



First Parish Church, Congregational

On the Village Green

Manchester-by-the-Sea, Massachusetts

Rev. John G. Hughes, II, Senior Pastor
Donald R. Dunn, Director of Music-Organist
Priscilla Duda, Christian Ministry Coordinator
Jessica Skidmore, Youth Director
David Reid, Sexton
Nancy Klebart, Office Manager

Church office: 978-526-7661 ext. 1 Fax: 978-526-7882

Email: office.fpchurch@verizon.net

Website: www.firstparishchurch.org

Vesper Service
February 24, 2016

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 27

REFLECTION: *'shall I fear?'*

THE LIGHTING OF VESPER CANDLES

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.

HYMN: "I would be true, for there are those who trust me; I would be pure, for there are those who care; I would be strong, for there is much to suffer; I would be brave, for there is much to dare."

POST SERVICE MUSIC

Psalm 27

**The Lord is my light and my salvation - -
*whom shall I fear?***

**The Lord is the stronghold of my life - -
*of whom shall I be afraid?***

**When evil men advance against me
to devour my flesh,
when my enemies and my foes attack me,
they will stumble and fall.**

**Though an army besiege me,
my heart will not fear;
though war break out against me,
even then will I be confident.**

**One thing I ask of the Lord,
this is what I seek:
that I may dwell in the house of the Lord
all the days of my life,
to gaze upon the beauty of the Lord
and to seek him in the temple.**

**For in the day of trouble
he will keep me safe in his dwelling;
he will hide me in the shelter of his tabernacle
and set me high upon a rock.**

**Wait for the Lord;
be strong and take heart
and wait for the Lord.**