

FIRST PARISH CHURCH OF GROTON

September 24, 2017

Ringing of the Bell

Rebecca Pike, Bell-Ringer

A Thought as the Service Begins:

We each have two lives. The second life begins, when we realize we have only one. (the source of wisdom called Facebook)

You are enough, you are precious, your work and your life matter, and you are not alone. You are part of a "we," a great cloud of witnesses, living and dead, who have insisted that this beautiful, broken world of ours is a blessing worthy of both deep gratitude and fierce protection. Whatever happens tomorrow, our ancestors and our descendants are beckoning us, compelling us to onward toward greater connection, greater compassion, greater commitment to one another and to the earth. Together, we are resilient and resourceful enough to say "yes" to that call, to make it our life's work in a thousand different ways, knowing that we can do no other than bind ourselves more tightly together, and throw ourselves into the holy work of showing up, again and again, to be part of building that world of which we dream but which we have not yet seen.

(Rev. Ashley Horan)

(We ask that you put your electronic devices in "worship mode" by turning off all ringers. Please also turn off the flash on your camera. Join us in a time of quiet during the prelude.)

Prelude

Voluntary III (Maurice Greene)

Call to Worship: Keep Us Always In Your Love

(Mike Tegeder, Chris Kosowski)

The words of the Call to Worship were conjured and used by the late Fr. Michael Tegeder in services at St. Frances Cabrini Catholic Church in Minneapolis, MN. They were set to music by the music director there, Chris Kosowski, as a memorial after Mike's passing in July of 2016. Mike was my brother-in-law. - Keith Dawson

Welcome and Announcements:

Sal Lombardi, Worship Leader

*Hymn

Morning Has Broken

#38

(Written joys and sorrows will be collected during the hymn)

Chalice Lighting

Keith 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

Fleegl: A Rosh Hashana Story

by Barbara Brickman

Anthem

This Is The New Year (Ian Axel and Chad Vaccarino)
Youth 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

Meditation on Breathing (Sarah Dan Jones)

When I breathe in, I'll breathe in peace.
When I breathe out, I'll breathe out love.

Spoken Prayer, followed by Silent Meditation

Offertory

Offertoire (Charles Alexis Chauvet)

Reverse Offering: Please take some apple and honey to eat with a Rosh Hashana blessing for a sweet new year.

Offertory Response (*Words: Melinda Green; Music: Shawn McCann*)

We thank each other for these gifts
Which makes our giving bless-ed.

We bless the works our gifts sustain
And pray they ripple outward.
With grace and generosity
We show our faith enacted.

Sermon The Holy Work of Showing Up for Life

Reverend Elea Kemler

***Hymn** For All That is Our Life #128

***Sung Benediction** #414

As we leave this friendly place,
love give light to every face.
May the kindness which we've learned,
light our hearts 'til we return.

Postlude: Impromptu, Op 142, No. 2 (Franz Schubert)

(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. Come up one of the side aisles, light your candle and return to your seat by the center aisle. Or if mobility is difficult, just go the shortest route! We ask the congregation to remain seated in quiet until the last candle is lit. If you are not able to stay, please leave quietly.)

***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, 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!*

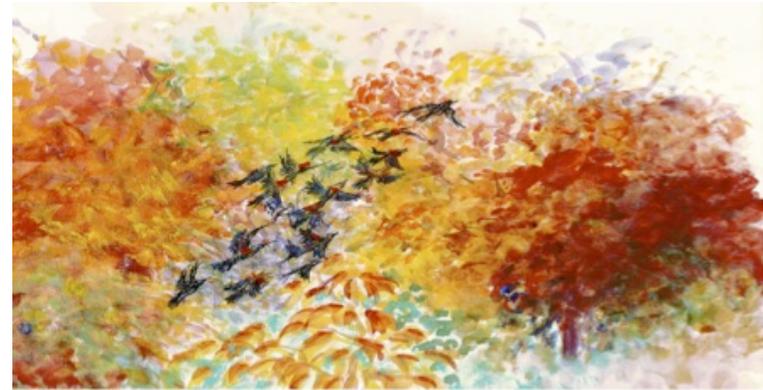
The flowers in church this morning are
given by Carol Swift.

Greeters: Colleen Tessier, Amy Strong, Veronica Langlais
Ushers: Suzanne Nelson, Claudette Williams, Keith Dawson
Coffee Hour Host: Sam Mayer Svarczkopf

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

FIRST PARISH CHURCH

Groton, Massachusetts



(Art work by Hatzy Hornblower)

"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 4 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 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 during the service.