

**WELCOME TO VISITORS:** Visitors are encouraged to sign the Visitor's Book downstairs. Please stop by the Newcomer's Table on the stage in the Vestry. It has information on the First Parish Church and Unitarian Universalism. Join us for our fellowship hour in the Vestry following the service. Nametags help us to identify one another. You can order one at the Visitors' Table. Our minister, staff and identified leaders are available to meet with you to answer questions about our community.

**THE FIRST PARISH CHURCH OF GROTON** was gathered as the town church in 1664. The congregation worships in its fourth Meeting House which was completed in 1755. A town clock and Revere-cast bell rings out our call to service every Sunday. The congregation is a member of the Unitarian Universalist Association, a liberal faith that affirms the inherent worth and dignity of every person; justice, equity, and compassion in human relations; acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth; a free and responsible search for truth and meaning; the right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large; the goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all; and respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part. Membership is open to all age 13 and older. If you are interested in membership, please speak to the minister or any member of the Membership Committee.

*"First Parish is a Unitarian Universalist Association Welcoming Congregation. We warmly welcome members of the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender community."*

**First Parish Staff:**

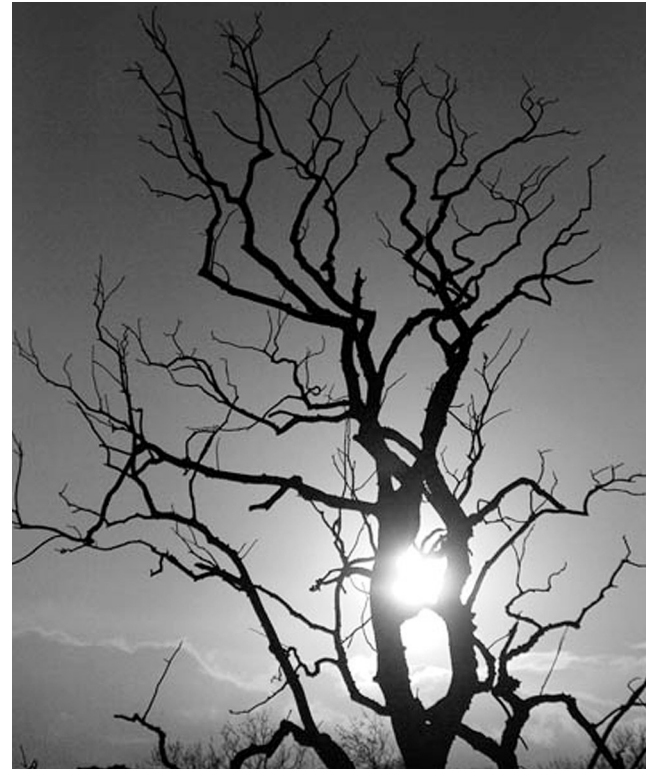
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Chair, Board of Trustees	Karen Johnson	(978) 448-9158
Senior Deacon	Linda Vine	(978) 448-5310
Treasurer	Roger Allen	(978) 448-6089
Clerk	Barbara Murray	(978) 448-3706

**Our Web Page:** [www.uugroton.org](http://www.uugroton.org)  
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Office Hours are Tuesday–Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. The telephone number is 978-448-6307.

## GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE

April 10, 2009



## FIRST PARISH CHURCH

Groton, Massachusetts

*"We are a supportive and welcoming liberal religious community. We live and share our beliefs by: exploring and nurturing our spirits; being inspired by the examples and teachings of diverse religious and moral leaders; fostering faith, justice and stewardship among ourselves and within the larger community; valuing our children and youth; celebrating our individual diversity and common unity."*

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Childcare is available during the service  
on the second floor of the East Wing

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**FIRST PARISH CHURCH of GROTON**

Friday, April 10, 2009

**A Thought before the Service Begins**

*By expenditure of hope,  
Intelligence, and work,  
You think you have it fixed.  
It is unfixed by rule.  
Within the darkness, all  
Is being changed, and you  
Also will be changed...*

*every year is costly,  
As you know well. Nothing  
Is given that is not  
Taken, and nothing taken  
That was not first a gift.*

*The gift is balanced by  
Its total loss, and yet,  
And yet the light breaks in,  
Heaven seizing its moments  
That are at once its own  
And yours.*

(Wendell Berry)

*(We ask that you turn off the ringers on your cell phones, beepers and electronic devices. Please join us in a time of quiet during the prelude.)*

**Prelude** Evening Falls (Enya)

**Welcome and Opening Words** Rev. Elea Kemler

**Reflections on the First Words, followed by silence**

Georgess McHargue

*Forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing.*  
[Luke 23:34]

**Music** On the Willows (Stephen Schwartz)

**Reflections on the Second Words, followed by silence**

David Gordon

*Truly, I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise.*  
[Luke 23:43]

**Music** Soon (Jon Anderson)

**Reflections on the Third Words, followed by silence**

Melinda Green

*Woman, here is your son. Here is your mother.*  
[John 19:26-27]

**Music** Evening Prayer (Humperdinck)

**Reflections on the Fourth Words, followed by silence**

Brenna Mayer

*Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani My God, my God, why have you  
forsaken me?* [Mark 15:34]

**Music** Adagio (Tomaso Albinoni)

**Reflections on the Fifth Words, followed by silence**

Donna Nowak

*I am thirsty.* [John 19:28]

**Music** On Your Shore (Enya)

**Reflections on the Sixth Words, followed by silence**

Patrick Hughes

*It is finished.* [John 19:30]

**Music** Bring Him Home (Boublil, Schonberg)

**Reflections on the Seventh Words, followed by silence**

Kathy Reiff

*Into your hands I commend my spirit.* [Luke 23:46]

**Closing Words** Rev. Elea Kemler

**Postlude** John 19:41 (Andrew Lloyd-Webber)

*Please remain seated during the Postlude.  
You are welcome to sit in quiet as long as you like.*

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Special thanks to Shawn McCann for providing music for this service  
and to the members of the Worship Committee.

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