

FIRST PARISH CHURCH OF GROTON

November 12, 2017

Ring of the Bell Rebecca Pike, Bell-Ringer

A Thought as the Service Begins:

History, despite its wrenching pain, cannot be unlived, but if faced with courage, need not be lived again. (Maya Angelou)

(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 Toccata in e minor (Johann Pachelbel)

Sung Call to Worship Over My Head (traditional African American spiritual) Children's Choir

Welcome and Announcements: Kathy Reiff, Worship Leader

Spoken Call to Worship Sharing Laments and Hopes
Laura Wagner

***Hymn** Lean on Me #1021, turquoise

Chalice Lighting Donna Nowak

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

Anthem: My Roots Go Down (Sarah Pirtle) 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

Candles of Celebration and Concern

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

Reading Arbor Day By Gary Kowalski

Spoken Prayer, followed by Silent Meditation

Offertory Fantasia (Johann Pachelbel)

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 Stories of Hope Laura Wagner

***Hymn** Building a New Way #1017, turquoise

Closing Words Some Wishes for You by Charles S. Stephen

***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 Toccata in C major (Johann Pachelbel)

(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 in loving memory of Beatrice C. Synnott by her daughter, Marcia Synnott, and son, Thomas Synnott

Greeters: Kathy Parliament-Benson, Carol Sarasin, Tom Roney

Ushers: Pamela Worden,

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

This morning we welcome Laura Wagner as our guest preacher.

Laura Wagner is the Executive Director of UU Mass Action Network. Since 2006 UU Mass Action has been organizing and mobilizing the 20,000 Unitarian Universalist and 142 congregations around social justice issues in Massachusetts. The core campaigns UU Mass Action is currently working on are Climate Justice, Economic Justice, Ending Mass Incarceration and Immigrant Rights. To learn more visit: www.uumassaction.org. Laura will also stay for a circle meeting following coffee hour to share the work of UU Mass Action.

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



"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.