

# FIRST PARISH CHURCH OF GROTON

November 6, 2016

## Ringing of the Bell

Rebecca Pike, Bell-Ringer

## A Thought as the Service Begins:

A man crosses the street in rain,  
stepping gently, looking two times north and south,  
because his son is asleep on his shoulder.  
No car must splash him.  
No car drive too near to his shadow.

This man carries the world's most sensitive cargo  
but he's not marked.  
Nowhere does his jacket say FRAGILE,  
HANDLE WITH CARE.

His ear fills up with breathing.  
He hears the hum of a boy's dream  
deep inside him.

We're not going to be able  
to live in this world  
if we're not willing to do what he's doing  
with one another....

(From the poem Shoulders by Naomi Shihab Nye)

*(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** Cornet Voluntary (anonymous, 18<sup>th</sup> century)

**Call to Worship** Ubi Caritas (Jacques Berthier) Adult Choir

**Welcome and Announcements** Donna Stram, Worship Leader

**\*Hymn** Come and Go With Me #1018

**Chalice Lighting** Becky Pine

**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, 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.*

### 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 group will go with their teachers to their meeting space.*

**Anthem** Peace, Like A River (traditional, arr. Donald Moore)  
Adult Choir

### Sung Prayer (Sarah Dan Jones)

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

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

**Spoken Prayer and Silent Meditation** Rev. Elea Kemler

**Offertory** Siciliano (John Stanley)

### Offertory Response

*(Words & music: Barbara J. Rich; transcribed 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 by 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** Love and Grace Bat Last Rev. Elea Kemler

**\*Hymn** We Would Be One #318

**\*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 G (William Boyce)

*(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.)*

**Ringing of the Bell**

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**\*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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Today's flowers are donated by Pat and Jay Lawrence in honor of Pat's late mother and father, Rose and John McConnell, who shared the birthday of November 6. They would have been 93 and 87 today.

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Greeters: John Appleton, Beverly Smith and Suzanne Nelson  
Ushers: Alice Van Ormer and Sarah Stram  
Coffee Hour Host: 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



*Autumn by Carol Sarasin*

Coming from Gratitude

Many times a day I realize how much my own life is built on the labors of my fellow men (and women) and how earnestly I must exert myself in order to give in return as much as I have received.

(Albert Einstein)

Thankfulness is the beginning of gratitude. Gratitude is the completion of thankfulness. Thankfulness may consist merely of words. Gratitude is shown in acts. Henri Frederic Amiel

*"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) 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.