	Thrift Shoppe Food Pantry Holy Eucharist Rite II – The Sixteenth Saturday after Pentecost
SUNDAY	8:00 AM 9:00 AM 9:00 AM 10:00 AM 11:15 AM	Holy Eucharist Rite I – The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost Church School (Adults and Grades Pre-K – 5) Choir Rehearsal Holy Eucharist Rite II – The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost Coffee Hour Ice Cream Social

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. Deacon James Thomas
David Tyler, Parish Administrator
Lea Tyler, Choir Director
Su D'Ambrosio, Sunday School Coordinator
Jae Johnson, Sexton

Officers and Vestry Representatives

Bill Ferguson, Senior Warden
John Steele, Junior Warden
Ray Rogers, Treasurer
Brenna Buckley, Clerk

Wil Bernard, Barb Hurney, Kat LiBretto, Judy Lutz, Makenzie Manchester,
Ellen McTighe, Becky Metzger, Amanda Peterson, and Jack Willett

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