

FIRST PARISH CHURCH OF GROTON

January 22, 2017

Ringing of the Bell

Rebecca Pike, Bell-Ringer

A Thought as the Service Begins:

What To Tell The Children

Tell them that this is the great awakening.
Tell them that we humans have made some huge mistakes
And that's how we now find ourselves in this tenuous place.
Teach them that hate is the poison.
Teach them that love is the remedy....

Teach them humility,
But also to re-learn to trust their intuition...
Tell them their gifts are useful.
Tell them they are beautiful.
Tell them they are the truth. (Rachel Kann)

(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. During the music you are invited to post your joys and sorrows on the wall near your pew. If mobility is difficult, please ask a neighbor.

Prelude Allegro (Thomas Arne)

Call to Worship Open The Door (Joyce Poley) Children's Choir

Welcome and Announcements Loretto Roney, Worship Leader

***Hymn** Give Light (Artzner, Leonino)

Give light, and people will find the way (x3)
People will find the way I do believe.

Teach peace/Stand together/Reach out/Give love/
Sing out/Give light

Chalice Lighting Alyssa Dallas

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

Anthem Children's Wisdom (Brandy Sinco) Children's Choir

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

Reflections on the Kigali Reading Center Parfait Gasana
Anne Shaugnessy

Offertory Beware of Darkness (George Harrison)

In order to give some of Rwanda's neediest children a chance to break the cycle of poverty, Kigali Reading Center provides free books and literacy training. Kigali Reading Center is a 501(c)3 charity incorporated here in Massachusetts and now operates two centers in Rwanda, one in Kigali and one in Nyamata.

Offertory Response *(Words: Barbara Rich; Music: Shawn McCann)*

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 Blessing for the Day

Rev. Elea Kemler

***Hymn** Life Calls Us On (insert)

***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 Voluntary in B flat (Maurice Greene)

(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 Krista Ingram to celebrate the life of Nancy Ingram Jones, beloved Mother, Mother-in-law and Grandmama. We miss you!

Greeters: Rev. Marta Valentin, Allison Chase, Jaiya Valentin Chase and Laura Williams

Ushers: Pat Fairchild and Laura Williams

Coffee Hour Host: Sam Mayer Svarczkopf

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.

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 is a Welcoming Congregation. We joyfully welcome all!

FIRST PARISH CHURCH Groton, Massachusetts



Photo courtesy of Anne Shaughnessy

In matters of truth and justice there is no difference between large and small problems, for issues concerning the treatment of people are all the same. (Albert Einstein)

"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.