

**The Parish of Christ Church
Andover, Massachusetts**

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



The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost September 13, 2026
Holy Eucharist, Rite II at eight and ten o'clock in the morning

Voluntary Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring *Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)*
All stand, as able

Processional Hymn 376 Joyful, joyful, we adore thee *Hymn to Joy*
Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

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-280] *Gloria in excelsis (10:00 a.m.)*

BCP, page 356
Robert Powell (1932-2025)

**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.**

The Collect of the Day

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

O God, because without you we are not able to please you, mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

A Reading from Exodus (14:19-31 NRSV)

The angel of God who was going before the Israelite army moved and went behind them; and the pillar of cloud moved from in front of them and took its place behind them. It came between the army of Egypt and the army of Israel. And so the cloud was there with the darkness, and it lit up the night; one did not come near the other all night. Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The Lord drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night, and turned the sea into dry land; and the waters were divided. The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. The Egyptians pursued, and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and chariot drivers. At the morning watch the Lord in the pillar of fire and cloud looked down upon the Egyptian army, and threw the Egyptian army into panic. He clogged their chariot wheels so that they turned with difficulty. The Egyptians said, "Let us flee from the Israelites, for the Lord is fighting for them against Egypt." Then the Lord said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea, so that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and chariot drivers." So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea returned to its normal depth. As the Egyptians fled before it, the Lord tossed the Egyptians into the sea. The waters returned and covered the chariots and the chariot drivers, the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea; not one of them remained. But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. Thus the Lord saved Israel that day from the Egyptians; and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. Israel saw the great work that the Lord did against the Egyptians. So the people feared the Lord and believed in the Lord and in his servant Moses.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The Congregation is invited to sing the Antiphon at the 10:00 a.m. service.

Psalm 114



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1 Hallelujah!

When Israel came out of Egypt, *
the house of Jacob from a people of strange speech,

2 Judah became God's sanctuary * and Israel his dominion.

[ANTIPHON]

3 The sea beheld it and fled; * Jordan turned and went back.

4 The mountains skipped like rams, * and the little hills like young sheep.

[ANTIPHON]

5 What ailed you, O sea, that you fled? * O Jordan, that you turned back?

6 You mountains, that you skipped like rams? * you little hills like young sheep?

[ANTIPHON]

7 Tremble, O earth, at the presence of the Lord, *
at the presence of the God of Jacob,
8 Who turned the hard rock into a pool of water *
and flint-stone into a flowing spring.

[ANTIPHON]

A Reading from Paul's Letter to the Romans (14:1-12 NRSV)

Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand. Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God. We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living. Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. For it is written, "As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God." So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual Hymn 674 (10:00 a.m.)

"Forgive our sins as we forgive"

Detroit

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew (18:21-35 NRSV)

At the Announcement, all say **Glorify to you, Lord Christ.**

Peter came and said to Jesus, "Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times. "For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, 'Pay what you owe.' Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?' And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

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

The Sermon

The Rev. Michael J. Hodges

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 IV, BCP p. 388

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world. We especially remember Sean, our Presiding Bishop, and Julia, our bishop.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good.

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit, especially Maddie, Nancy, Leslie, Ed, Ila, Bonnie, Roger, Kendra, Kathy, and Carol, and those family and friends of parishioners who have been commended to our prayers; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

I invite your prayers and thanksgivings either silently or aloud.

The people may add their own prayers silently or aloud.

We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Silence. The People may add their own petitions. The Celebrant then adds a concluding Collect.

The Confession

BCP, p. 360

Celebrant: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

Leader 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 Celebrant continues.

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive 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

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 410 (8:00 a.m.) Praise, my soul, the King of heaven *Lauda anima*

Offertory Anthem (10:00 a.m.) Look at the world *Sir John Rutter (b. 1945)*

Hymn at the Presentation 380, vs. 3 Praise God, from whom all blessings flow *Old 100th*

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer A

BCP, p. 361

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.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Here a proper Preface is sung or said.

Therefore we praise you joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Holy, holy, holy Lord [Hymnal S-129] *Sanctus (10:00 a.m.)*

Robert Powell

**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

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all. He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, 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; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, 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."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **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-163] *Agnus Dei (10:00 a.m.)*

Robert Powell

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: grant us 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 ~

The Congregation is invited to join the Choir in singing the communion hymn.

Communion Hymn 336 (10:00 a.m.) Come with us, O blessed Jesus

Werde munter

Postcommunion Prayer

BCP, p. 365

Celebrant Let us pray.

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Blessing

Announcements

Hymn 410 (10:00 a.m.) Praise, my soul, the King of heaven

Lauda anima

Dismissal

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

Voluntary Now Thank We All Our God

Sigfrid Karg-Elert (1877-1933)

Serving at Today's Service

Celebrant and preacher	The Rev. Michael J. Hodges
Organist and conductor	Barbara A. Bruns
Musicians	(10:00) Parish Choir
Lectors	(8:00) Frances Jennings Dodson (10:00) Warren Ayres
Eucharistic Ministers	(8:00) Karen Herman (10:00) Nancy Taber
Ushers	(8:00) Janice Parent (10:00) Matt Calnan, Jay Donovan
Flowers	Susan Ayres
Altar Guild	(8:00) Frances Jennings Dodson (10:00) Beth Rufo
Verger	Holly Jarrell-Marcinelli
Videographer	Michael Marcinelli

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Welcome to Christ Church!

We are delighted you have found us! We are blessed by your presence here today and want to do everything possible to make you feel at home. In our celebration of Holy Communion, we believe that everyone is welcome at God's table. Our welcome extends to all people without preference for age, ability, gender, race, ethnic or religious background, sexual orientation, marital or family status. We desire to know ourselves and one another as God knows us - as beloved children of God - and to embody Jesus' own example of radical hospitality. If you have questions about this parish specifically, or about the Episcopal Church in general, please ask someone seated near you. There is a lot of wisdom in the helpful people in the pews. You may also talk with the Rev. Michael Hodges, our Rector.

Children: Children's activity bags for borrowing are available on the children's bookshelf in the back of the church. Our service is enriched by the presence of children; they learn liturgical behavior by observation. Let them see you participate in and enjoy the service!

Accessibility: Plastic magnifying sheets are available at the rear of the church. There are also hearing assistance devices located in the rear of the church. Please ask an usher for assistance.

Restrooms: Restrooms, including one with a changing table, are located behind the Parish Hall at the end of the long hallway on the left. Follow the red signs.

Land Acknowledgement: We acknowledge that Christ Church is located on the ancestral lands of the Pennacook tribal nation, an Algonquian-speaking tribe of the Wabanaki Confederacy composed of the Pennacook, Pawtucket, and other Indigenous people. This was their home for more than 10,000 years. We acknowledge these caretakers of the land and waters: the elders who lived before, the Indigenous people today and the generations to come. We are guests on this land and have used it and its people for our betterment, often at their expense. We commit to doing our part to become better stewards of this land, understanding the impact of present and past exploitation, and working toward a more just and equitable future.

Our Weekday Services: Our weekday services of Morning Prayer take place on Zoom on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays at 7:00 a.m. Our Wednesday morning Eucharists take place in person in the North Chapel at 7:00 a.m. Our services of Compline are held on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 8:00 p.m. on Zoom. All are welcome! To join any of our online services, go to our homepage for the Zoom links.



Everything we do here at Christ Church is dependent on the generosity of our parishioners and other donors. Please use this QR code to donate today! Our vestry greatly appreciates your support!

The Parish of Christ Church

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