

FIRST PARISH CHURCH OF GROTON

February 25, 2018

Ringing of the Bell

Rebecca Pike, Bell-Ringer

A Thought as the Service Begins:

Out of a great need
we are all holding hands
and climbing.
Not loving is a letting go.
Listen, the terrain around here
is far too dangerous for that. (Hafez)

Courage is possible in community. When you find yourself afraid and you don't know if you can survive it: Close your eyes and breathe and remember the ones who love you. Love will make you brave.

(Valarie Kaur)

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 Sonatina, Op. 36, No. 2; Allegretto (Muzio Clementi)

Call to Worship Busca el Amor (Salvador Cardenal Barquero)
Youth Choir

Welcome and Announcements Kaitlin Kramer, Worship Leader

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

Chalice Lighting Marion Stoddart and Brenton Stoddart

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.
Arrágame, 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

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.

Anthem Spirit Bird (Xavier Rudd) Jon Frey

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

Offertory Sonatina, Op. 36, No 1; Andante (Musio Clementi)

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 Holding Hands and Climbing Rev. Elea Kemler

***Hymn** One More Step #168

***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 Sonatina, Op. 36, No. 2; Allegro (Muzio Clementi)
(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 today by the Ingram-Hill family in memory of Prescott Frederick Hill, beloved father-in-law, grandfather and father.

Greeters: Kathy and Greg Reiff

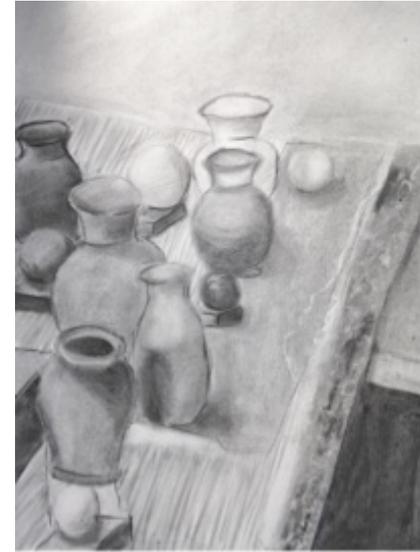
Ushers: Suzanne Nelson, Jim Frey

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 Kaitlin Kramer

“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.