

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

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



**The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Holy Eucharist, Rite II**

**September 6, 2026
at nine o'clock in the morning**

Voluntary Meditations on "All creatures of our God and King" *James Woodman (b. 1957)*
All stand, as able

Processional Hymn 400, verses 1, 4, 5 & 7 All creatures of our God and King *Lasst uns erfreuen*

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*

*BCP, p. 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.

Grant us, O Lord, to trust in you with all our hearts; for, as you always resist the proud who confide in their own strength, so you never forsake those who make their boast of your mercy; 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 (12:1-14 NRSV)

The Lord said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt: This month shall mark for you the beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year for you. Tell the whole congregation of Israel that on the tenth of this month they are to take a lamb for each family, a lamb for each household. If a household is too small for a whole lamb, it shall join its closest neighbor in obtaining one; the lamb shall be divided in proportion to the number of people who eat of it. Your lamb shall be without blemish, a year-old male; you may take it from the sheep or from the goats. You shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month; then the whole assembled congregation of Israel shall slaughter it at twilight. They shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it. They shall eat the lamb that same night; they shall eat it roasted over the fire with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water, but roasted over the fire, with its head, legs, and inner organs. You shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn. This is how you shall eat it: your loins girded, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand; and you shall eat it hurriedly. It is the passover of the Lord. For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike down every firstborn in the land of Egypt, both human beings and animals; on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments: I am the Lord. The blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you live: when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague shall destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt. This day shall be a day of remembrance for you. You shall celebrate it as a festival to the Lord; throughout your generations you shall observe it as a perpetual ordinance.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 149

1 Hallelujah!

Sing to the Lord a new song; *
sing his praise in the congregation of the faithful.

2 Let Israel rejoice in his Maker; *
let the children of Zion be joyful in their King.

3 Let them praise his Name in the dance; *
let them sing praise to him with timbrel and harp.

4 For the Lord takes pleasure in his people *
and adorns the poor with victory.

5 Let the faithful rejoice in triumph; *
let them be joyful on their beds.

6 Let the praises of God be in their throat *
and a two-edged sword in their hand;

7 To wreak vengeance on the nations *
and punishment on the peoples;

8 To bind their kings in chains *
 and their nobles with links of iron;
 9 To inflict on them the judgment decreed; *
 this is glory for all his faithful people.
 Hallelujah!

A Reading from Paul's Letter to the Romans (13:8-14 NRSV)

Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not covet"; and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, "Love your neighbor as yourself." Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law. Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

Lector The Word of the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn 581

Where charity and love prevail

Cheshire

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew (16:21-28 NRSV)

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

Jesus said, "If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one. But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them."

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 III, BCP p. 387

The Leader and People pray responsively

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;

That we all may be one.

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;

That your Name may be glorified by all people.

We pray for Sean, our Presiding Bishop, and Julia, our bishop, and for all bishops, priests, and deacons;

That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;

That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;

That our works may find favor in your sight.

Remembering 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, have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;

That they may be delivered from their distress.

Especially remembering David Cooper. Give to the departed eternal rest;

Let light perpetual shine upon them.

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;

May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

We give thanks for the Pennacook-Abenaki people who inhabited the lands upon which our church building is located.

May we be faithful stewards of this sacred space.

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others. I invite your prayers and thanksgivings either silently or aloud.

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 Anthem How can I keep from singing? *American Folksong, arr. Richard Walters*
Anney Barrett and Michael Barrett, soloists

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

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-129]

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

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-163] *Agnus Dei*

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 ~

Communion Anthem He shall feed his flock like a shepherd (*Messiah*) *G. F. Handel (1685-1759)*

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 544

Jesus shall reign where-e'er the sun

Duke Street

Dismissal

People

Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!

Voluntary

“Hornpipe” (*Water Music Suite*)

G. F. Handel

Serving at Today's Service

Celebrant and preacher	The Rev. Michael J. Hodges
Organist	Barbara A. Bruns
Soloists	Anney Barrett and Michael Barrett
Lector	Tim Pickard
Eucharistic Minister	Marie Wagner
Ushers	Helen Pickard, Tim Pickard
Flowers	Barbara Reichter
Altar Guild	Marie Wagner
Verger	Holly Jarrell-Marcinelli
Videographer	Ross Morgan

Permission to podcast and reprint the words and music in this service obtained from OneLicense, License #A-734148. All rights reserved. Used with permission. Scripture quotations are from New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright © 1989 National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide. The collect, psalm, prayers of the people, peace, Eucharistic Prayer A (or B, C, or D), service of Baptism, and dismissal taken from The Book of Common Prayer, 1979. Public domain.

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

25 Central Street
Andover, Massachusetts 01810
Phone: 978-475-0529
www.christchurchandover.org