CHRIST CHURCH PARISH
EPISCOPAL

8:00 AM

Easter Sunday

April 5, 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

OPENING ACCLAMATION
The people standing, the Celebrant says

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

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.

OPENING ANTHEM
The following is sung, all standing

Glory be to God on high,
and on earth peace, good will towards men.
We praise thee, we bless thee,
we worship thee,
we glorify thee,
we give thanks to thee for thy great glory,
O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty.
O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ;
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
that takest away the sins of the world,
have mercy upon us.
Thou that takest away the sins of the world,
receive our prayer.
Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father,
have mercy upon us.
For thou only art holy;

thou only art the Lord;
thou only, O Christ,
with the Holy Ghost,
art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People **And with thy spirit.**
Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, who for our redemption didst give thine only-begotten Son to the death of the cross, and by his glorious resurrection hast delivered us from the power of our enemy: Grant us so to die daily to sin, that we may evermore live with him in the joy of his resurrection; through the same thy Son Christ the Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

The Lessons

FIRST READING: **Acts 10:34-43**

The people sit.

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

Peter began to speak to Cornelius and the other Gentiles: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Silence may follow.

Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24
Remain seated.

1 Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; *
his mercy endures for ever.

2 Let Israel now proclaim, *
"His mercy endures for ever."

14 The LORD is my strength and my song, *
and he has become my salvation.

15 There is a sound of exultation and victory *
in the tents of the righteous:

16 "The right hand of the LORD has triumphed! *
The right hand of the LORD is exalted!
The right hand of the LORD has triumphed!"

17 I shall not die, but live, *
and declare the works of the LORD.

18 The LORD has punished me sorely, *
but he did not hand me over to death.

19 Open for me the gates of righteousness; *
I will enter them;
I will offer thanks to the LORD.

20 "This is the gate of the LORD; *
he who is righteous may enter."

21 I will give thanks to you, for you answered me *
and have become my salvation.

22 The same stone which the builders rejected *
has become the chief cornerstone.

23 This is the LORD's doing, *
and it is marvelous in our eyes.

24 On this day the LORD has acted; *
we will rejoice and be glad in it.

SECOND READING: Colossians 3:1-4

The people sit.

A Reading from Paul's letter to the Church in Colossus.

Since you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth, for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Silence may follow.

GOSPEL: Matthew 28:1-10

All stand.

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

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

After the sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. And suddenly there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples, 'He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him.' This is my message for you." So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great

joy, and ran to tell his disciples. Suddenly Jesus met them and said, "Greetings!" And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshiped him. Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me."

The Gospel of the Lord.
People **Praise be to thee, O 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: Jesus Christ is risen. Alleluia! Let us pray, saying, "Risen Christ, hear our prayer."

Leader: Heavenly Savior, we give thanks that through your life, death, and resurrection, you have offered the gift of redemption to us and to all people. Empower us and all members of your Church to sing your eternal praises with our voices and our lives.
Silence
Risen Christ, **hear our prayer.**

Merciful Redeemer, inspire the leaders of our towns, state, country, and world to serve their communities with open minds and hearts, and to promote restorative justice, peace, dignity, and flourishing for all people.
Silence
Risen Christ, **hear our prayer.**

Incarnate Love, bring your transformative and healing presence to all who are grieving, suffering, or in danger. We remember those on our parish prayer list, and those we name now, either silently or aloud.
Silence is held for a time as the congregation offers their intercessions.
Risen Christ, **hear our prayer.**

Author of Life, remind us that we are inter-connected with you, with one another and with all living things. Compel us to care for your Creation.
Silence
Risen Christ, **hear our prayer.**

Risen Christ, we give thanks that you have opened heaven's gate and freed us from the power of sin and death. We pray for the dying and for those who have died. May they forever be united with you in Resurrection joy. We remember especially those we name now, either silently or aloud.

Silence is held for a time as the congregation offers their intercessions.
Risen Christ, **hear our prayer.**

The Celebrant prays a concluding collect:
Living Christ, you are risen from the dead, and love reigns! You are life stronger than death. Raise our hearts to you as the new day dawns, for the glory of your name. **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!

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.

But chiefly are we bound to praise thee for the glorious resurrection of thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the very Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and hath taken away the sin of the world; who by his death hath destroyed death, and by his rising to life again hath won for us everlasting life.

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

Celebrant and People

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts:
Heaven and earth are full of thy glory.
Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High.
Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.
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.

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.

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.

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 Almighty God, who has redeemed us and adopted us through the resurrection of Jesus Christ our Lord, bless you richly. **Amen.**

May God, who through the water of baptism has raised us from sin into newness of life, make you holy and worthy to be united with Christ for ever. **Amen**.

