

FIRST PARISH CHURCH OF GROTON

October 25, 2015

Ringing of the Bell Rebecca Pike, Bell Ringer

A Thought as the Service Begins:

We imagine a world where war is not present, where innocence does not combine with chaos and where dictatorship does not interfere with hope...

We imagine a world where children are not forced to fight wars.

We imagine a world where Mother Nature and Father Sky are reunited, where waste is not wasted and where the abundance of life remains fresh and new...

We imagine a world where disability does not disable.

We imagine a world where no one cares about religious choices or orientation.

We imagine a world where hope, love and peace are present forever.
(Words written by Middle Matters youth of First Parish, 2013)

*(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 minor (Thomas Roseingrave)

Call to Worship Rise Up, O Flame (Praetorius) Youth Choir

Welcome and Announcements Amy Grosso, Worship Leader

***Hymn** Building a New Way #1017, turquoise

Chalice Lighting Eleanor Keydel and Lindy Hanninen
2014 Coming of Age youth and mentor pair

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.

The Opening Ceremony for the Coming of Age of:

Catherine Donovan, Dimitri Foster, Lara Hill, Jessica Liliedahl,
Matthew Liliedahl, Nicolas Maciel, Sam Mayer-Svarczkopf,
Charlie Peterson, Maddy Premru, Sara Woods

Anthem Change the World (Dana Decker) Youth Choir

Singing the Children and Teachers to Religious Education

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 The Way Wings Should (excerpt) Rumi

Spoken Prayer and Silent Meditation

Offertory Hornpipe (Samuel Wesley)

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.

Sermon Imagine a World Rev. Elea Kemler

***Hymn** Imagine (John Lennon)

***Sung Benediction** #414

As we leave this friendly place,

love give light to every face.

May the kindness which we've learned,

light our hearts 'til we return.

Postlude Cornet Voluntary (Henry Heron)

(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.

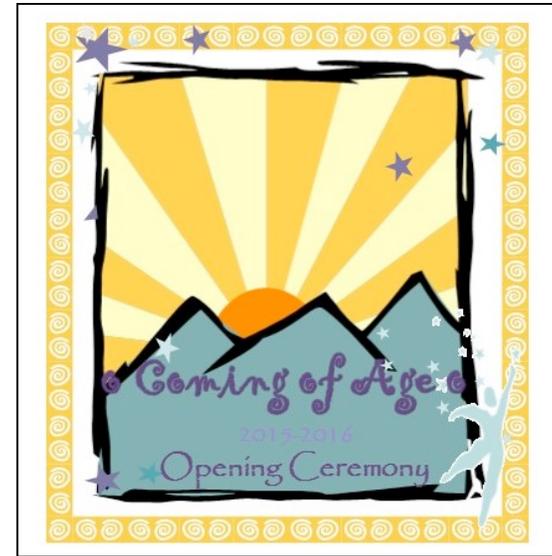
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*Join us downstairs for good food and conversation
immediately following the service!*

Flowers are given this morning in celebration of
Amelia Rose Luening's 11th birthday.

Greeters: Suzanne Nelson, Susan Epting and Terri Ragot
Ushers: Steve Boczenowski and Annie & Molly McGinty
Coffee Hour Host: Austin Edwards

FIRST PARISH CHURCH Groton, Massachusetts



Coming of Age by Kathryn Ellis Moore

Pilgrimage—Responding to the Call

To journey and be transformed by the journey is to be a pilgrim. (Mark Nepo)

I long for You so much
I have even begun to travel
Where I have never been before. (Hafiz)

"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.