



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*

October 16, 2022
"Light of the World"

P.O. 547, 31 County Street
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Acolytes - Ushers - Readers
Charlie Ackley, Malcolm, Margaret & Peter Joss-Green,
Emmett Lees-Rolfe, John Quimby, Charles Quimby,
Anja & Soren Suomi, Vicki Hughes, Paul Philpy, Paula Jones

Prelude

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

*Take a moment to reflect on a time when you have received kindness/light from somebody within your community.
Let us thank God for that light.*

Dear God, I thank you for the light and kindness I have received from:

*The ushers will collect the cards and they will be read aloud during the Prayers
unless you indicate that you wish them to remain private.*

Reading: *Escape at Bedtime* - Robert Louis Stevenson

*The lights from the parlour and kitchen shone out
Through the blinds and the windows and bars;
And high overhead and all moving about,
There were thousands of millions of stars.
There ne'er were such thousands of leaves on a tree,
Nor of people in church or the Park,
As the crowds of the stars that looked down upon me,
And that glittered and winked in the dark.*

*The Dog, and the Plough, and the Hunter, and all,
And the star of the sailor, and Mars,
These shown in the sky, and the pail by the wall
Would be half full of water and stars.
They saw me at last, and they chased me with cries,
And they soon had me packed into bed;
But the glory kept shining and bright in my eyes,
And the stars going round in my head.*

Reading: Matthew 5:14-16

You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. People do not light a lamp and put it under the bushel basket; rather, they put it on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to God in heaven.

Reflection - Vicki Hughes

Song: *Light of the World (from Godspell)* Stephen Schwartz

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 on the front lawn for
Hot Cider & Cider Donuts

