

# FIRST PARISH CHURCH OF GROTON

June 19, 2016

## Ringing of the Bell

Rebecca Pike, Bell-Ringer

## A Thought as the Service Begins:

Blessed is the path on which you travel.  
Blessed is the body that carries you upon it.  
Blessed is your heart that has heard the call.  
Blessed is your mind that discerns the way.  
Blessed is the gift that you will receive by going.  
Blessed is the gift that you will become on the journey.

*(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** Love's In Need of Love Today (Stevie Wonder)  
Pat Lawrence, Jay Lawrence, Kurt Staven, and Michelle Stiller

### Love's In Need of Love Today (Stevie Wonder)

Love's In Need / Love to-day  
Don't de-lay / right a-way  
Hate's goin' round / break-ing hearts  
Stop it, please / gone too far

**Welcome and Announcements** Sal Lombardi, Worship Leader

**\*Hymn** I Am Willing (Holly Near) led by Maddy Premru (insert)

**Chalice Lighting** Sarah Stram

**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

## Candles of Celebration and Concern

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

The rainbow candles are for Orlando, for all who were hurt or wounded and for GLBT people everywhere.

**Offertory** I Will Remember You (Sarah McLachlan)

**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.

**A Farewell Message** Rev. Karen G. Johnston

## Litany of Release and Blessings for the Journey (insert)

**\*Hymn** Standing on the Side of the Love #1014

**\*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** Allegro from Sonata 7 in E flat (Beethoven)

*(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.)*

***You are welcome to take some holy water home with today to bless yourself, your garden or whatever might need a blessing over the summer! The ushers have water to give to you on your way out.***

**\*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.*

*Continued on Back Cover*

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

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“The kiss of the sun form pardon,  
The song of the bird for mirth,  
One is nearer God’s heart in the garden,  
Than anywhere else on earth.”

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Greeters: Tom Roney and Carol Bousquet  
Ushers: Diane Lombardi and Betty Keddy  
Coffee Hour Host: Austin Edwards

**WELCOME ALL VISITORS.** We are glad you are here. Join us for coffee and conversation after the service in the Vestry, the large room beneath us, where you can meet our ministers Rev. Elea Kemler and Rev. Karen G. Johnston. 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

*“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



*Parish Peony Portrait artwork by Susan Fry*

*Life isn't about finding yourself. Life is about creating yourself  
~George Bernard Shaw*

*I've learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel. –Maya Angelou*

*“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.