



logo and artwork by Paula Jones

ASCENSION MEMORIAL CHURCH
A Parish of the
Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts

Flourishing - Family - Community

*To bear witness to the Spirit of God
we see in Jesus as an Episcopal community open to all,
centered in worship, Christian education, table fellowship,
care for the environment,
and compassion for neighbors local and global*

November 13, 2022
"For the Love of Trees"

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The Singing Bowl

Take a moment to listen to the sound of the bowl as it echoes and reverberates through the church and slowly fades away.

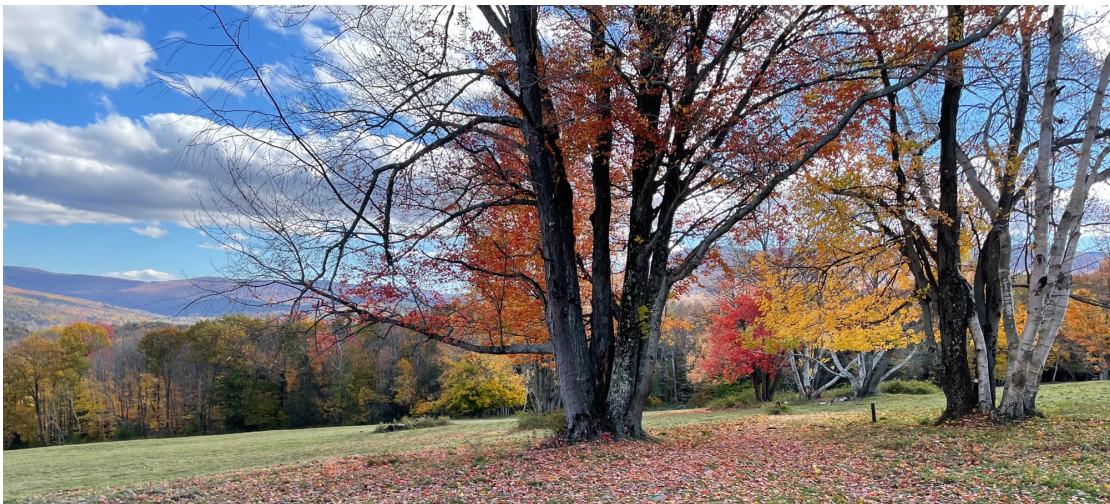
Opening Invocation

*As we gather here in this harbor of safety,
we give thanks for fellowship and family.
We ask for strength in all adversity
and the inspiration to love and care for one another.
Let our hearts be filled with peace and understanding
so that as we journey onwards,
we pour out love and grace to others.
We ask that our souls catch the wind of the Spirit
so that we may carry the promise of peace and joy
to all the earth.*

Welcome

Prayer Cards

*During the following music meditation, you are invited to write on your prayer cards
all the things you love about trees.
You may indicate on the card if it's ok to read your prayers aloud
or if you wish them to remain private.*



On the hill behind the Clark Institute of Art, Williamstown, Massachusetts

Music Meditation

Reading: Isaiah 41:19-20

I will put the cedar in the wilderness,
The acacia and the myrtle and the olive tree;
I will place the juniper in the desert
Together with the box tree and the cypress,
That they may see and recognize,
And consider and gain insight as well,
That the hand of the Lord has done this,
And the Holy One has created it.

Reading: *The Giving Tree* by Shel Silverstein

Reflection - Vicki Hughes

Song: *The Memory of the Trees* by Enya

Please place your prayer cards in the basket as it is passed around.

The Prayers

The Blessing Over the Bread

*Just as rain and snow fall from the heavens
and return not again, but water the earth,
bringing forth life and giving growth,
seed for sowing and bread for eating;
So is the love that flows through us,
bringing us life and giving us growth;
It will not return empty, but will break open your life
as a gift for feeding others,
just as we now break open this loaf of bread
as a gift for feeding one another.*

*During the breaking of bread,
please feel warmly invited to come forward to receive a
piece of bread as a sign of your place in the family of things.*

Blessing & Dismissal

*Life is short, and we do not have too much time to gladden the hearts
of those who walk the way with us;
so be swift to love, make haste to be kind, and may the Blessing of the One who created us,
redeemed us, and who walks always with us,
be with us and all those we love, this day and always. Amen.*

*Following the service, please join us in the Parlor
where we'll make Christmas Tree ornaments out of acorns.*