May God, who has brought us out of bondage to sin into true and everlasting freedom in the Redeemer, bring you to your eternal inheritance. **Amen.**

And may the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be upon you this day, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

DISMISSAL

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

Donations for Easter Flowers and Guest Musicians

Given in Loving Memory of:

Albert, Andrew, & Bonnie Bell also Patricia Chase by Mary Bell
Baby BeeGee Bazan Greene & our loved ones by David, Dorothy, Alteira & Keara Greene
Bradley & Fall families by Brad & Judy Bradley
Charles M. Boulanger & Karen L. Jacobs by Nancy G. Boulanger
The Christian, Hill, Billingham & Beal families & Priscilla Palombo by Don & Debbie Hill
Debra A. Johnson by Paul Johnson & family
Denis H. Hassan Sr and Jr by Marilyn Hassan
The Gault, Tracy, Wall & Stephan families by Charlie & Laurie Wall
The Giaccaglia & Becker families by Jackie & Denise Giaccaglia
Jim & Johnny Ridpath & Carlos Guerra by Karen Guerra
Jim Stanne by the Stanne & Chin families
June Smith by Dennis Smith & Michael, Tanya, Jack, Finola & Harry Morini
Kenefick & Nielsen families by Carl & Robin Nielsen
Larry Couter by Greta Couter
Lenny Williams by Holly Williams & Jennifer Keyes
Rena and Charles Melahoures by Connie Melahoures
Reva Dickson, Bessie Zoraboucas, Jane Carey & Jeanne Mann by Norm & Wanda Harbinson

As a Thank Offering by:

Adrian Massie for Lea Tyler & Peter Litchfield
David & Gail Elliott for all who serve Christ in His church
Karen Guerra for all my grandchildren
Mary Bell for Lea, Peter & the choir
The McTighe-Tassinari family for our wonderful family
Tang

Thank You

Thank you to our staff and all who have worked behind the scenes and up front to make our Holy Week and Easter worship to God's glory and praise, among them: acolytes, altar guild, choir, musicians and soloists, drafters and printers of bulletins, Eucharistic ministers and lectors, ushers and greeters, caretakers and cleaners of our sanctuary and grounds, brass polishers, liturgical arts ministers, our worship committee, our church school and youth group, and last but not least all the parishioners who make these holy days so special at Christ Church Parish.

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; Carol MacPhee; David Flynn; David Mann; 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; Kesha Nielsen; Kim Stevenson; Laurie Ghelfi Smith; **Linda Quigley;** Mark Poster; Nancy Dixon; Peter Trenouth; Polly Chadwick; Raymond Reid; 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 Cape & Islands Deanery, including
Church of the Good Shepherd, Wareham
St. James the Fisherman Church, Wellfleet
Church of the Messiah, Woods Hole (Falmouth)

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.

Easter Pansies for Children - Following the 10:00 Easter Sunday service pansies will be given to the children from the "Pansy Garden" under the Altar. Children's parents grandparents or guardians can just come to the altar rail and someone will be there to distribute them.

Celebrate Veterans Free Breakfast - Saturday, April 18, 2026 @ 9:30am
White Pine Village Clubhouse 6 Della Way East Bridgewater, MA 02333 Sponsored by: VFW Post 6258 Halifax. Enjoy a free hot breakfast with other Veterans. Scrambled eggs, bacon, sausage, home fries, French toast w/syrup, fresh fruit salad, assorted juices, coffee, & tea.
Limited to 50 attendees. Please call or text 774-222-3070 Bill Finn, Quartermaster VFW Post 6258 before April 10, 2026.

Sharing Our Grief Journey - Meets the 3rd Friday of every month from 1:00 PM – 2:30 PM**.** Join us Friday, April 17. Meeting in the 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.

Good Food. Great Fellowship. Second Saturday Supper! - Kick off our first-ever Second Saturday Supper April 11th @ 6:30 PM in the Parish Hall! Whether you're a familiar face or a first-time guest, pull up a chair for great food and even better company. All food provided.

RSVP: Online via link in KC or call Melissa Peachy (508-565-9495).

Be Informed - See how disaster relief at home and abroad is impacting our world.
Event Details
Date: April 22, 2026
Time: 6:00 p.m.
Location: Christ Church Episcopal Parish Hall
Admission: FREE

Featured Speakers

- Bill Schmid — Federal Disaster Recovery Officer (Retired), Department of Homeland Security / FEMA
- Paul Bolton — Senior Scientist, Center for Global Mental Health, Department of Mental Health, Johns Hopkins University Bloomberg School of Public Health. Paul also worked extensively with USAID.

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

Week At - A - Glance * April 5, 2026 – April 12, 2026

SUNDAY	**8:00 AM**	**Holy Eucharist Rite I – Easter Sunday**
	10:00 AM	**Holy Eucharist Rite II – Easter Sunday**
	11:30 AM	Coffee Hour
	11:30 AM	Easter Egg Hunt and Flowering of the Cross
MONDAY	**9:00 AM**	**Morning Prayer –** Facebook Live
	10:30 AM – 11:30 AM	Fore & Aft
TUESDAY	10:00 AM	Companions Group
	10:30 AM – 11:30 AM	Fore & Aft
	6:00 PM	Invite Welcome Connect
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 Second Saturday of Easter**
SUNDAY	**8:00 AM**	**Holy Eucharist Rite I – The Second 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 Second Sunday of Easter**
	11:30 AM	Coffee Hour

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

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