

FIRST PARISH CHURCH OF GROTON

January 29, 2012

Ringing of the Bell Rebecca Pike, Bell-Ringer

A Thought as the Service Begins

A candle must give itself away. In the giving, the spending, the spreading, the sending, it finds itself. Let me learn to spend myself.

John Wood, Universalist Minister

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

Prelude Etude (Opus 25) (Chopin)

Call to Worship Rise Up, O Flame Youth Choir
(words: Anonymous; music: Christoph Praetorius)

Welcome and Announcements Ed McNierney

***Hymn** We Would Be One #318

Chalice Lighting Judy Nauman

Response Hymn
Spirit of Life *(please remain seated)* #123

A Time for All Generations

Anthem Woyaya (Amoa, Amarfio, Bailey, Bedeau, Osei, Richardson, Tontoh; arr. Jeannie Gagne)
Youth Choir

Singing the Children and Teachers to Church School
Go Now in Peace #413

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.

Reading By My Side by Jay Hamburger (adapted)

Sung Prayer
Meditation on Breathing

Spoken Prayer, followed by Silent Meditation

Offertory Impromptu I (Opus 29) (Frederic Chopin)

***Offertory Response** *(Words: Sue Gleason and Nancy Peters)*

Thanks be to all who freely give,
who guide us in the way to live,
with generosity of heart,
inspiring us to do our part

Sermon Put a Pebble in My Shoe Melinda Green

***Hymn** Spirit Says Do #1024
*After the first verse, we will sing the following words:
dare, stretch, try, go, then repeat the first verse (do)*

***Sung Benediction** Carry the Flame *(Patricia Pavey)*
Carry the flame of peace and love until we meet again.
Oh, carry the flame of peace and love until we meet again.

Postlude Nocturne (Opus 9, No. 2) (Frederic Chopin)

(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.**

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

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.

The flowers in church this morning are given by David Gordon
in memory of his late wife, Susan Skinner Gordon

Greeters: Suzanne Nelson, Diane Swift, Jenny Clark
Exit Greeter: Jenny Clark
Ushers: Barbara Rich; Lise Fracalossi
Coffee Hour Hosts: Laura and Jack Wool

WELCOME ALL VISITORS. We are glad you are here. Join us for coffee and conversation after the service where you can meet our minister, Elea. Everyone here is happy to speak with you and answer any questions you may have. Please sign one of the Guest Books on the tables near the front and back entrances so we can know who you are. Be sure to indicate if you want to get emails or newsletters about events in and related to First Parish.

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."

Officers of the First Parish:

Chair, Board of Trustees	Gregg Baker	(978) 448-3847
Senior Deacon	Becky Pine	(978) 448-2710
Treasurer	Ellen Todd	(978) 448-3831
Clerk	Barbara Murray	(978) 448-3706

Our Web Page: www.uugroton.org **Email:** office@uugroton.org

Office Hours are Tuesday–Friday, 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. The office telephone number is 978-448-6307.

FIRST PARISH CHURCH

Groton, Massachusetts



Prophetic Women & Men

**Our beliefs come from the women and men of long ago
and today whose lives remind us to be kind and fair.
We learn by hearing their stories.**

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.