

FIRST PARISH CHURCH OF GROTON

April 19, 2015

Ringing of the Bell Rebecca Pike, Bell-Ringer

Thoughts as the Service Begins:

There was a man with tongue of wood who assayed to sing
And in truth, it was lamentable.
But there was one who heard,
And in the clip-clapper of this tongue
He understood what the man wished to sing.
And with this the singer was content. (Stephen Crane)

*(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 Adagio (Loeillet) - Sue Gleason and Nancy Burdine

Welcome and Announcements Terri Ragot, Worship Leader

***Hymn** When In Our Music #36

Chalice Lighting Dave Kimpton & Barbara Rich

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

Children's Blessing *(First UU Nashville Youth Choir)*
May your mind be open to new learning
May your lips bring truth into the world
May your heart know love, and your hands do the work of
justice
As you go your way in peace
As you go your way in peace

Anthem The Fool On The Hill (Lennon, McCartney)
- Andrew Watson

Candles of Celebration and Concern

*(You are invited to come forward, introduce yourself, briefly share a
personal and heartfelt joy or sorrow, light your candle from the
chalice and place it on the candle table. Before you speak, please take
a moment to gather your thoughts into one or two sentences.)*

Sung Meditation Meditation on Breathing #1009

Spoken Prayer followed by Silent Meditation Rev. Elea Kemler

Offering Improvisation on "Shall We Gather At the River"
Shawn McCann

Offertory Response *Words: Sue Gleason; Music: Old 100th*

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

Hymn Sing

-Oh I Woke Up This Morning #153
-Guide My Feet #348
-How Can I Keep From Singing #108
-Give Light (Artzner, Leonino) *see music insert*
-Morning Has Broken #38
-Let The Life I Lead (author unknown) *see music insert*
-I Know I Can #1015
-Love Will Guide Us #131

***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 The Wichita Lineman (Jimmy Webb) Andrew Watson

*(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 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.*

* * * * (continued on back cover)

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

The flowers in church this morning are given by Dale Martin,
Scott Martin and Jenifer Martin Berndt. In fond remembrance of
Albert David Martin, and Marie & Erma Whitehouse
- whose spirits still touch us today.

Greeters: Carol Swift and Kathy & Greg Reiff
Ushers: Suzanne Nelson and Debra Boczenowski
Coffee Hour Host: Brayden Woods & Austin Edwards

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."

FIRST PARISH CHURCH

Groton, Massachusetts



Pastel by Lindy Haninnen

April - Atonement

"The task is not about comfort; it is about truth. Awkward is irrelevant. You get to choose now, you have to choose whether and how you will participate in restoration." (Victoria Safford, "At One") Atonement, or forgiveness, is a two-sided affair: how we participate after we have not been our best selves and how we respond to that person or persons who has not shown us their best selves. Our Universalist heritage tells us that no matter what, God is Love, that we co-create forgiveness here and now in how we are with each other. Our faith calls us to embody this in our daily lives.

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

For more information Please visit our website: www.uugroton.org

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, multicolored fabric pouches in each pew. The service is also broadcast downstairs in the large room beneath us if children become restless.