

The Parish of Christ Church  
Andover, Massachusetts

For this week's  
announcements and  
prayer list, please scan:



Fourth Sunday of Easter  
Holy Eucharist, Rite II

April 26, 2026  
at eight and ten o'clock in the morning

**Voluntary** Prelude on "St. Columba" *Charles Callahan (1951-2023)*

*All stand, as able*

**Processional Hymn 377** All people that on earth do dwell *Old 100th*

**Welcome, Opening Acclamation, and Collect for Purity**

*Celebrant* ALLELUIA. CHRIST IS RISEN!

*People* **THE LORD IS RISEN INDEED. ALLELUIA**

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.**

**The Summary of the Law**

Jesus said, "The first commandment is this: Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God is the only Lord.  
Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all  
your strength. The second is this: Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no other  
commandment greater than these." *Mark 12:29-31*

**Glory to God**

[Hymnal S-278] *Gloria in excelsis (10:00 a.m.)*

*BCP, page 356*  
*William Mathias (1934-1992)*

**Glory to God in the highest,  
and peace to God's 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.**

## Collect for the Fourth Sunday of Easter

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** Let us pray.

O God, whose Son Jesus is the good shepherd of your people: Grant that when we hear his voice we may know him who calls us each by name, and follow where he leads; who, with you and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## A reading from the Acts of the Apostles (2:42-47 NRSV)

Those who had been baptized devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

*Lector* The Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

*At the 10:00 a.m. service, the congregation remains seated and is invited to sing the ANTIPHON.*

The musical score is written for a single voice part on a grand staff (treble and bass clefs). The key signature is one sharp (F#), and the time signature is common time (C). The melody is primarily in the treble clef, with some accompaniment in the bass clef. The lyrics are: "The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not be in want." The music is a simple, hymn-like setting.

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## Psalm 23

1 The Lord is my shepherd; \*  
I shall not be in want.

2 He makes me lie down in green pastures \*  
and leads me beside still waters.

[ANTIPHON]

3 He revives my soul \*  
and guides me along right pathways for his Name's sake.

4 Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,  
I shall fear no evil; \*

for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

[ANTIPHON]

5 You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me; \*  
you have anointed my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

6 Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, \*  
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

[ANTIPHON]

## A reading from 1 Peter (2:19-25 NRSV)

It is a credit to you if, being aware of God, you endure pain while suffering unjustly. If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, what credit is that? But if you endure when you do

right and suffer for it, you have God's approval. For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps. "He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth." When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten; but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly. He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

*Lector* The Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

**Gradual Hymn 708** (10:00 a.m.)

Savior, like a Shepherd lead us

*Sicilian Mariners*

**The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John (10:1-10 NRSV)**

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

Jesus said, "Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers." Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

So again Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly."

*Celebrant* The Gospel of the Lord.

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

**Sermon**

The Rev. Bob Davidson

**The Nicene Creed**

*BCP*, p. 358

**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: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. 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 and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He 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

*Based on Form II, BCP, p. 385*

*In the course of the silence after each bidding, the People offer their own prayers, either silently or aloud.*

I ask your prayers for God's people throughout the world; for Sean, our Presiding Bishop, Julia, our bishop, for this gathering; and for all ministers and people. Pray for the Church.

*Silence.*

I ask your prayers for peace; for goodwill among nations; and for the well-being of all people. Pray for justice and peace.

*Silence.*

I ask your prayers for the poor, the sick, especially Maddie, Nancy, Leslie, Ed, Ila, Bonnie, Roger, Karen, Kendra, and Kathy, and those family and friends of parishioners who have been commended to our prayers, the hungry, the oppressed, and those in prison. Pray for those in any need or trouble.

*Silence.*

I ask your prayers for all who seek God, or a deeper knowledge of God. Pray that they may find and be found by God.

*Silence.*

I ask your prayers for the departed, especially Michael Johnson and Ron Lebel. Pray for those who have died.

*Silence.*

I invite your prayers and thanksgivings either silently or aloud.

*The people may add their own prayers silently or aloud.*

Praise God for those in every generation in whom Christ has been honored. Pray that we may have grace to glorify Christ in our own day.

*Silence. The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.*

## The Peace

*Celebrant* The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Then the Minister and people may greet one another in the name of the Lord.*

## The Offertory

*Celebrant* Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

**Offertory Hymn 645 (8:00 a.m.)** The King of love my shepherd is *St. Columba*

**Offertory Anthem (10:00 a.m.)** My shepherd is Lord *Harrison Oxley (1933-2009)*

**Hymn at the Presentation: 618, v. 4** O friends, in gladness let us sing *Lasst uns erfreuen*

**O friends, in gladness let us sing, supernal anthems echoing, Alleluia, alleluia!**

**To God the Father, God the Son, and God the Spirit, Three in One,**

**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

## The Great Thanksgiving

*Eucharistic Prayer C*

*BCP, p. 369*

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

*The Celebrant proceeds.*

God of all power, Ruler 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: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, 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 memory, reason, and skill. You made us the stewards of 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 only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open 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:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord [Hymnal S-128]** *Sanctus (10:00 a.m.)* *William Mathias (1934-1992)*

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

*The Celebrant continues*

And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, 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 Lord.

On the night he was betrayed he 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, he 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 many 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 his death and resurrection, as we await the day of his coming.**

Lord God of our Ancestors: God of Abraham, Sarah, and Hagar; Isaac and Rebekah; Jacob, Leah and Rachel; 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. 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.**

Accept these prayers and praises, Father, 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.**

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

**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, for ever and ever. Amen.

### The Breaking of the Bread

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

*People* **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

**Fraction Anthem: Lamb of God [Hymnal S-165]** *Agnus Dei (10:00 a.m.)* *William Mathias*

**Jesus, Lamb of God: have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, bearer of our sins: have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, redeemer of the world: grant us your peace.**

### Invitation to Communion

*Celebrant* This is Christ's table of love and forgiveness. 'The Bread of Life and the Cup of Salvation' provide food for our souls. All are welcome to draw near and share these holy mysteries. Take Christ within your bodies and become the Body of Christ.

~ **Everyone is Welcome at God's Table** ~

**Communion Hymn 645 (10:00 a.m.)** The King of love my shepherd is *St. Columba*

**Postcommunion Prayer** *BCP, p. 366*

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

**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 your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.**

### The Blessing

#### Announcements

**Hymn 182** Christ is alive! Let Christians sing. *Truro*

**Dismissal** *BCP, p. 366*

*People* **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!**

**Voluntary** Praeludium in C Major *Georg Böhm (1661-1773)*

**Everyone is Welcome at God's Table ~ Christ Church Andover  
Serving at Today's Service**

Guest Celebrant and Preacher	The Rev. Bob Davidson
Organist	Barbara A. Bruns
Choir	Parish Choir
Lectors	(8:00) Chris Wagner (10:00) Musa Kikaire
Ushers	(8:00) Mike Smotrich (10:00) Carol Jackson, Bill Hastings
Eucharistic Ministers	(8:00) Chris Wagner (10:00) Fran Kuchar
Flowers	Heather Dowty
Altar Guild	(8:00) Debbie Kelley (10:00) Cathy Humphries
Verger	Chris Wagner
Videographer	Ross Morgan

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