

FIRST PARISH CHURCH OF GROTON

February 21, 2010

Ringing of the Bell

Rebecca Pike, Bell-Ringer

Thoughts as the Service Begins

It s time for the pilgrim in me
To travel in the dark,
To learn to read the stars
that shine in my soul.
I will walk deeper
into the dark of the night
I will wait for the stars,
trust their guidance,
and let their light be enough for me. (Joyce Rupp)

When it's over, I want to say: all my life
I was a bride married to amazement.
I was the bridegroom, taking the world into my arms.
When it is over, I don't want to wonder
if I have made of my life something particular, and real.
I don't want to find myself sighing and frightened,
or full of argument.
I don't want to end up simply having visited this world.

(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.)

Prelude Sonata K.312 (W.A. Mozart)

Call to Worship Alleluia (W.A. Mozart) *Hymnal #384* Adult Choir

Welcome and Announcements Andrea Mason, Worship Leader

***Hymn** We Call This Place into Peace (*insert*)
(Epperson, Munger)

Chalice Lighting Jim Moisson

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

Singing the Children and Teachers to Church School

Go now in peace. Go now in peace. #413
May the love of God surround you
Everywhere, everywhere you may go. (repeat)

Anthem Ave Verum Corpus (W.A. Mozart) Adult Choir

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.

***Hymn** If You Knew (*insert*)
(lyrics "A Course in Miracles," music Kate Munger)

Reading Drip, Drip, Drip written and read by Jerry Sarasin

Spoken Prayer, followed by Silent Meditation

Offertory Selected variations on 'Ah! Vous Dirai-je, Maman'
(W.A. Mozart)

***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.

(Service continues on back cover)

Sermon Dancing With Shadows and Light Rev. Elea Kemler

***Hymn** Toward the Stars (*insert*) (Olivieri, Hernoohn)

***Sung Benediction**

Carry the flame of peace and love until we meet again.
Oh, carry the flame of peace and love until we meet again.

Postlude Rondo in a minor K. 511 (W.A. Mozart)

(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.**

The hymns this morning are from the songbook of the Threshold Choir at Indian Hill Music School. Threshold Choirs honor the ancient tradition of singing at the bedsides of people who are struggling, some with living, some with dying. Threshold Choirs were begun by Kate Munger of Inverness California. Special Thanks to Paul Harter, a Threshold Choir member, for help with leading today's hymns. For more information speak to Paul or visit www.indianhillmusic.org.

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.

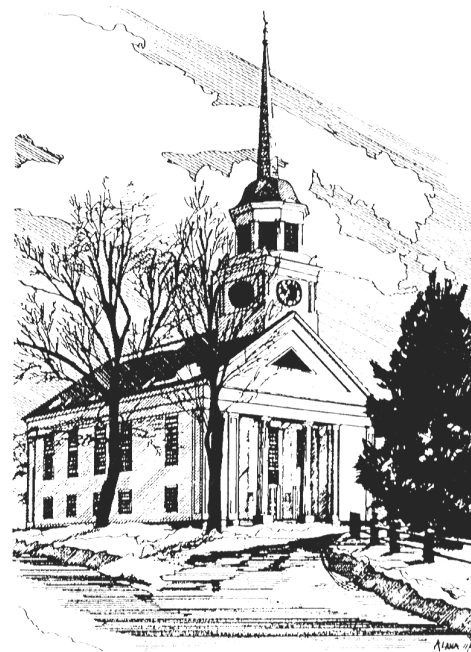
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Join us downstairs for good food and conversation immediately following the service! All are welcome to join the Small Group Conversation, a quieter alternative to Fellowship Hour, in the first floor library at 11:30 AM.

The flowers in church this morning are given by Sue and Bob Lotz in celebration of the work of our youth with refugee youth from Lowell, toward greater global peace and understanding.

Greeters: Dina Samfield, Nancy Peters

Ushers: Suzanne Nelson, Gina Perini



FIRST PARISH CHURCH

Groton, Massachusetts

"We are a community seeking to deepen spiritually, to take care of one another, and to be a blessing to the world."

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.