

FIRST PARISH CHURCH OF GROTON

October 2, 2016

Ring of the Bell Rebecca Pike, Bell-Ringer

A Thought as the Service Begins:

Once you have glimpsed the world as it might be, as it ought to be, as it's going to be... it is impossible to live compliant and complacent anymore in the world as it is...and so you come out and walk out and march, the way a flower comes out and blooms, because it has no other calling. It has no other work. (Rev. Victoria Safford)

(We ask that you turn off the ringers on your cell phones, beepers and electronic devices, and the flashes on your cameras.)

Prelude Sonata L. 104 (Domenico Scarlatti)

Call to Worship Love, Be Our Way (Carolyn McDade) Adult Choir

Welcome and Announcements Terri Ragot, Worship Leader

***Hymn** I Am Willing (Holly Near)

Chorus: I am open and I am willing

To be hopeless would seem so strange
It dishonors those who go before us
So lift me up to the light of change

Verse 1: There is hurting in my family
There is sorrow in my town
There is panic in the nation
There is wailing the whole world round (CHORUS)

Verse 2: May the children see more clearly
May the elders be more wise
May the winds of change caress us
Even though it burns our eyes (CHORUS)

Verse 3: Give me a mighty oak to hold my confusion
Give me a desert to hold my fears
Give me a sunset to hold my wonder
Give me an ocean to hold my tears (CHORUS)

Chalice Lighting Laura Scolnick and Natalie Guilmette

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

Singing the Children and Teachers to Religious Education

Time To Rise And Go Out (*Lucy Holstedt*)

Time to rise and go out. Time to rise and go out.

Go in wonder, Go to discover. Time to rise and go out.

Time to rise and go out. You are the treasure, you are the future.

Time to rise and go out. Where you go, our love goes with you.

Children gather downstairs to join in a circle of friends. Then each age group will go with their teachers/leaders to their meeting space.

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.)

Anthem Al Shlosa D'varim (Allan E. Naplan) Adult Choir
Translation: *The world is sustained by three things, by truth, by justice, and by peace.*

Offertory Gigue from Suite No. 4 (G.F. Handel)
Today's offering will be introduced by Steve Boczenowski. Today we offer you apples and honey in celebration of Rosh Hashanah, the Jewish New Year. We taste sweetness and hope for sweetness in the year to come,

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.

(Continued on Back Cover)

Sermon Active Hope: A New Story for a New Year

Rev. Elea Kemler

***Hymn** Life Calls Us On (Kendall Gibbons, Jason Shelton) insert

***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 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.)

***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!

Today's flowers are donated by Mary Timmons in honor of the marriage between Meg Gandle and Sahil Warsi. Meg & Sahil were married here yesterday.

Greeters: Christine and Olivia Logan, and Laura Williams

Ushers: Bernadette Dureault and Pat Fairchild

Coffee Hour Host: Sam Mayer Svarczkopf & Dmitri Foster

WELCOME TO ALL VISITORS. We are so glad you are here. Join us for coffee, tea and conversation after the service in the Vestry, the large room beneath us, where you can meet our minister Rev. Elea Kemler and visit the Welcome Table to learn more about us. 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 and send you the monthly print newsletter and weekly emails about life at First Parish.

FIRST PARISH CHURCH

Groton, Massachusetts



Sunflower by Lindy Hanninen

Active Hope—The Journey Toward Justice

“Once you have glimpsed the world as it might be, as it ought to be, as it’s going to be (however that vision appears to you), it is impossible to live compliant and complacent anymore in the world as it is...and so you come out and walk out and march, the way a flower comes out and blooms, because it has no other calling. It has no other work.” (Rev. Victoria Safford, White Bear UU Church, MN)

“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 and our Facebook page at First Parish Church of Groton, MA

A Warm Welcome to All!

There is childcare for infants and toddlers through age three 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 and picture books in each pew. The service is also broadcast downstairs in the large room beneath us if anyone needs to take a break.