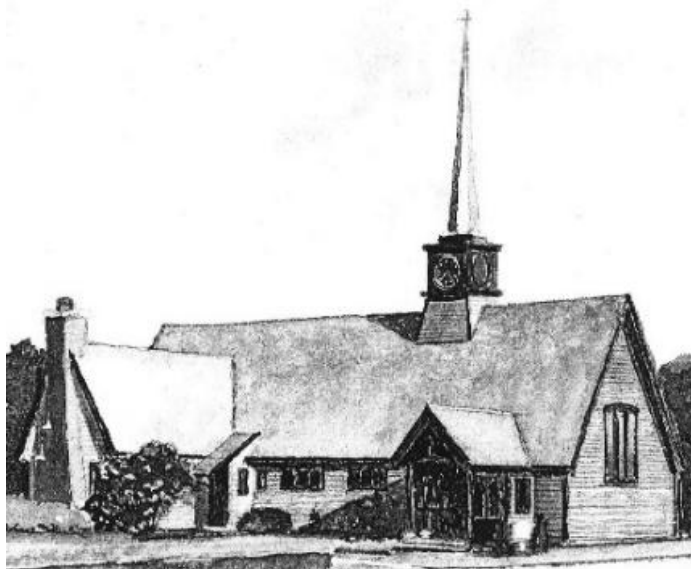




THE THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

HOLY EUCHARIST

AUGUST 23, 2026, 9:00AM

Christ Church Episcopal

671 Route 28, Harwich Port, MA 02646 508-432-1787

www.christepiscopallharwich.org christchurchharwichport@comcast.net

The Rev. Sr. Sarah Margaret, SSM, Celebrant

Maggie Ribb, Minister of Music

Todd Woolley, Sexton

Sheri Peterson, Parish Administrator

Vestry

Sandy Allard, Mary Ellen Eichmann, Wardens; Lisa DeLong, Treasurer; Elaine Mason, Clerk
Janet Cassidy, Jennifer Lutz, Deb Schwabe, Cathy Walsman, Members

Sharing Christ's love in the world and creating a nurturing place for all.

midwives and said to them, "Why have you done this, and allowed the boys to live?" The midwives said to Pharaoh, "Because the Hebrew women are not like the Egyptian women; for they are vigorous and give birth before the midwife comes to them." So God dealt well with the midwives; and the people multiplied and became very strong. And because the midwives feared God, he gave them families. Then Pharaoh commanded all his people, "Every boy that is born to the Hebrews you shall throw into the Nile, but you shall let every girl live."

Now a man from the house of Levi went and married a Levite woman. The woman conceived and bore a son; and when she saw that he was a fine baby, she hid him three months. When she could hide him no longer she got a papyrus basket for him, and plastered it with bitumen and pitch; she put the child in it and placed it among the reeds on the bank of the river. His sister stood at a distance, to see what would happen to him.

The daughter of Pharaoh came down to bathe at the river, while her attendants walked beside the river. She saw the basket among the reeds and sent her maid to bring it. When she opened it, she saw the child. He was crying, and she took pity on him, "This must be one of the Hebrews' children," she said. Then his sister said to Pharaoh's daughter, "Shall I go and get you a nurse from the Hebrew women to nurse the child for you?" Pharaoh's daughter said to her, "Yes." So the girl went and called the child's mother. Pharaoh's daughter said to her, "Take this child and nurse it for me, and I will give you your wages." So the woman took the child and nursed it. When the child grew up, she brought him to Pharaoh's daughter, and she took him as her son. She named him Moses, "because," she said, "I drew him out of the water."

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 124 *Read responsively by whole verse*

1 If the Lord had not been on our side, *
let Israel now say;

**2 If the Lord had not been on our side, *
when enemies rose up against us;**

3 Then would they have swallowed us up
alive *

in their fierce anger toward us;

**4 Then would the waters have overwhelmed
us * and the torrent gone over us;**

5 Then would the raging waters *
have gone right over us.

**6 Blessed be the Lord! * he has not given us
over to be a prey for their teeth.**

7 We have escaped like a bird from the snare of
the fowler; * the snare is broken, and we have
escaped.

**8 Our help is in the Name of the Lord, *
the maker of heaven and earth.**

A Reading from Romans (12:1-8)

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God-- what is good and acceptable and perfect.

