

FIRST PARISH CHURCH OF GROTON

February 11, 2018

Ringing of the Bell

Rebecca Pike, Bell-Ringer

A Thought as the Service Begins:

In this era of enormous rage, when the fires are burning all around us,
I believe that revolutionary love is the call of our times.

(Valarie Kaur)

You do not need to be already perfect
Or even half-way to belong in this circle
where grace meets us where we are
but does not leave us as it found us
where love resides in each of us
yet is somehow more than all

where life still pulses and rages and heals and transforms
creating us and this day anew
once again. (Gretchen Haley)

*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, 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 and you can put your card
there any time before the prayer.*

Prelude

Sarabande (Clif Hardin)

Call to Worship Let There Be Light (S. Finner) Children’s Choir

Welcome and Announcements Owen Shuman, Worship Leader

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

Chalice Lighting Jaiya Valentin-Chase

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 Then I May Learn (Shelley Jackson Denham)

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

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 and Reverse Offering Amazing Grace (traditional)

*Today the Worship Committee offers you a blessing. It is for you and
also to share by finding a way to pass the blessing along this week.
Please take one.*

Offertory Response (Barbara Rich, Joshua Rich)

Today we give our time
Our compassion, wit and song
Every day 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.

Spoken Prayer and Silent Meditation

Rev. Elea Kemler

Sermon Love Somehow More Than All Rev. Elea Kemler

***Hymn** For All That Is Our Life #128

***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 **Gaudeamus (Jason Shelton)**
(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!

Greeters: June Johnson, Tom Nalesnik, Suzanne Nelson

Ushers: Emma Rose Marella

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



“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.