

FIRST PARISH CHURCH OF GROTON

November 27, 2016

Ringing of the Bell

Rebecca Pike, Bell-Ringer

Thoughts as the Service Begins:

In these days of difficulty, we Americans everywhere must and shall choose the path of social justice..., the path of faith, the path of hope, and the path of love. (Franklin D. Roosevelt)

Sometimes I want to ask God why She allows poverty, famine and injustice in the world when she could do something about it. But I am afraid God will ask me the same question.

(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 (Starling Goodwin)

Welcome and Announcements

Kaitlin Kramer, Worship Leader

*Hymn

Give Light (Artzner, Leonino)

1. Give light, and people will find the way (x3)
People will find the way I do believe
2. Teach peace...
3. Stand together...
4. Reach out...
5. Give love...
6. Sing out...
7. Give light...

Chalice Lighting

Kira Lafosse-Baker

Lighting the Advent Wreath

Jared Lafosse-Baker

Response Hymn

(please remain seated) #123

Spanish trans. Rev. Lilia Cuervo and Ervin Barrios

Fuente de Amor, ven hacia mí.
Y al corazón, cántale tu compasión.
Sopla al volar, sube en la mar;
Hasta moldear la justicia de la vida.
Arráigame, libérame,
Fuente de Amor, ven a mí, ven a mí.

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

Children's Blessing *(First UU Nashville Youth Choir)*

May your mind be open to new learning
May your lips bring truth into the world
May your heart know love, and your hands do the work of justice
As you go your way in peace
As you go your way in peace

Welcome! Children will gather downstairs in the Vestry – the big room below us – for a game playing Sunday.

Reading

A Blessing Called Sanctuary by Jan Richardson

Laura Williams

Anthem

Hallelujah (Leonard Cohen)

Clara O'Rourke and Kathryn Ellis Moore

Spoken Prayer and Silent Meditation

Rev. Elea Kemler

Offertory

Gavotte (Samuel Wesley)

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.

Sermons on Social Justice

Clara O'Rourke
Marisa Benson

***Hymn** Let the Life I Lead

1. Let the life I lead speak for me
Let the life I lead speak for me
When I'm lying in my grave
And there's nothing more to say
Let the life I lead speak for me
2. Let the friends I have...
3. Let the work I do...
4. Let the love I share...
5. Let the songs I sing

***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 F (William Hine)

(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!

Flowers for this Sunday's Service are donated by Mary Athey Jennings in memory of her parents Leon and Ima Athey, and in celebration of her new grandson Sam Jennings-Heal.

Greeters: John Appleton, Laura Williams and Suzanne Nelson
Coffee Hour Host: Sam Mayer Svarczkopf

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

FIRST PARISH CHURCH

Groton, Massachusetts



Artwork by Kaitlin Kramer

Coming from Gratitude

Many times a day I realize how much my own life is built on the labors of my fellowmen, 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 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.