

ASCENSION MEMORIAL CHURCH

A Parish of the
Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts

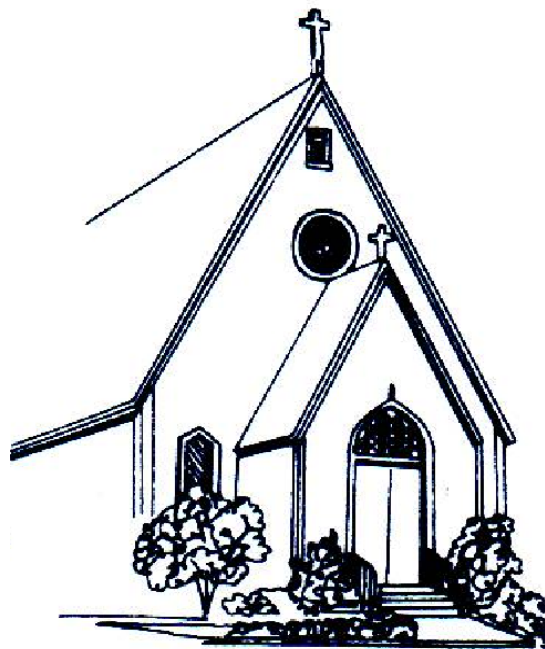
Flourishing ~ Family ~ Community

*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.*

May 5, 2024

The Sixth Sunday of Easter

Holy Eucharist Rite I at 8:00 AM



P.O. 547, 31 County Street

Ipswich, MA 01938

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978-356-2560

www.amcipswich.org

Prelude

The Tower Bell

Opening Acclamation

Alleluia! Christ is risen. *The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!*

The Collect for Purity

Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid; Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy Name, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Collect

The Lord be with you. *And also with you.*

O God, who hast prepared for those who love thee such good things as pass man's understanding: Pour into our hearts such love towards thee, that we, loving thee in all things and above all things, may obtain thy promises, which exceed all that we can desire; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

The First Reading: Acts 10:44-48

While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, "Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?" So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

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

Thanks be to God.

The Response: Psalm 98

Sing to the Lord a new song,
for he has done marvelous things.

With his right hand and his holy arm
has he won for himself the victory.

The Lord has made known his victory;
his righteousness has he openly shown in the sight of the nations.

He remembers his mercy and faithfulness to the house of Israel,
and all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

Shout with joy to the Lord, all you lands;
lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.

Sing to the Lord with the harp,
with the harp and the voice of song.

With trumpets and the sound of the horn
shout with joy before the King, the Lord.

Let the sea make a noise and all that is in it,
the lands and those who dwell therein.

Let the rivers clap their hands,
*and let the hills ring out with joy before the Lord,
when he comes to judge the earth.*

In righteousness shall he judge the world
and the peoples with equity.

The Second Reading: 1 John 5:1-6

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God? This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
Thanks be to God.

The Gospel: John 15:9-17

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.
Glory be to thee, O Lord

Jesus said to his disciples, "As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete. "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another."

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise be to thee, O Christ.

The Homily – The Rev'd Bradford D. Clark

The Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible; And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of his Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father; by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary, and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried; and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures, and ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of the Father; and he shall come again, with glory, to judge both the quick and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end. And I believe in the Holy Ghost the Lord, and Giver of Life, who proceedeth from the Father and the Son; who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified; who spake by the Prophets. And I believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church; I acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins; and I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Prayers of the People

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

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 Michael our Presiding Bishop, for Alan and Carol, our Bishops, and for Brad, our Rector; and for all bishops and other ministers;

For all who serve God in the Church.

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life. In our own parish family, we pray for Sarah and Eric, our Wardens; for the members of the Vestry, and for the staff of this parish. We give thanks and praise for those who celebrate birthdays this week: Elsa Allport-Anderson, Nicole Wanzer, David Scudder, Sophia Clark, Ted Flaherty, Hazel Mollica, and Nicholas Liani. We pray for those members of the parish serving in the armed forces: Jared Conway, Christopher Damon, and Aidan Tacheron. Today we offer our prayers in our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: St. Anne's in-the-Fields Church, Lincoln, St. Paul's Church, Natick, Trinity Chapel, Shirley, St. Mark's Church, Southborough, and Acolytes. Today we offer prayers for the following Provinces of the worldwide Anglican Communion: The Church of Nigeria, The Church of North India, and The Church of Pakistan. I invite your own thanksgivings now, either silently or aloud.

