

FIRST PARISH CHURCH OF GROTON

September 20, 2009

Ringing of the Bell

Rebecca Pike, Bell-Ringer

A Thought as the Service Begins:

Beyond here there's no map.
How you get there is where
you'll arrive;
how, dawn by dawn, you can see your way clear: in ponds, sky,
just as woods you walk through give to fields. And rivers:
beyond all burning,
you'll cross on bridges you've long lugged with you.
Whatever your route, go lightly, toward light.
Once you give away all save necessity, all's
mostly well:
what you used to believe you owned is nothing,
nothing beside how you've come to feel.
You've no need now to give in or give out:
the way you're going your body seems willing.
Slowly as it may otherwise tell you, whatever it comes to, you're bound to
know.

(“Heading Out,” by Philip Booth)

*(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

Allegro I (E.F. Dall'abaco)

Call to Worship Morning has Come (traditional) Children's Choir

Welcome and Announcements Ed McNierney, Worship Leader

***Hymn** Come and Go With Me #1018, turquoise

Chalice Lighting

Dina Samfield and Dana Maloney

Response Hymn

(please remain seated)

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

A Story For the Child in Us All and Nature's Table

Anthem Wake Up! (Doris Clevenger) - Children's Choir

Singing the Children and Teachers to Church School

Go now in peace. Go now in peace.
May the love of God surround you
Everywhere, everywhere you may go. (repeat)

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.

Spoken Prayer, followed by Silent Meditation

Offertory Aria (E.F. Dall'abaco)

***Offertory Response** *(Words: Melinda Green; Music: Shawn McCann)*

We thank each other for these gifts
which makes our giving blessed;
We bless the works our gifts sustain
and pray they ripple outward.
With grace and generosity
we show our faith enacted.

Sermon

Dawn by Dawn: Seeing Our Way Clear

Rev. Elea Kemler

*Hymn

Morning Has Broken

#38

*Sung Benediction

As we leave this friendly place,
Love give light to every face.
May the kindness which we learn,
Light our hearts til we return.

Postlude

Allegro II (E.F. Dall'abaco)

*(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. We ask
the congregation to remain seated in quiet until the last candle is lit.)*

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

*Large Print Hymnals, Assisted Listening Devices and crayons and paper
are available at the sanctuary doors.*

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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 the Kimpton-Clark family in celebration of the end of summer.

Greeters: Jenny, Caleb and Abbie Clark

Ushers: Bob and Donna Nowak

Fellowship Hour Hosts: The Leadership Development Committee:
Eric Fisher, Deb Johnson, Alice Van Ormer