

FIRST PARISH CHURCH OF GROTON

May 3, 2015

Ringing of the Bell Rebecca Pike, Bell-Ringer

Thoughts as the Service Begins:

I do not understand the mystery of grace -- only that it meets us where we are and does not leave us where it found us.

(Anne Lamott)

Friend, we're traveling together.

Throw off your tiredness. Let me show you

one tiny spot of the beauty that cannot be spoken. (Rumi)

(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 Voluntary in a minor (John James)

Welcome and Announcements Danika Garner, Worship Leader

***Hymn** Give Light (Artzner, Leonino)

1. Give light, and people will find the way (x3)
People will find the way I do believe
2. Teach peace...
3. Stand together...
4. Reach out...
5. Give love...
6. Sing out...
7. Give light...

Chalice Lighting Rebecca Pike

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

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.)

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

Reading Earth Prayer by Mark Nepo
Karen G. Johnston, Intern Minister

Sung Prayer Meditation on Breathing (Sarah Dan Jones)
When I breathe in, I'll breathe in peace.
When I breathe out, I'll breathe out love.

Spoken Prayer and Silent Meditation

Offertory Adagio (John Bennett)
Today's offering will go to the Unitarian Universalist Association-UU Service Committee's Nepal Earthquake Relief Fund. You can also donate on line at www.uusc.org. Thank you.

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

Sermon Let Me Show You Beauty Rev. Elea Kemler

***Hymn** Let The Life I Lead (author unknown)

1. Let the life I lead speak for me
Let the life I lead speak for me
When I'm lying in my grave
And there's nothing more to say
Let the life I lead speak for me

(continued on back cover)

2. Let the friends I have...
3. Let the work I do...
4. Let the love I share...
5. Let the songs I sing

***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 Cornet Voluntary (William Walond)

(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.

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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 Fran Bergeron in memory of her parents, step father, brothers and daughter.

Greeters: Donna Nowak, Loretto Roney & Tom Roney

Ushers: June Johnson and Steve Lieman

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 ministers. 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.

"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



Watercolor by Hatzy Hornblower

May -Grace

The simple rush of wind is a gift available to all of us for the taking. This is grace-gifts unsought and perhaps unexpected. Grace suggests that there is a benevolence in the universe, a source of love and beauty.

"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.