



**First Parish Church, Congregational**  
**On the Village Green**  
**Manchester-by-the-Sea, Massachusetts**

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# Vesper Service

*October 8, 2014*

## PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

### CALL TO WORSHIP

Let my prayer be set forth in your sight  
as the incense,  
And let the lifting up of my hands  
be an evening sacrifice.

***Grace be to you, and peace,  
from God our Father,  
and from the Lord Jesus Christ.***

O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness;  
Let the whole world stand in awe of You.

***Yours is the day, O God,  
Yours is also the night;***

You have established the moon and sun.  
You have fixed all the boundaries of the earth;  
You have made the summer and the winter.

***I will bless the Lord who gives me counsel;  
My heart will teach me night after night.***

I have set the Lord always before me;  
because God is at my right hand,  
I shall not fall.

***Seek him that made the Pleiades and Orion,  
that turns deep-darkness into the morning,  
and darkens the day into night;***

God calls for the waters of the sea,  
and pours them out onto the face of the earth:  
the Lord is his Name.

***If I say, "Surely the darkness will cover me;  
and the light around me turn to night,"  
darkness is not dark to you, O Lord;  
the night is as bright as the day;  
darkness and light to you are both alike.***

**SCRIPTURE READING: Psalm 19**

**REFLECTION: “*speechless*”**

**THE LIGHTING OF VESPER CANDLES**

(*heavens tell + skies proclaim*)

**O GRACIOUS LIGHT** (Phos hilaron)

O gracious Light,  
pure brightness of the everlasting Father in Heaven,  
O Jesus Christ, holy and blessed!

Now as we come to the setting of the sun,  
and our eyes behold the vesper light;  
We sing your praises, O God;  
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

You are worthy at all times to be praised  
by happy voices,  
O Son of God, O Giver of Life,  
and to be glorified throughout all the worlds.

**Benediction:** (*in unison*)

***Swift to its close ebbs our life's little day;  
Earth's joys grow dim, its glories pass away;  
Change and decay in all around I see;  
O thou who changes not, abide with me.***

**POST SERVICE MUSIC**

## **Psalm 19**

***The Heavens are telling the glory of God;  
the skies proclaim the work of God's hands.***

***Day after day they pour forth speech;  
night after night they display knowledge.***

***There is no speech or language where  
their voice is not heard.***

***Their voice goes out into all the earth;  
their words to the end of the world.***

***The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul.***

***The statutes of the Lord are trustworthy,  
making the wise simple.***

***The precepts of the Lord are right,  
giving joy to the heart.***

***The commands of the Lord are radiant,  
giving light to the eyes.***

***The fear of the Lord is pure,  
enduring forever.***

***The ordinances of the Lord are sure  
and altogether righteous.***

***They are more precious than gold,  
than much pure gold;***

***they are sweeter than honey,  
than honey from the comb.***

***May the words of my mouth and  
the meditation of my heart  
be pleasing in your sight.***

***O Lord, my Rock and my Redeemer.***