

FIRST PARISH CHURCH OF GROTON

June 21, 2009

A Thought as the Service Begins

Jazz is music made by and for people who have chosen to feel good in spite of conditions. *(Johnny Griffin)*

When I was a boy of fourteen, my father was so ignorant I could hardly stand to have the old man around. But when I got to be twenty-one, I was astonished at how much the old man had learned in seven years. *(Mark Twain)*

(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 Tune Up (Miles Davis)

Call to Worship Simply Assisting God Adult Choir
(Text: Piet Hein, Music: Steve Burne)
(see insert)

Welcome and Announcements Ed McNierney

***Hymn** Just as Long as I Have Breath #6

Chalice Lighting Janet Armstrong

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

Music A Child is Born (Thad Jones)

Reflections Kira and Lara Hill

Special Presentation

Anthem The Darkling Thrush Adult Choir
(Text: Thomas Hardy, Music: Steve Burne)
(see insert)

Reflections Caleb Clark

Offertory Doodlin' (Horace Silver)

***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.

Music Black Orpheus (Louis Bonel)

Reflections Gregg Baker

Music One Note Samba (A.C. Jobim)

***Hymn** For the Beauty of the Earth #21

***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.

Benediction Response Peace Adult Choir
(Horace Silver, arr. Steve Burne)

Postlude Song for My Father (Horace Silver)

(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.

(Service continues on back cover)

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Join us downstairs for good food and conversation immediately following the service!

The flowers in church this morning are given by Jessica Engels in memory of her father, John Engels.

*"...I think of you
whose presence has never been so great a joy
as your departure a darkness."*

Greeters: Jacquie Rogers, Eleanor Bond

Ushers: Rocky Sandy, Rebecca Sandy

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 Staff:

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FIRST PARISH CHURCH

Groton, Massachusetts

A Warm Welcome to All!

There is childcare for infants and toddlers through age 4 years beginning at 9:50 AM on the second floor of the East Wing and you are welcome to take children there at any time during the service. There are quiet toys in the soft, red pouches in each pew. The service is also broadcast downstairs in the large room beneath us if children become restless.

"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."