(pause for thanksgivings)

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation. In our own parish family, we pray for: **IRIS; DJ** Asmutis-Silvia; **DANNY** Beaman; **JANICE** Bowers; **KRISTEN** Breen; **SARAH ANN** Codding; **MARY**

ELLEN Donahue; *MATTHEW* Doolittle; *TALIA* Duff; *LUKAS* Henrik Forslund; *ANDREA* French; *DAVID* French; *BOB* Godbee; *NANCY* Grace; *KATHRYN* Hanauer-Stanton; *CAROL* Horsman Swencki; *KEITH* Humphrey; *CAROL* Kingston; *KRISTEN* Leary; *GLENN* Lohnes; *PHOEBE* Lowell; *MIDGE* Manning; *ELIZABETH* Meffen; *CANDACE* Mesa; *FREDY* Montengro; *PATRICIA* Moody; *MARY* O'Connor; *ANDREW* Parsons; *JEFF* Pickul; *JOE* Pickul; *DEBORAH* Porter; *MARYANN* Rohrer; *WILLIAM* Rohrer; *WAYNE* Sanborn; *LEVI* Shaw; *TONI* Talas; *SYDNEE* Trimberger; *JULIE* Wilson; *DAVID* Winn; *and the HOUSE OF PEACE*. I invite your own petitions now, either silently or aloud.

(pause for petitions)

We will exalt you, O God our King.
And praise your name for ever and ever.

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom. We especially remember today Paige Mercer in whose memory altar flowers have been lovingly given by Chuck Mercer. We likewise remember today Hope Wigglesworth in whose memory altar flowers have been lovingly given by Andrew, David, and John Wigglesworth and Henrietta Lodge. I invite your own remembrances now, either silently or aloud.

(pause for remembrances)

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;
Who put their trust in you.

Grant, O God, that your holy and life-giving Spirit may so move every human heart--especially hearts which choose war and self-interest over peace and service to others--that barriers which divide us may crumble, suspicions disappear, and hatreds cease; that our divisions being healed, we may live in justice and peace as your beloved community, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

The Peace

The Peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

Announcements

The Offertory

The Doxology

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. *And with thy spirit.*
Lift up your hearts. *We lift them up unto the Lord.*
Let us give thanks unto our Lord God. *It is meet and right so to do.*

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God. 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. But chiefly are we bound to praise thee for the glorious resurrection of thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the way, the truth, and the life, who by his death hath destroyed death, and by his rising to life again hath won for us everlasting life. Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

***Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts:
Heaven and earth are full of thy glory.
Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High.
Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.***

All glory be to thee, O Lord our God, for that thou didst create heaven and earth, and didst make us in thine own image; and, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to take our nature upon him, and to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption. He made there a full and perfect sacrifice for the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again. For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks to thee, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink this, all of you; for this is my Blood of the New Covenant, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me." Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, we thy people do celebrate and make, with these thy holy gifts which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; and looking for his coming again with power and great glory. And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us, and, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, to bless and sanctify these gifts of bread and wine, that they may be unto us the Body and Blood of thy dearly-beloved Son Jesus Christ.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, whereby we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies. Grant, we beseech thee, that all who partake of this Holy Communion may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, and be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction; and also that we and all thy whole Church may be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord; By whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. ***Amen.***

And now, as our Savior Christ hath 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.

Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,
have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,
have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,
grant us thy peace.

We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

The Ministration of Communion

As was the practice of Jesus, Ascension Church observes the practice of open table fellowship. Wherever you are in your spiritual journey, you have a place at the table with Christ. If you desire not to receive the Sacraments, but wish to receive a blessing, please come forward to the communion rail and cross your arms over your chest. The celebrant will pause and share a blessing with you.

