

# FIRST PARISH CHURCH OF GROTON

June 14, 2009

## A Thought as the Service Begins

Summer begins again.  
How many do I still have?  
Not a worthy question, I imagine.  
Hope is one thing,  
gratitude is another  
and sufficient unto itself. (Mary Oliver)

*(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.)*

**Ringing of the Bell** Rebecca Pike, Bell-Ringer

**Prelude** Both Sides Now (Joni Mitchell)

**Welcome and Announcements** Melinda Green

**\*Hymn** The Circle Game (Joni Mitchell)  
*(see insert)*

**Chalice Lighting** Gregg Baker

**Response Hymn** *(please remain seated)* #123  
Spirit of Life, come unto me.  
Sing in my heart all the stirrings of compassion.  
Blow in the wind, rise in the sea;  
Move in the hand, giving life the shape of justice.  
Roots hold me close; wings set me free;  
Spirit of life, come to me, come to me.

## A Time for All Generations

### Bridging Ceremony

**\*Hymn** Bridge Over Troubled Water (Paul Simon)  
*(see insert)*

### Candles of Celebration and Concern

You are invited to come forward, light a candle and briefly share a joy or sorrow that has touched your life.

**Offertory** 4 + 20 (Stephen Stills)

**\*Offertory Response** *(Words: Barbara Rich; Music: Joshua Rich)*

Today we give our time  
Our compassion, wit and song  
Everyday we can choose,  
To begin again in love.  
We give what we can,  
Generous as we can  
Opening the doors  
To begin again in love.

## Honoring the Turning of the Wheel of the Year

**\*Hymn** Turn, Turn, Turn (The Byrds)  
*(see insert)*

**\*Sung Benediction** Carry the Flame  
Carry the flame of peace and love until we meet again.  
Oh, carry the flame of peace and love until we meet again.

**Postlude** Let It Be (Lennon, McCartney)

*(Please remain seated during the Postlude. You are also invited to come to the front of the church and light a candle silently during this time. Please place your candle toward the back of the candle table. We ask the congregation to remain seated in quiet until the last candle is lit.)*

**\*Please stand as you are able.**

*Large Print Hymnals, Sunday Bulletins and Assisted Listening Devices are available at the sanctuary doors. If you don't wish to keep your Sunday Bulletin, please place it one of the recycle baskets at the sanctuary exits.*

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*Join us outside on the town green for the First Parish picnic immediately following the service!*

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The flowers in church this morning are given by Edythe Salzman  
in memory of Edward R. Speare, II.

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Greeters: Abby Clark, Caleb Clark

Ushers: Jenny Clark, Paula Bogdanoff

First Parish Picnic Coordinator: Janet Armstrong