

FIRST PARISH CHURCH OF GROTON

February 19, 2017

Ringing of the Bell

Rebecca Pike, Bell-Ringer

Thoughts as the Service Begins:

You have to understand,
that no one puts their children in a boat
unless the water is safer than the land (Warsan Shire)

It goes on one at a time,
it starts when you care
to act, it starts when you do
it again...
it starts when you say *We*
and know who you mean, and each
day you mean one more. (Marge Piercy)

*(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

Fantasia (Telemann)

Call to Worship

Building Bridges
(contemporary English Quaker round) –Open Choir

Welcome and Announcements

Mary Jennings, Worship Leader

*Hymn

Enter, Rejoice, and Come In #361

Chalice Lighting

Melissa Dawson

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

Szekely Aldas
(words: traditional Transylvanian; music: Beth Norton) –Open 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

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.*

Sung Prayer

There Is A Love (Parker, Norton)
There is a love holding me / us.
There is a love holding all that I / we love.
There is a love holding all.
I / We rest in that love.

Spoken Prayer and Silent Meditation

Rev. Elea Kemler

Offertory

Pas de deux from Souvenirs (Samuel Barbara)

Offertory Response

(Words: Barbara Rich and Joshua Rich)

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.

Sermon

The We of Me

Rev. Elea Kemler

*Hymn

We're Gonna Sit at the Welcome Table #407

*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

La Cathedrale engloutie (Claude Debussy)

(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!

Please consider donating flowers or decorating for Sunday's services.

Greeters: Laura & Lena Donovan, Anne & Amelia Bohan
and Tom Roney

Ushers: Pat Fairchild and Bernadette Dureault

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



Artwork by Hatzy Hornblower

"When asked if I am pessimistic or optimistic about the future, my answer is always the same: If you look at the science about what is happening on earth and aren't pessimistic, you don't understand data. But if you meet the people who are working to restore this earth and the lives of the poor, and you aren't optimistic, you haven't got a pulse. What I see everywhere in the world are ordinary people willing to confront despair, power, and incalculable odds in order to restore some semblance of grace, justice and beauty to this world."

Paul Hawken

"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.