

# FIRST PARISH CHURCH OF GROTON

May 14, 2017

**Ringing of the Bell** Rebecca Pike, Bell-Ringer

## Thoughts as the Service Begins:

There's no such thing as other people's children. (Hillary Clinton)

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... (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.)*

**Prelude** Voluntary II (John Alcock)

**Call to Worship** Building Bridges  
(Words: Women of Greenham Common peace occupation, 1983;  
Music: Contemporary English Quaker Round)  
Youth/Children's Choir

**Welcome and Announcements** Carol Swift, Worship Leader

**\*Hymn** Morning Has Come #1000, turquoise

**Chalice Lighting** Rebecca Pike

**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

## The Dedication of Jaiya Lovell Valentin Chase, child of Rev. Marta Valentin and Alison Chase

**Anthem** Woyaya (Amoa, Amarfio, Bailey, Bedeau, Osei,  
Richardson, Tontoh) - Youth/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

**Sung Prayer** There Is A Love (Rebecca Parker, Elizabeth 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 this love.

## Spoken Prayer and Silent Meditation

**Offertory** Voluntary III (G.F. Handel)

**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** What to Tell the Children Rev. Elea Kemler

**\*Hymn** **I Am Willing (Holly Near)**

Chorus: I am open and I am willing

To be hopeless would seem so strange

It dishonors those who go before us

So lift me up to the light of change

There is hurting in my family

There is sorrow in my town

There is panic in the nation  
There is wailing the whole world round (Chorus)

May the children see more clearly  
May the elders be more wise  
May the winds of change caress us  
Even though it burns our eyes (Chorus)

Give me a mighty oak to hold my confusion  
Give me a desert to hold my fears  
Give me a sunset to hold my wonder  
Give me an ocean to hold my tears (Chorus)

**\*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 III (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.*

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*Join us downstairs for good food and conversation  
immediately following the service!*

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Flowers for today are donated by Donna Stram

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Greeters:     Suzanne Nelson and Deb Boczenowski  
Ushers:     June Johnson and Pat Fairchild  
Coffee Hour Host: Dmitri Foster

**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 Kaitlin Kramer*

“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](http://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.