

FIRST PARISH CHURCH OF GROTON

November 5, 2017

Ringing of the Bell

Rebecca Pike, Bell-Ringer

A Thought as the Service Begins:

If this blessing were easy,
anyone could claim it.
As it is, I am here to tell you
that it will take some work.

This is the blessing that visits you
in the struggling,
in the wrestling,
in the striving.

This is the blessing that comes
after you have left everything behind,
after you have stepped out,
after you have crossed into that realm
beyond every landmark you have known.

This is the blessing that takes all night
to find. (Jan Richardson)

*(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, (G.F. Handel)

Call to Worship

Call to Worship (Betty Wylder) – Adult Choir

Welcome and Announcements:

Laura Williams, Worship Leader

*Hymn

Come and Go With Me

#1018, turquoise

Chalice Lighting

Irving Rockwood

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.

Candles of Celebration and Concern

*You are invited to come forward, introduce yourself, briefly share a
personal and heartfelt joy or sorrow in a sentence or two, light your
candle from the chalice and place it on the candle table. Please take a
moment to gather your thoughts into one or two sentences.*

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 prefer to write down your joy or sorrow for inclusion in
today's prayer, rather than light a spoken candle, 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.)*

Anthem

Peace, Like A River (trad., arr. Moore) – Adult Choir

Reading

Jacob's Blessing by Jan Richardson

Spoken Prayer, followed by Silent Meditation

Offertory

In Nomine (Richard Alwood)

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.