For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God

has assigned. For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness. **Amen.**

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Hymnal 525

The Church's one foundation vs. 1, 2 & 5

Tune: Aurelia

Gospeller: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ According to Matthew (16:13-20)

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

When Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" And they said, "Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven." Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

Gospeller: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

The Homily

The Rev. Sr. Sarah Margaret, SSM

The Nicene Creed *all standing, as you are able*

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 – Form IV

BCP p. 388

The Leader and People pray responsively

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. In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer we pray for The Episcopal Church.

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.

Silence

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. In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer we pray for Churches of the Mystic Valley Deanery: St. Paul's Church, Lynnfield; St. Paul's Church, Malden; Grace Church, Medford; Trinity Parish, Melrose; Bishop Alan M. Gates African Ministry Center.

We give thanks for those celebrating birthdays and anniversaries.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation. In our Parish Cycle of Prayer we pray for George Arsenault, Chris Axner, Deborah Aylesworth, Sam Bennett, Ennis Bragg, Ann Brown, The Carlin Family, F. T. Clark, Bette Comet, Beau Coursen, Sidney Coursen, Laura DeCaprio, Steve and Solange Foster, Amelia Goodfield, Betty Hadfield, Nancy Hardiman, Pat Hart, Paul Horvath, Randy Joiner, Bradley Jugler, Cindy Jugler, Pat MacKinnon, George MacMasters, Paul Madonna, Stephen Mazzur,

Nancy McDonald, Marc Pleva, Ron Ruggiero, Amie Ryone, Stephen Shuart, Graham Smith, Kathleen Vogt, Dianne Wade, and Debby Waugh; and for those we name now, either aloud or in the quiet of our hearts.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

We commend to your mercy all who have died, especially Judy Ballantine, 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.

The Celebrant adds the concluding Collect.

Lord Jesus Christ, you said to your apostles, "Peace I give to you; my own peace I leave with you:" Regard not our sins but the faith of your Church, and give to us the peace and unit of that heavenly City, where with the Father and the Holy Spirit you live and reign, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Confession and Absolution

BCP p. 360

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

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 Presider pronounces the Absolution

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you 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

Presider: The peace of God be always with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Invitation for those celebrating a birthday or anniversary to come forward for a blessing.

Offertory

The Great Thanksgiving – Eucharistic Prayer “A”

BCP p. 361

Presider: May God be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Presider: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Presider: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

The Presider continues

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and every-where to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Through Jesus Christ our Lord; who on the first day of the week overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. 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:

Hymnal S-125

Sanctus

Richard Proulx

The Presider 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.

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.**

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread and Invitation to Communion

Presider: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

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

This is the table, not of the Church, but of the Lord. It has been made ready for those who love God and for those who hope to love God more. So come if you have been here often and come if you have not been here long. Come if you have followed and come if you have stumbled. Come because it is the Lord who invites you. It is Christ's will that those who seek him will meet him here at His table. These are the gifts of God for all the people of God.

Please follow the Usher's guidance to come forward and either kneel or stand at the altar rail, as you are able.

First, the priest will place the wafer/bread (gluten-free available) in your outstretched hand. The Eucharistic Minister will then offer you the cup (containing wine), from which you are invited to sip. If you prefer, you may carefully intinct (dip) the wafer in the cup. If you are unable or prefer not to receive from the cup, simply cross your arms over your chest and the Eucharistic Minister will say the words "The Blood of Christ, the cup of salvation" in front of you. Please be assured that no matter how you receive – bread and wine, bread or wine only, or spiritually, you will receive the full grace of the Sacrament. If you prefer not to receive the Sacrament today, you are invited to come forward, cross your arms over your chest, and receive a Blessing in the name of the One God.

Hymnal 652

Dear Lord and Father of mankind

Tune: Repton

Post-communion Prayer *in unison*

BCP p. 365

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.

