

FIRST PARISH CHURCH OF GROTON

June 14, 2015

Ringing of the Bell

Rebecca Pike, Bell-Ringer

Thoughts as the Service Begins:

In the leaving
in the letting go
let there be this
to hold onto at the last:
the enduring of love
the persisting of hope
the remembering of joy
the offering of gratitude
the receiving of grace
the blessing of peace. (Jan Richardson)

*(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 Good News (arr. Moses Hogan) All Choirs

Welcome and Announcements Gina Perini Benedict,
Worship Leader

***Hymn** Turn, Turn, Turn (insert) Pete Seeger

Chalice Lighting Marisa Benson, RE Intern 2014-15

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 Moment with the Groton Interfaith Council

A Time for All Generations

Our Whole Lives (OWL) Recognition

Anthem How Lovely Is Thy Dwelling Place (Johannes Brahms)
– Adult Choir

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.)

Offertory

Solace (Scott Joplin)

***Offertory Response** *(Words: Melinda Green; Music: Shawn McCann)*

We thank each other for these gifts
Which makes our giving bless-ed.
We bless the works our gifts sustain
And pray they ripple outward
With grace and generosity
We show our faith enacted.

The Turning of the Wheel of the Year

***Hymn** Life Calls Us On (Kendyl Gibbons, Jason Shelton) insert
All Choirs

***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

Italian Concerto, 1st movement (J.S. Bach)

(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 Margaret Burdine in celebration of summer and the arrival of her mom, Nancy, to Groton and to First Parish.

Greeters: Diane Lombardi, Suzanne Nelson and Dale Martin
Ushers: Jackie Frey and Pamela Worden
Coffee Hour Host: Brayden Woods & Austin Edwards

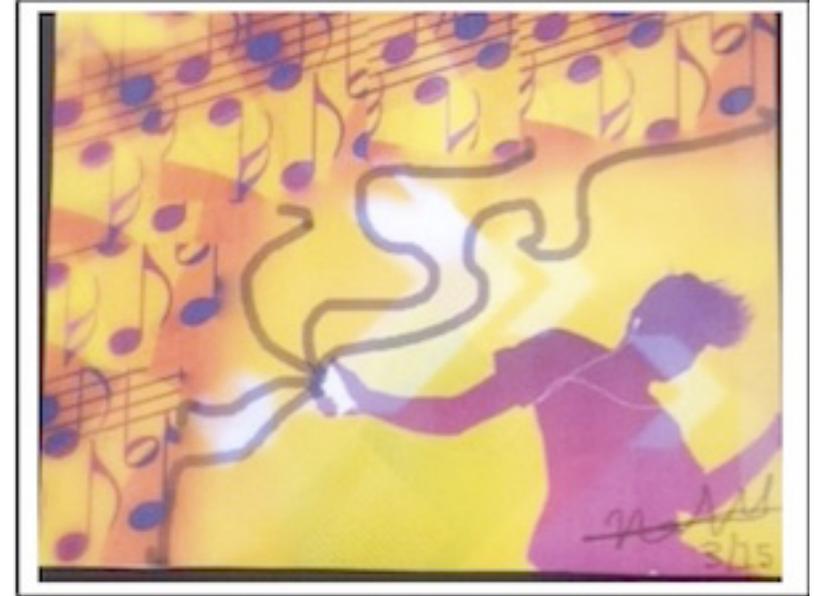
WELCOME ALL VISITORS. We are glad you are here. Join us for coffee and conversation after the service where you can meet our minister, Elea. Everyone here is happy to speak with you and answer any questions you may have. Please sign one of the Guest Books on the tables near the front and back entrances 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



Artwork by Nick Maciel

June -Pilgrimage

A journey can become a sacred thing; make sure before you go, to take time to bless your going forth, to free your heart of ballast so that the compass of your soul might direct you toward the territories of spirit where you will discover more of your hidden life, and the urgencies that deserve to claim you.

"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.