



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

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Vesper Service
November 19, 2014

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

CALL TO WORSHIP

Light and Peace, in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Jesus said, "***You are the light of the world.***"

"A city built on a hill cannot be hid."

No one lights a lamp to put it under a bucket,

***No! a lamp belongs on a stand
where it gives its light for everyone
in the house.***

And we, like that lamp, must shed light throughout humanity,

***So that, everyone may see the good we do,
and give glory to God in heaven.***

It is not ourselves we proclaim;

***We proclaim Christ Jesus and
ourselves as his servants,***

For Jesus said, "***Out of darkness let light shine,***"

***Jesus has caused a light to shine within us,
the light of revelation - -***

This revelation is the glory of God.

***Almighty God, we give you thanks for
surrounding us, as daylight fades,
with the brightness of the vesper light;
and we ask you to have mercy that,
as you enfold us with the radiance of this light,
that you will shine in our hearts the brightness
of the Holy Spirit; and touch us
through Jesus Christ, Amen.***

SCRIPTURE READING: Psalm 100

REFLECTION: “*of his pasture*”

THE LIGHTING OF VESPER CANDLES

(*his sheep*)

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*)

“Abide with me, fast falls the even-tide; The darkness deepens, Lord with me abide; when other helpers fail, and comforts flee, Help of the helpless, O abide with me”

POST SERVICE MUSIC

Psalm 100

***Make a joyful noise to the Lord,
all the earth.***

***Worship the Lord with gladness;
come into his presence with singing.***

Know the Lord is God.

***It is he who made us,
and not we ourselves;
we are his people, and
the sheep of his pasture.***

***Enter his gates with Thanksgiving,
and his courts with praise.***

***Give thanks to him,
bless his name.***

***For the Lord is good;
his steadfast love endures forever,
and his faithfulness to all generations.***