

FIRST PARISH CHURCH OF GROTON

April 10, 2016

Ringing of the Bell Rebecca Pike, Bell-Ringer,
and Youth of First Parish

A Thought as the Service Begins:

To me a friend is someone...

Who is trustworthy, Who is there for you, Who respects you, Who "gets" you, Who is kind, Who cares about your feelings, Who is loyal, Who helps you when you need it, Who stands by your side when you screw up, Who accepts who you are, Who will nerd out with you, Who you have a mutual understanding of, Who likes good food, Who will love you no matter what, Who you can joke with, Who you can cry with, Who you can trust with your secrets, Who makes you feel whole, Who says nice things about you, Who means what they say, Who thinks you are idiotically awesome, Who keeps promises, Who you can laugh with, Who you can be angry at, Who you can forgive, Who you can share jokes with, Who will tell you if you have stuff in your teeth.

Prelude We Are Gonna Be Friends (Jack White) Youth Choir

Call to Worship Friends (Elton John, Bernie Taupin) Youth Choir

Welcome and Announcements Kira Hill, Worship Leader

***Hymn** Lean on Me (Bill Withers) #1021

Chalice & Sabbatical Candle Lighting Isabel Kemler

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 *A Bargain for Frances*
by Lillian Hoban, read by Sam Mayer Svarczkopf

Singing the Children and Teachers to Church School

Reading My Friends (Trudy Burnham) Trudy Burnham

Anthem What It Means to Be A Friend (Jason Robert Brown)
Lara Hill, soloist

Candles of Celebration and Concern Haley Watson

You are invited to come forward, light a candle and in a sentence share a joy or sorrow that has touched your life.

Renewal of Giving Testimony Charlie Peterson

Anthem Count on Me (Bruno Mars, Philip Lawrence, Ari Levine)
Youth Choir

Reading Sarah Stram

Spoken Prayer, followed by Silent Meditation Maddy Premru

Offertory Lean On (Major Lazer, DJ Snake)
Lara Hill, Sam Mayer Svarczkopf, Kira Hill, and Haley Watson

Offertory Response *Words: Barbara Rich; Music: Joshua Rich*

Today we give our time
Our compassion, wit and song
Everyday we can choose,
To begin again in love.

We give what we can,
Generous as we can
Opening the doors
To begin again in love.

Reading Ride (Lana Del Rey) Dmitri Foster

Sermon On Friendship Austin Edwards

***Hymn (see insert)** With a Little Help from My Friends
(John Lennon, Paul McCartney)

***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.

***Spoken Benediction** Molly McGinty

Postlude You've Got a Friend in Me (Randy Newman)

(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

(Continued on Back Cover)

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.

* * * *

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

Please sign up to donate flowers for Sunday Services.

Greeters: Martina Smyth, Molly McGinty, and their families
Ushers: Dimitri Foster, Olivia Logan, Trudy Burnham
and Matthew Liliedahl
Coffee Hour Hosts: Cameron Hadland, Jacob Tessier, Olivia Logan
Trudy Burnham, and Youth of First Parish

Many Thanks to Shawn McCann and the Band, Los Amigos:

Jon Frey, piano/bass drum
Maddy Premru, guitar
Andrew Watson, guitar
Steve Burne, bass

WELCOME ALL VISITORS. We are glad you are here. Join us for coffee and conversation after the service where you can meet our sabbatical minister, Karen. 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. In addition to lighting our chalice as a symbol of our Unitarian Universalist faith, during our the sabbatical of our settled minister, Elea Kemler, we will be lighting a sabbatical candle and speaking words of blessing on her sabbatical journey, as well as ours, until she returns on May 15.

"First Parish is a Unitarian Universalist Association Welcoming Congregation. We warmly welcome members of the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender community."

WE NOW HAVE AN OFFICIAL HASHTAG: #UUGROTON. Please consider using this when posting about our church and its good works on all social media.

FIRST PARISH CHURCH

Groton, Massachusetts



artwork is a collaboration created by Isabel Stanley-Kemler & Sarah Stram

APRIL –

*Now it is time to sit quiet
Alone with You
And to sing
A re-dedication of my life
In this Silent
And overflowing joy (Rabindranath Tagore)*

*I live my life in growing orbits which move out over this
wondrous world. (Rainer Maria Rilke)*

*"We are a community seeking to deepen spiritually, to take care
of one another, and to be a blessing to the world."*

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.