

FIRST PARISH CHURCH OF GROTON

January 21, 2018

Ringing of the Bell

Rebecca Pike, Bell-Ringer

A Thought as the Service Begins:

The very least you can do in your life is to figure out what you hope for. The most you can do is live inside that hope, running down its hallways, touching the walls on both sides. (Barbara Kingsolver)

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.

If you would like to have your joy or sorrow included in today’s prayer rather than lighting a spoken candle, please write it on a candle card and put the card in the offertory box during the offering. There is also a basket on the candle table at the front of the sanctuary and you can put your card there any time before the prayer.

Prelude

Allegro (Thomas Arne)

Call to Worship Dona Nobis Pacem (traditional Latin) Adult Choir

Welcome and Announcements Pamela Worden, Worship Leader

***Hymn** I Am Willing (Holly Near)

Chorus: I am open and I am willing
To be hopeless would seem so strange
It dishonors those who go before us
So lift me up to the light of change

There is hurting in my family
There is sorrow in my town
There is panic in the nation
There is wailing the whole world round (Chorus)

May the children see more clearly
May the elders be more wise
May the winds of change caress us
Even though it burns our eyes (Chorus)

Give me a mighty oak to hold my confusion
Give me a desert to hold my fears
Give me a sunset to hold my wonder
Give me an ocean to hold my tears

Chalice Lighting

Jon Frey

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

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

Spoken Candles of Celebration and Concern

You are invited to come forward, introduce yourself, 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.

Offertory

Ach Gott Und Herr (J.G. Walther)

Offertory Response (Barbara Rich, Joshua Rich)

Today we give our time
Our compassion, wit and song
Everyday we can choose,
To begin again in love.

We give what we can,
Generous as we can
Opening the doors
To begin again in love.

FIRST PARISH CHURCH

Groton, Massachusetts

Spoken Prayer and Silent Meditation Rev. Elea Kemler

Anthem Bridge Over Troubled Waters (Paul Simon) Adult Choir

Sermon 365 Acts of Hope Rev. Elea Kemler

***Hymn** Life Calls Us On (Insert)

***Sung Benediction** Carry the Flame *(Patricia Pavey)*
Carry the flame of peace and love until we meet again.
Oh, carry the flame of peace and love until we meet again.

Postlude Voluntary in B flat (Maurice Greene)
(Please remain seated during the Postlude. You are also invited to come light a candle silently during this time. We ask the congregation to remain seated in quiet until the last candle. 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, please place it one of the recycle baskets at the sanctuary exits.

Join us downstairs for good food and conversation immediately following the service!

Today's flowers are given by Carol Sarasin in loving memory of her mother, Carlie Coolidge Richards.

Greeters: Colleen Tessier, John Appleton, Cyndy Premru, Beverly Smith, Trent Tessier

Ushers: Kathy and Greg Reiff

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 visit the Welcome Table to learn more about us. Please sign one of the Guest Books on the tables near the front and back entrances so we can send you the monthly print newsletter and weekly emails about life at First Parish.



“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 three 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 soft, multicolored 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.