

# FIRST PARISH CHURCH OF GROTON

November 22, 2015

## Ringing of the Bell

Rebecca Pike

## Thought as the Service Begins:

And the table will be wide.  
And the welcome will be wide.  
And the arms will open wide to gather us in.  
And our hearts will open wide to receive.  
And we will come as children who trust there is enough.  
And we will come unhindered and free.

And we will open our hands to the feast without shame.  
And we will turn toward each other without fear.  
And we will give up our appetite for despair.  
And we will taste and know of delight.  
And we will become bread for a hungering world.  
And we will become drink for those who thirst.  
And the blessed will become the blessing.  
And everywhere will be the feast. (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

Con Spirito (Thomas Arne)

## Call to Worship

Give Light (and people will find the way)  
(Greg Artzner) - Youth Choir

## Welcome and Announcements

Danika Garner, Worship Leader

## \*Hymn

If I Had a Hammer (Pete Seeger and Lee Hays) *insert*

## Chalice Lighting

Rev. Marta, Alison and Jaiya Valentin Chase

## 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

## Anthem

Stand Upon the Rock (Rollo Dilworth)  
Youth 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.)*

## \*Hymn

This Land is Your Land (Woody Guthrie) *insert*  
*with Sophie Clark and Sadie Foster leading us in hand motions!*

## Offertory

Voluntary in B flat (Jonathan Battishill)

*Today's offering will support our Sandwich Making Service for local shelters on Sunday, Dec. 27 and Groton Community Dinners. The mission of Groton Community Dinners is to provide nourishment and to strengthen the bonds of community through a free community-wide dinner held at First Parish on the last Friday of every month. Visit [www.grotoncommunitydinners.org](http://www.grotoncommunitydinners.org) to learn more.*

## 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.

## Around Our Grateful Table

*Children: Why do we feed each other?*

Adults: We feed each other because we are connected.  
We feed each other to remember that we need to both give and receive.

*Children: What do we feed each other?*

Adults: We feed each other bread as a symbol of our care and compassion for one another. We feed each other bread as a symbol of our hope that all people will have enough.

*Children: When do we feed each other?*

Adults: We feed each other whenever we gather in community, when strangers become our friends, and when we work together to be a blessing to the world.

*Children: How do we feed each other?*

*Continued on Back Cover*

Adults: We feed each other by offering each other kindness, understanding and acceptance. We feed each other by sharing our sorrow and our joy. We feed each other by welcoming everyone to this table.

**Passing of Bread**

*When I breathe in, I'll breathe in peace.*

*When I breathe out, I'll breathe out love.*

*From you I receive, to you I give,  
Together we share, and from this we live.*

**Blessing**

**\*Hymn**      We're Gonna Sit at the Welcome Table      #407

**\*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**      Voluntary in F (William Hine)

*(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!*

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Please consider donating flowers for Sunday's Service

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Greeters: Gerri and Paul Harter and Suzanne Nelson  
Ushers: Jackie Frey & Bernadette Dureault  
Coffee Hour Host: Austin Edwards

# FIRST PARISH CHURCH

Groton, Massachusetts



*Artwork by Ali Reiff*

Pilgrimage—Making the Way by Walking

Journeying god,  
Pitch your tent with mine  
So that I may not become deterred  
By hardship, strangeness, doubt.  
Show me the movement I must make  
Toward a wealth not dependent on possessions,  
Toward a wisdom not based on books,  
Toward a strength not bolstered by might,  
Toward a god not confined to heaven.  
Help me find myself as I walk in others' shoes. (Kathy Comston)

*"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](http://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.