

The Parish of Christ Church  
Andover, Massachusetts

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



Easter Day  
The Holy Eucharist, Rite II

April 5, 2026  
at nine and eleven o'clock in the morning

Prelude by Brass Quintet      Earl of Oxford March      *William Byrd (1543-1623), arr. Mortimer*

Processional Hymn 207      Jesus Christ is risen today, Alleluia!      *Easter Hymn*

Welcome

Opening Acclamation      *BCP, p. 355*

*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*      *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 Easter Day**

*Celebrant*      The Lord be with you.

*People*      **And also with you.**

*Celebrant*      Let us pray.

Almighty God, who through your only-begotten Son Jesus Christ overcame death and opened to

us the gate of everlasting life: Grant that we, who celebrate with joy the day of the Lord's resurrection, may be raised from the death of sin by your life-giving Spirit; 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 The Acts of the Apostles (10:34-43 NRSV)**

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."

*Lector* The Word of the Lord.

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

*The Congregation remains seated and is invited to sing the ANTIPHON.*

**Psalms 118:1-2, 14-24**



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- 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." [ANTIPHON]
- 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!" [ANTIPHON]
- 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. [ANTIPHON]
- 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. [ANTIPHON]
- 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. [ANTIPHON]

**A reading from Paul's Letter to the Colossians (3:1-4 NRSV)**

If 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.

*Lector* The Word of the Lord.

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

**Gradual Hymn 208, verse 1**                      The strife is o'er, the battle done                      *Victory*

**The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew (28:1-10 NRSV)**

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

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."

*Celebrant* The Gospel of the Lord.

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

**Hymn 208, verse 5**                      Lord! By the stripes which wounded thee                      *Victory*

**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, 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 Peter, Debbie, Maddie, Nancy, Leslie, Ed, Mary, Ila, Bonnie, Roger, Karen, Kendra, and Kathy, 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.**

Remembering especially those in whose memories the Easter flowers and music are given, 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.**

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 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 Anthem

Christ the Lord is risen again!

*Sir John Rutter (b. 1945)*

*Sung by the St. Cecilia Choristers & Parish Choir*

**Hymn at the Presentation 618, vs. 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 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-128]** *Sanctus* *William Mathias*

**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: Jesus, Lamb of God [Hymnal S-165]** *Agnus Dei*

*William Mathias*

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

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

**Jesus, redeemer of the world: give 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.

### Communion Anthems

**(9:00 a.m.)** This joyful Eastertide *Dutch Carol, arr. Charles Wood (1866-1934)*  
Now the green blade riseth *French Tune, arr. Simon Lindley (1948-2025)*  
Come away to the skies *Middlebury, arr. Jack W. Burnam (b. 1946)*  
*Sung by the Combined Choirs*

**(11:00 a.m.)** I know that my redeemer liveth (from *Messiah*) *G. F. Handel*  
*Anney Barrett, soprano*

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

**Communion Hymn 203** (*as time permits*) O sons and daughters, let us sing! *O filii et filiae*

**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.**

### Easter Blessing

*Celebrant* May Almighty God, who has redeemed us and made us his children through the resurrection of his Son our Lord, bestow upon you the riches of his blessing. **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 lasting freedom in the Redeemer, bring you to your eternal inheritance. **Amen.**  
And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

### Announcements

Hymn 180

He is risen, he is risen!

*Unser Herrscher*

Dismissal

*Priest*

Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit. Alleluia, alleluia!

*People*

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

Postlude by Brass Quintet

My Spirit Be Joyful

*J. S. Bach (1685-1750), arr. Herforth*

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

Celebrant and preacher	The Rev. Michael J. Hodges, Rector
Organist	Barbara A. Bruns
Choirs	(9:00) Parish Choir & St. Cecilia Choristers (11:00) Parish Choir
Brass Quintet	Riley McMahon, Drew Robertson, Caroline Finamore Sarah Flynn, Max DeForest
Conductor	William Bruns
Lectors	(9:00) Chris Wagner (11:00) Warren Ayres
Eucharistic Ministers	(9:00) Marie Wagner, Karen Herman (11:00) Nancy Taber
Ushers	(9:00) Linda Borland, Doug Nason, Mike Smotrich, Matt Calnan (11:00) Helen Pickard, Tim Pickard
Flowers	Christ Church Flower Guild
Altar Guild	(9:00) Marie Wagner (11:00) Cathy Humphries
Verger	(9:00) Holly Jarrell-Marcinelli (11:00) Chris Wagner
Videographer	(9:00) Ross Morgan
Acolytes	(9:00) Benjamin McFarland, Anthony Vinson-Ventola, Matthew Marcinelli (11:00) Matthew Marcinelli, Anthony Vinson-Ventola, Linus Barrett

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## Easter Offering



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 to our Easter Offering today. Our vestry greatly appreciates your support!

## Welcome to Christ Church!

We're 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's 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. 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.

### The Parish of Christ Church

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[www.christchurchandover.org](http://www.christchurchandover.org)