

FIRST PARISH CHURCH OF GROTON

February 18, 2018

Ringing of the Bell

Rebecca Pike, Bell-Ringer

A Thought as the Service Begins:

All those days you felt like dust, like dirt,
as if all you had to do was turn your face
toward the wind and be scattered to the four corners
or swept away by the smallest breath
as insubstantial—

Did you not know what the Holy One
can do with dust?

This is the moment we ask for the blessing
that lives within the ancient ashes,
that makes its home inside the soil of this sacred earth.

So let us be marked not for sorrow.
And let us be marked not for shame.
Let us be marked not for false humility
or for thinking we are less than we are
but for claiming what the Holy can do
within the dust, within the dirt,
within the stuff of which the world is made,
and the stars that blaze
in our bones.... (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.*

*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

Ash Grove Variations arr. Howard Helvey

Welcome and Announcements

Jon Frey, Worship Leader

*Hymn

This Little Light of Mine

#118

Chalice Lighting

Irv 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

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

Arioso (J.S. Bach)

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

Sermon Fog, Dust and Moving Forward Rev. Elea Kemler

***Hymn** I've Got Peace Like a River #100

***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 Sonata IV: Allegro Maestoso – G. Mendelssohn
(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!

The flowers are given to day by Anne Bohan in loving memory of Maryellen Blaisdell Bohan and Richard Timothy Bohan.

Greeters: Suzanne Nelson, Kevin Pammett, Steve Lieman

Ushers: Jason and Amy Grosso

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



Artwork by Jackie Meyer

“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.