

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

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



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

**July 20, 2025  
at nine o'clock in the morning**

**Voluntary**

*Gloria tibi Trinitas*  
*Mark Nelson, Guest Organist*

*William Blitheman (ca. 1525-1591)*

**Processional Hymn 495**

Hail, thou once despised Jesus

*In Babilone*

*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*

**Song of Praise**

**[Hymnal S-280]**

*Gloria in excelsis*

*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

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you**

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

Almighty God, the fountain of all wisdom, you know our necessities before we ask and our ignorance in asking: Have compassion on our weakness, and mercifully give us those things which for our unworthiness we dare not, and for our blindness we cannot ask; through the worthiness of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## A reading from Genesis (18:1-10a NRSV)

The Lord appeared to Abraham by the oaks of Mamre, as he sat at the entrance of his tent in the heat of the day. He looked up and saw three men standing near him. When he saw them, he ran from the tent entrance to meet them, and bowed down to the ground. He said, "My lord, if I find favor with you, do not pass by your servant. Let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree. Let me bring a little bread, that you may refresh yourselves, and after that you may pass on-- since you have come to your servant." So they said, "Do as you have said." And Abraham hastened into the tent to Sarah, and said, "Make ready quickly three measures of choice flour, knead it, and make cakes." Abraham ran to the herd, and took a calf, tender and good, and gave it to the servant, who hastened to prepare it. Then he took curds and milk and the calf that he had prepared, and set it before them; and he stood by them under the tree while they ate. They said to him, "Where is your wife Sarah?" And he said, "There, in the tent." Then one said, "I will surely return to you in due season, and your wife Sarah shall have a son."

*Lector* The Word of the Lord.

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

## Psalms 15

- 1 Lord, who may dwell in your tabernacle? \*  
who may abide upon your holy hill?
- 2 Whoever leads a blameless life and does what is right, \*  
who speaks the truth from his heart.
- 3 There is no guile upon his tongue;  
he does no evil to his friend; \*  
he does not heap contempt upon his neighbor.
- 4 In his sight the wicked is rejected, \*  
but he honors those who fear the Lord.
- 5 He has sworn to do no wrong \*  
and does not take back his word.
- 6 He does not give his money in hope of gain, \*  
nor does he take a bribe against the innocent.
- 7 Whoever does these things \*  
shall never be overthrown.

## A reading from Colossians (1:15-28 NRSV)

Christ Jesus is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or

rulers or powers-- all things have been created through him and for him. He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross. And you who were once estranged and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, he has now reconciled in his fleshly body through death, so as to present you holy and blameless and irreproachable before him-- provided that you continue securely established and steadfast in the faith, without shifting from the hope promised by the gospel that you heard, which has been proclaimed to every creature under heaven. I, Paul, became a servant of this gospel. I am now rejoicing in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh I am completing what is lacking in Christ's afflictions for the sake of his body, that is, the church. I became its servant according to God's commission that was given to me for you, to make the word of God fully known, the mystery that has been hidden throughout the ages and generations but has now been revealed to his saints. To them God chose to make known how great among the Gentiles are the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. It is he whom we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone in all wisdom, so that we may present everyone mature in Christ.

*Lector*           The Word of the Lord.

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

#### **Gradual Hymn 382**

King of glory, King of peace

*General Seminary*

#### **The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke (10:38-42 NRSV)**

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

As Jesus and his disciples went on their way, Jesus entered a certain village, where a woman named Martha welcomed him into her home. She had a sister named Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to what he was saying. But Martha was distracted by her many tasks; so she came to him and asked, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to do all the work by myself? Tell her then to help me." But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things; there is need of only one thing. Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her."

*Priest*           The Gospel of the Lord.

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

#### **The Sermon**

Karen Aalto

#### **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 VI, BCP, p. 392*

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

*Silence*

For all people in their daily life and work;

**For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.**

For this community, the nation, and the world;

**For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.**

For the just and proper use of your creation;

**For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.**

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

**For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.**

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

**For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.**

For Sean, our Presiding Bishop, Julia, our bishop; and for all bishops and other ministers;

**For all who serve God in God's Church.**

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

We pray especially for Becky, Peter, Debbie, Maddie, Nancy, Leslie, Timothy, Jessica, Virginia, Steve, and Ed, and for those family and friends of parishioners who have been commended to our prayers.

I invite your prayers either silently or aloud.

*Silence – the people may add their own prayers either silently or aloud.*

Hear us, Lord;

**For your mercy is great.**

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

We give thanks for the Pennacook-Abenaki people who inhabited the lands upon which our church building is located, and we pray that we may be faithful stewards, in our time, of this sacred space.

I invite your thanksgivings either silently or aloud.

*Silence – the people may add their own prayers either silently or aloud.*

We will exalt you, O God our King;

**And praise your Name for ever and ever.**

We pray for all who have died, especially Larry Allen and Michelle Jones, as well as for Bill Vinson, in whose memory today's altar flowers are given, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

*Silence – The People may add their own petitions*

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;

**Who put their trust in you.**

We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Leader and People*

**Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; in your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone; and so uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*The Celebrant concludes with an absolution or a suitable 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**

Gaudent in Coelis

*Richard Dering (c1580-1630)*

*Anney Barrett & Michael Barrett, Soloists*

*Sung in Latin:    Souls of the righteous are in heaven rejoicing  
who faithful have followed in Christ's own footsteps,  
and since they for love of their Savior readily outpoured their lifeblood,  
now they are with Jesus in triumph never ending.*

**Hymn at the Presentation: 380, v. 3**    Praise God, from whom all blessings flow      *Old 100<sup>th</sup>*

### **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*

*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*

*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.

### **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 423**

Immortal, invisible, God only wise

*St. Denio*

**Dismissal**

*People*

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

**Voluntary**

Toccata in Seven

*John Rutter (b. 1945)*



*Today's altar flowers are given to the glory of God and  
in loving memory of Bill Vinson.*

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

**Serving at Today's Service**

|                      |                                    |
|----------------------|------------------------------------|
| Celebrant            | The Rev. Michael J. Hodges, Rector |
| Preacher             | Karen Aalto                        |
| Guest Organist       | Mark Nelson                        |
| Summer Choir         | Parish Choir Volunteers            |
| Soloists             | Anney Barrett, Michael Barrett     |
| Lector               | Hilary Margitich                   |
| Eucharistic Minister | Chris Wagner                       |
| Usher                | Rick Gossman                       |
| Flowers              | Judy Wright                        |
| Altar Guild          | Debbie Kelley                      |
| Verger               | Chris Wagner                       |
| Crucifer             | Anthony Vinson-Ventola             |

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## 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.

**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  
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