

FIRST PARISH CHURCH OF GROTON

November 26, 2017

Ringing of the Bell Rebecca Pike, Bell-Ringer

A Thought as the Service Begins:

If you have come here to help me, you are wasting your time.
But if you have come because your liberation is bound up with mine,
then let us work together.

(Aboriginal activists group, Queensland, 1970's)

(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 Cornet Voluntary (Starling Goodwin)

Call to Worship May We Shine A Light of Love (J. Poley)
Youth Choir

Welcome and Announcements: Kaitlin Kramer, Worship Leader

***Hymn** Do You Hear? #112

Chalice Lighting Marisa Benson

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 Rev. Aaron Stockwell

Anthem Keepers of the Earth (J. Poley) 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

(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.)

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

Reading What to Tell The Children by Rachel Kann
Emma Marella, third reader

Spoken Prayer, followed by Silent Meditation

Offertory On our Shore (Enya)

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 Work of the Church Rev. Aaron Stockwell

***Hymn** Love Will Guide Us #131

***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 The Old Castle (Mussorgsky)

(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!

Please sign up to donate flowers or decorate the altar for a special occasion, milestone or in honor of loved ones.

Greeters: Christina Rogers, John Klinkenberg
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. *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



Tree of Life

“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.