Post-Communion Prayer

Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

The Blessing

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 you, redeemed you, and who walks always with you, be with you and all those you love, this day and always. *Amen.*

The Dismissal

Go forth now into the world in peace to love and serve God and Neighbor. Alleluia! Alleluia!
Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Postlude

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Assisting at this morning's liturgy:

Altar Guild: Paula Jones

Lector/Acolyte: Robert Spurrier

Usher/ Teller: Steve Ventola

Hospitality: Paula Jones/Robert Spurrier

Audio/Visual Technician: Lucas Callahan

Ascension Memorial Church is grateful to all the people who participate in its many active groups and ministries and who serve on the various committees. Below is a complete listing of members of the Committees, Ministries, and Groups, as well as the Staff and Vestry of Ascension. If you would like to know more about Ascension Memorial Church's committees, ministries, and groups, please contact the parish office at **978-356-2560** or **amcipswich@verizon.net** and we will provide you with the contact information for our leadership team. You may also learn more about our ministries through Realm on our website at **amcipswich.org**.

THE STAFF

The Rev'd Bradford D. Clark, *Rector*

Dr. Frank Corbin, *Director of Music and Parish Business Administrator*

Chase Delano, *Coordinator of Communications, Community Engagement, and Special Projects & Programming*

Geraldine Ortez, *Bulletin Volunteer*

THE VESTRY

Sarah Churchill, *Senior Warden* ~ Eric Gedstad, *Junior Warden*

Kathy Dallos, *Treasurer* ~ Kristin Hertzog, *Clerk*

Lucy Jepsen, *Youth Representative*

Charlie Quimby, *Youth Representative*

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Deborah Couture

Vicki Hughes

Kate Turner

Class of 2025

Jennifer Clark

Lillian Reilly

Stephen Ventola

Class of 2026

Karen Hawkes

Judy Carbrey

Charles Moore

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Tom Parkins, Chair

Mark Carbrey

Kathy Dallos

Karen Esperson

Glenn Roundy

ex officio:

Brad Clark

Frank Corbin

Sarah Churchill

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Glenn Roundy, Chair

Kathy Dallos

Ralph Johnson

Sam Otis

Tom Parkins

David Scudder

Stewardship

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Joel Barrett

Cindy Cedrone

Paula Jones

Steve Suomi

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Rosemary Attridge

Richard Attridge

Kitty Bartholomew

Frank Corbin

Kathy Dallos

Katie Finch

Jane Good

Patti Gorman

Laura Gresh

Jody Huffcut

Paula Jones

Gail Lull

Debbie Moore

Suzanne Nolan

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Ipswich Youth Volunteers

(AMC Youth Group)

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Kristin Hertzog

Charlie Quimby

Charlie Jepsen

Lucy Jepsen

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Doug Brendel

Lucas Callahan

Brad Clark

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Ted Flaherty

Eric Gedstad

Karen Hawkes

Paula Jones

Jenna Lees-Rolfe

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Jennifer Godfrey

Jon Green

Charlie Jepsen

Lucy Jepsen

Paula Jones

Kristin Hertzog

Sarah Joss-Green

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Charlie Quimby

Jennifer Reed

Joanna Suomi

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Jon Green
Charlie Jepsen
Lucy Jepsen
Paula Jones
Kristin Hertzig
Sarah Joss-Green
Jenna Lees-Rolfe
Charlie Quimby
Jennifer Reed
Joanna Suomi

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Suzanne Nolan, Chairs
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Karen Esperson
Katie Finch
Emily Hayes
Jody Huffcut
Debbie Moore
Rick Ostberg

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Rick Attridge
Bob Brown
Brad Clark
Eric Gedstad
John Moberger
Sarah Churchill

Green Initiative
Vicki Hughes, Chair

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Karen Esperson
Katie Finch
Erica Fuller
Patti Gorman
Jody Huffcut
Paula Jones
Suzanne Nolan

