FIRST PARISH CHURCH OF GROTON

October 15, 2017

Ringing of the Bell

Rebecca Pike, Bell-Ringer

A Thought as the Service Begins:

You will know this blessing by how it opens its heart to you. You will know this blessing by how it turns its face toward you. You will know this blessing by how it approaches you arm in arm with faith and hope.

You will know this blessing not by the ease it offers you but by what it asks of you: patience and kindness forbearance and belief hope and endurance, not because this is what you owe but because this is what this blessing stirs in you, what it provides for you, what it pours into your hands that you suddenly find open

like your heart that unfolds itself in welcome, finally knowing and fully known. (Jan Richardson)

My religion is very simple. My religion is kindness. (Dalai Lama XIV)

(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 Come Sunday (Duke Ellington)

Welcome and Announcements: Ed McNierney, Worship Leader

Here We Have Gathered #360 *Hymn

Barbara Rich **Chalice Lighting**

Response Hymn

(please remain seated) Spanish trans. Rev. Lilia Cuervo and Ervin Barrios

#123

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

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

(If you have a brief joy or sorrow, celebration or concern you wish to have shared out loud in today's prayer, fill out one of the cards in your pew. The ushers will collect cards as children and youth are sung from the sanctuary. There is also a basket on the candle table and you can put your card in it any time before the prayer.)

Spoken Prayer, followed by Silent Meditation

Offertory

Hallelujah (Leonard Cohen)

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 Kind World Rev. Elea Kemler *Hymn

There is More Love Somewhere

#95

*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

Peace (Horace Silver)

(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 Anne Bohan in celebration of Amelia's birthday.

Greeters: Mandy and Addy Levine, Judy Nauman, Suzanne Nelson Ushers: Laura Williams, Amy Grosso

Coffee Hour Hosts: Dmitri Foster, Jacob Tessier, Kiernan DeMeis-

Dullea

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.

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

FIRST PARISH CHURCH

Groton, Massachusetts



"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: <u>www.uugroton.org</u> 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.