

FIRST PARISH CHURCH OF GROTON

May 10, 2015

Ringing of the Bell Rebecca Pike, Bell-Ringer

Thoughts as the Service Begins:

Hope has two beautiful daughters-their names are Anger and Courage. Anger at the way things are and Courage to see that they do not remain as they are. (Augustine of Hippo)

May I have the courage today
To live the life that I would love
To postpone my dream no longer
But to do at last that which I came here for
And waste my heart on fear no more. (John O'Donahue)

*(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 G (William Boyce)

Call to Worship Air Moves Us (C. Sheil, Moonsea, Prune)
Children's Choir

Welcome and Announcements Donna Stram, Worship Leader
Young Girls Mantra of Joy by Ching-Yuen Hsu
Kira, Lara and Meredith Hill

***Hymn** We Are Building a New Way #1017

Chalice Lighting Kevin Pammett

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 George in the Dark
Madeline Valentine

Anthem Mother Earth, Beloved Garden (Amanda Udis-Kessler)
Children's Choir

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

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.)

Reading The Mother's Day Proclamation by Julie Ward Howe,
read by some of the girls and women of First Parish

Spoken Prayer and Silent Meditation

Offertory Siciliano (John Stanley)

Offertory Response *Words & Music by Sue Gleason*

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 A Beautiful Daughter Named Courage

***Hymn** Hush (verses 1-3,5) #1040

***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 Voluntary in B flat (Maurice Greene)

(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.**

(continued on back cover)

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 the Benedict Family in loving memory of Elizabeth Ann Bray Benedict.

Greeters: Anne Bohan and Suzanne Nelson
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 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



Watercolor by Meredith Hill, 4th grade

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.