Lawn Barbers
Eric Gedstad, Coordinator

Paul Damon
Karen Esperson
Ted Flaherty
Glenn Gibbs
Mark Godin
Paul Philpy

Hospitality & Coffee Hour

Rosemary Attridge &
Richard Attridge
Tyler Berube
Marge & Bob Brown
Deborah Couture
Kathy Dallos
Karen Esperson
Katie Finch
Jody Huffcut
Ralph Johnson
Paula Jones &
Robert Spurrier
Debbie Moore
Suzanne Nolan
Alura Ollio &
R.J. Ollio
Joan Williams
David Winn &
Kathy Pischke-Winn
The Vestry

Becoming Beloved
Community

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Rev. Brad Clark
Debbie Moore
Carroll Perry
Cary Perry

Bible Study
Brad Clark, Chair

Gary Freeman
Leah Olendzenski
Michelle Thibeault

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Women's Group
Beth Smith, Chair

Men's Group
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Ted Flaherty
Eric Gedstad
Glenn Gibbs
Mark Godin
George Gorman
Charlie Moore
Bryan Townsend
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Sarah Churchill
Frank Corbin
Arthur Kazianis
Dottie Phillips

Tiki's Friends
Jennifer Clark,
Chair

Linda Brown
Christine Day
Ted Flaherty
Erica Fuller
Jody Huffcut
Charlie Moore
Debbie Moore
Ed Rauscher
Lillian Reilly

Judith Grant Scholarships

Brad Clark
Trish Everitt
Lucy Martineau
John Moberger

Helen Ayer Awards

Jennifer Clark
Karen Esperson
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Tricia Moody
Charlie Moore
Debbie Moore
Nora Sanchez

Visioneers
Rosemary Attridge
Kitty Bartholomew

Don Cheney
Kathy Dallos
Chase Delano
James Field
Mark Godin
Lucy Jepsen
Arthur Kazianis
Jenna Lees-Rolfe
Charlie Quimby
Steve Suomi

Music
Frank Corbin, *Chair*
Doug Brendel
Brad Clark
Trish Everitt
Sonja Dahlgren Pryor
Kate Turner
Jane Wolff

The Choir
Frank Corbin,
Lucas Callahan
Lori Coppen
Christine Day
Trish Everitt
Marisa Exelby
Roxy Giddings
Ralph Johnson
Penny Jones
Carol Kingston
Hugh McCall
John Moberger
R. J. Ollio
Tom Parkins
Sherrill Pierce
Thomas Schmidt
Sandy Starr
Marion Sokolov
Judith Thurston
Tanya Tupper

Conceptual Design Team
Sarah Churchill
Brad Clark
Frank Corbin
Kathy Dallos
Chase Delano
Eric Gedstad
Mark Godin
Arthur Kazianis
Catherine Mitchell
Bryan Townsend
Kate Turner

Altar Guild 8:00
Joanne Ventola, *Chair*
Jody Huffcut
Paula Jones
Dottie Phillips
Joan Williams

Acolytes/Lectors 8:00
Richard Ostberg
Edward Rauscher
Michael Smith
Robert Spurrier
John Walker

Ushers 8:00
Karen Esperson
Margot Hayden
Jody Huffcut
Rick Ostberg
Mike Smith
Steve Ventola

Tellers 8:00
Karen Esperson
Rick Ostberg
Dottie Phillips
Stephen Ventola
Joan Williams

Altar Guild 10:15
Joanne Ventola, *Chair*
Marge Brown
Phyllis Greene
Linda Messer
Debbie Moore

Acolytes 10:15
Tyler Berube
Jane Carolan
Charlie Jepsen
Caroline Jepsen
Lucy Jepsen
Ralph Johnson
John Moberger
Paul Philpy
Charlie Quimby

Lectors 10:15
Tyler Berube
Doug Brendel
Jane Carolan
Kathy Dallos
Dawn Edwards
Ted Flaherty
Eric Gedstad
Glenn Gibbs
Vicki Hughes
Ralph Johnson
John Moberger
Jack O'Mara
Paul Philpy

Ushers 10:15
Joel Barrett
Jane Carolan
Jennifer & Tim Clark
Ted Flaherty
Ralph Johnson
Glenn Roundy
Kate Turner

Tellers 10:15
Donald Cheney
Jennifer Clark
Ted Flaherty
Ralph Johnson
Kate Turner