Loving God, we thank you for your infinite care during our 100 years as Christ Church. May we continue to be guided by your presence to proclaim your love to the world, both near and far. We ask this through Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

The Blessing

attributed to Henri Frederic Amiel (1821-1881)

Life is short, and we do not have much time to gladden the hearts of those who make the journey with us. So be swift to love and make haste to be kind. And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit be among you now and always. **Amen.**

Announcements

Hymnal 379

God is Love, let heaven adore him

Tune: Abbot's Leigh

Presider: Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

Recessional on 'St. Anne'

Gordon Young

*The flowers that beautify our altar today were given in loving memory of
Barbara Burkhardt and Paul Burkhardt, mother and brother of Deb Schwabe.*

Thank you to those serving today

Lisa DeLong, lector/intercessor; Mary Ann & Al Richards, greeter/usher;

Bob Lawton, Lay Eucharistic Minister;

Jean Bertrand & Mickey Kerns, coffee host(s)

Deborah Aylesworth, flower delivery

Elizabeth Salomé, Deborah Aylesworth, Leslie Meier, Altar Guild servers

Those serving on August 30

Brad Goodwin, lector/intercessor; Elaine Mason & Todd Wooley, greeter/usher;

Bill Walsman, Lay Eucharistic Minister;

All - coffee host(s) for Birthday Party with Cake & Ice Cream

Jean Bertrand, flower delivery

Elizabeth Salomé, Deborah Aylesworth, Leslie Meier, Altar Guild servers

News & Noteworthy

Dates of Note

- Sunday, August 23, 10:30am – Handprints Painted on Lower Level Walls. If interested, please use sign-up in Parish Hall
- Tuesday, August 25, 4:15pm – 100th Anniversary Planning Committee
- Saturday, August 29, 3:00pm – Silent Auction Bidding ends
- Sunday, August 30, 10:30am – Happy 100th Birthday Party (outside) – Cake and Ice Cream, Music and Silent Auction winning bids announced
- Tuesday, September 8, 4:15pm – 100th Anniversary Planning Committee
- Thursday, September 10, 5:00pm - Choir rehearsal with Pot Luck Supper
- Sunday, September 13, 1:00pm – Stained Glass Presentation by Charles J. Connick Associates
- Tuesday, September 15, 9:30am – Pastoral Care Meeting
- Sunday, September 20, 10:30am – Vestry Meeting

Building Use – Outside Groups

- Saturdays, 7:30pm – AA meeting in Parish Hall
- Saturday, August 29, Del Mar Turnover Trailer – 7:00-9:00am/3:30-5:00pm

Outreach

- The Family Pantry is still in need of personal care toiletries for adults, especially soap, shampoo, toothpaste, deodorant, etc. The Outreach team will shop for you if you would prefer making a donation - cash accepted! Thanks and please contact Cathy Walsman with any questions.

Ongoing

- Tuesdays, 12:00pm – Book Lovers' Gathering; the current book is "The Mysterious Case of Rudolph Diesel" by Douglas Brunt.

Office Hours

- Week of August 23 – Tuesday-Friday, 10:00am – 2:00pm

100th Anniversary

- Time Capsule - We are still collecting items for the Time Capsule – please place any items in basket on Centennial table in Parish Hall. Additionally, if you have any “Future Predictions” to add, please put those in the basket as well. The Time Capsule will be opened in 2051!
- 100 Acts – Please continue to note your acts of kindness on a tag and hang them on the branches of our “tree.” Our goal is 100 acts of kindness. Examples: cooked a meal for someone that was ill, gave a violin to a promising student, pastoral visit with flowers, helped a woman at Stop ‘n Shop who called out for help from the motorized cart. Her wallet had fallen to floor and she couldn’t reach it, neighbor’s groceries- a surprise.

Noah's Ark Thrift Shop

- We are beginning our *End of Season* sale! All women's and men's clothing, shoes, and hats are now half price. Stop by the shop to take advantage of these bargains and tell your friends!

Dear Parishioners of Christ Church,

Thank you for your generous gift of \$250.00 for the Immigrant Legal Emergency Fund received on July 16, 2026. Your support enables our clergy and congregations to respond swiftly and compassionately to urgent legal and financial needs among immigrants within our diocesan community.

Because of your generosity, families facing enforcement actions, rising legal costs, and other sudden hardships can find real help and hope through the ministry of the Church.

On behalf of Bishop Julia Whitworth and the entire Diocesan community, please accept our deep gratitude.

Gratefully,

The Rev. Brian Raiche, Development Consultant
Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts

Excerpt from Diocese letter to Christ Church - full letter on bulletin board.