

FIRST PARISH CHURCH OF GROTON

May 7, 2017

Ringing of the Bell

Rebecca Pike, Bell-Ringer

Thoughts as the Service Begins:

Unitarian Universalist Minister, Rev. Theresa Soto writes, "All of us need all of us to make it." I want you to get used to those words; make them your prayer. *All of us need all of us to make it.*

(Theresa Soto, Megan Foley)

Lean on, and lean in
That we might hear one another into being
that we might create here a circle
of promise and trust
A place where we can be
uncomfortable together
A place of grace
And forgiveness
Bold bravery And new beginnings
Come, let us be vulnerable here
Human, and true, and messy
Let the real peek out
From its usual hiding places
That we might meet each other, See each other,
See life for what it is
Still possible, still becoming, still trying
To be whole again
With our help. (Rev. Gretchen Haley, adapted)

*(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 Border Song (Elton John, Bernie Taupin) Open Choir

Welcome and Announcements Sue Lotz, Worship Leader

***Hymn** I'm On My Way #116

Chalice Lighting Steve Boczenowski

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

Owen Shuman

Anthem Hope (Isaye Barnwell) Open Choir and Congregation

(Pray / Walk / Work / Move / March / Teach / Sing)

Part 1: If we want hope to survive in this world today, then every day we've got to [pray] on, [pray] on (x2)

Part 2: We've got to [walk] on [walk] on (x4)

Part 3: If we want peace in the world, we've got to [work] on, [work] on, [work] on (x2)

Part 4: We've got to [move] on (x8)

Part 5: [March] on (x8)

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

Reading and Reflection

Alyssa Dallas

Prayer, followed by Silent Meditation

Offertory Jacob's Ladder (traditional, arr. Clif Hardin)

***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 All of Us Need All of Us to Make It Rev. Elea Kemler

***Hymn** There is More Love Somewhere #95

***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 I Need You To Survive (David Frazier)

(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 today are donated by Amy Grosso in honor of Avery Sturm's 13th Birthday today, and all May Birthdays!

Greeters: Suzanne Nelson and Deb Boczenowski
Ushers: Laura Williams, Peg Lorenz and Trish Garrigan
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.

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

FIRST PARISH CHURCH

Groton, Massachusetts



Artwork by Hatzy Hornblower

stay strong through your pain
grow flowers from it...
bloom beautifully
dangerously
loudly
bloom softly
however you need
just bloom (Rupi Kaur)

"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.