

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*

June 4, 2023

Safely Home Wherever We Are

"Where are we going, Pooh?"
asked Piglet.



Home, Piglet, we're going home.
Because it will keep us safe - and keep
others we care about safe, too.

P.O. 547, 31 County Street, Ipswich, MA 01938
e-mail: amcipswich@verizon.net 978-356-2560 www.amcipswich.org

The Candles

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 & Introduction

Prayer Cards - Music Meditation

*During the music, take a moment to fill out your prayer cards by asking
“Dr. God, help me make others feel at home by _____.”*

*Then place them in the basket as it is passed around.
(You can indicate on the card if you wish your prayers to remain private.)*

Reading: Home

Nancy VandenBerge

*A home can be made of sticks and mud
Or great big blocks of snow.
A home can be twenty stories tall
Or in the ground below.
A home can be way up on a hill
Or next to the ocean wide.
A home can have a mill above
Or a chimney on its side.
A home can be where you're safe and sound
Or with family, friends and more.
A home can be where you have your heart
And all that you adore.*

Reflection: Safely Home Wherever We Are

Song: The Prayer

Lucas Callahan & Katherine Grocela

David Foster/Carole Bayer Sager

*I pray you'll be our eyes
And watch us where we go
And help us to be wise
In times when we don't know
Let this be our prayer
When we lose our way*

*Lead us to a place
Guide us with your grace
To a place where we'll be safe.*

*La luce che tu dai
(I pray we'll find your light)
Nel cuore resterà
(And hold it in our hearts)
A ricordarci che
(When stars go out each night)
L'eterna stella sei
(Whoa)
Nella mia preghiera
(Let this be our prayer)
Quanta fede c'è
(When shadows fill our day)*

*Lead us to a place
(Guide us with your grace)
Give us faith so we'll be safe.*

*Sogniamo un mondo senza più violenza
Un mondo di giustizia e di speranza
Ognuno dia la mano al suo vicino
Simbolo di pace, di fraternità*

*La forza che ci dà
(We ask that life be kind)
È il desiderio che
(And watch us from above)
Ognuno trovi amor
(We hope each soul will find)
Intorno e dentro sé
(Another soul to love)*

*Let this be our prayer
Let this be our prayer
Just like every child
Just like every child*

*Need to find a place
Guide us with your grace
Give us faith so we'll be safe.*

*È la fede che
Hai acceso in noi
Sento che ci salverà*

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 our 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.*

The Candles



logo and artwork by Paula Jones