

FIRST PARISH CHURCH OF GROTON

April 16, 2017

Ringing of the Bell Rebecca Pike, Bell-Ringer

Thoughts as the Service Begins:

Keep some room in your heart for the unimaginable.

(Mary Oliver)

I have woken from the sleep of ages
and I am not sure
if I am really seeing, or dreaming,
or simply astonished
walking toward sunrise
to have stumbled into the garden
where the stone was rolled from
the tomb of longing. (David Whyte)

*(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 Voluntary V (John Alcock)

Call to Worship Rejoice Together Everyone (Barrie Cabena)
Adult Choir

Welcome and Announcements Owen Shuman, Worship Leader

***Hymn** Morning Has Broken #38

Chalice Lighting Danielle, Mike, Rowen, Sabine and Shane Moran

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

***Hymn** Lo, the Earth Awakes Again #61

Reading The Story of Easter Morning

Anthem The Heavens Are Telling (Haydn) Adult Choir

Offertory From Heaven On High (F.W. Zachau)

Reverse Offering: *Please take a rock card from the basket
but don't open it yet!*

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.

Message Keep Room for the Unimaginable Rev. Elea Kemler

***Hymn** When in Our Music #36
*(All are invited to join the Choir at the back of the sanctuary or sing
from the pews.)*

***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 Allegro Maestoso from 'Water Music' (G.F. Handel)

*(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!*

Happy Easter to All!!
Flowers this week are given by Amy & Jason Grosso
and Ivan & Avery Sturm

Greeters: Tom Nalesnik, Laura Williams and friends
Ushers: Suzanne Nelson, Pat Fairchild, Deb Bozenowski
and Bernadette Dureault

Coffee Hour Host: Jacob Tessier

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. **Look for anyone holding a blue mug at coffee hour. They will have happy to answer any questions you have or speak with you about our community.**

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



"Bird" Artwork by Hatzy Hornblower

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.