

FIRST PARISH CHURCH OF GROTON

October 23, 2016

Ringing of the Bell

Rebecca Pike, Bell-Ringer

A Thought as the Service Begins:

BE THE CHURCH. Protect the environment. Care for the poor.
Forgive often. Reject Racism. Fight for the powerless. Share earthly
and spiritual resources. Embrace diversity. Love. Love. Love.
(adapted from United Church of Christ banner)

*(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 (Henry Heron)

Call to Worship

Now Let Us Sing (anonymous) Open Choir

Welcome and Announcements

Ed McNierney, Worship Leader

*Hymn

Rainbow Connection (Williams, Ascher)

Why are there so many songs about rainbows
and what's on the other side?
Rainbows are visions, but only illusions,
and rainbows have nothing to hide.
So we've been told and some choose to believe it.
I know they're wrong wait and see.
Someday we'll find it, the rainbow connection
The lovers, the dreamers and me.

Who said that every wish would be heard and answered
when wished on a morning star?
Somebody thought of that and someone believed it.
Look what it's done so far.
What's so amazing that keeps us stargazing
and what do we think we might see?
Someday we'll find it, the rainbow connection
The lovers, the dreamers and me.
All of us under its spell.
We know that it's probably magic.

Have you been half-asleep
And have you heard voices?
I've heard them calling my name.

Is this the sweet sound that calls the young sailors?
The voice might be one and the same.
I've heard it too many times to ignore it.
It's something that I'm supposed to be,
Someday we'll find it, the rainbow connection
The lovers, the dreamers and me.

Chalice Lighting

Pat Lawrence for the Welcoming All Group

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

Anthem

One Voice (The Wailin' Jennys)

Kira, Lara and Meredith Hill

Time for All Generations

Anthem

Love the Life You Live (Kurt Staven) Open Choir

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.
*Welcome! Children will gather downstairs in the Vestry – the big
room below us – to meet their teachers and join in a circle of friends.
Then each age group will go with their teachers 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.)*

Offertory

True Colors (Steinberg, Kelly)

*Today's offering is for the support of the First Parish Caring
Committee. The Caring Committee provides meals, cards and rides in
times of trouble. It also provides financial help in emergencies and
monthly gas and grocery cards to those in need.*

Offertory Response

(Words & music: Barbara J. Rich; arranged by Shawn McCann)

They tell us just give what you can
They tell us be a blessing to the world
How in the world do we do all that?
Maybe just by showing up
Maybe just be slowing down

They tell us take care of each other
They tell us take care of yourself
How can we be who we really are?
Maybe just by showing up
Maybe just by slowing down

Sermon This is the Sound of All of Us Rev. Elea Kemler

***Hymn** Standing on the Side of Love #1014 (turquoise)

***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 Over the Rainbow (Arlen, Harburg)

(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.*

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

Today's flowers are donated by Carol Sarasin in memory of her
parents, Gomer and Carlie Richards.

Greeters: Susan Epting, Laura Williams and John Appleton

Ushers: Deb Boczenowski and Tom Roney

First Parish Church is a Welcoming Congregation. We joyfully welcome all!

FIRST PARISH CHURCH

Groton, Massachusetts



Sunflower Soup 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)

“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.