

FIRST PARISH CHURCH OF GROTON

April 2, 2017

Ringing of the Bell

Rebecca Pike, Bell-Ringer

Thought as the Service Begins:

When we think of connection, we think of:

- Hope
- Open-mindedness
- Love
- Empathy
- Peace
- Dreams
- Tranquility
- Solitude
- Friendship
- Courage
- Happiness
- Liberty

(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 Eleanor Rigby (Lennon, McCartney) -Youth Choir

Call to Worship Rainbow Connection (Paul Williams) -Youth Choir

Welcome and Announcements Lara Hill, Worship Leader

***Hymn** You've Got a Friend (Carole King) insert

Chalice Lighting Maddy Premru

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

Pandora's Boxes
by Isabel Stanley-Kemler

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

(Spirit Play and Workshop classes are going to Religious Education today. Neighboring Faiths class and older stay in the Sanctuary.)

Candles of Celebration and Concern

Molly McGinty

(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 just one or two sentences.)

Anthem #1 True Colors (Steinberg, Kelly) -Lara Hill, solo

Reading Dmitri Foster

Offertory Imagine (John Lennon)
Jon Frey, piano solo

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.

Spoken Prayer and Silent Meditation

Izzy Conners

Anthem #2 Better Together (Jack Johnson) Youth Choir

Senior Reflections: Jon Frey, Kira Hill, Ian Peterson,
Eleanor Keydel and Will Premru

FIRST PARISH CHURCH

Groton, Massachusetts



Artwork by Grade 3-5 2015 RE class

Spirit of Life and Love,
moving in every living thing, and in us,
astonish us this morning.
Startle us. Stun us...
Shake us from our sleeping.
For we are winter-weary and disbelieving
and our eyes have forgotten what surprises look like,
and we are ready, we are more than ready,
to open them and be amazed. (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.

***Hymn** I'd Like to Teach the World to Sing
(Backer, Davis, Cook, Greenaway) 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.

Spoken Benediction Isabel Stanley-Kemler

Postlude Shower the People (James Taylor)
Youth Choir and Congregation

(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 this week are donated in memory & celebration of
John Appleton's brother Andrew,
who would have been 50 years old this week.

Greeters: Molly McGinty, Ava Metzger and Martina Smyth
(and their families)

Ushers: Suzanne Nelson, Cameron Hadland & Caleb Stanley-Kemler

Coffee Hour Host: Dmitri Foster with Middle Matters and
Senior High Youth and their families

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.

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