

FIRST PARISH CHURCH OF GROTON

April 1, 2018

Ringing of the Bell Rebecca Pike, Bell-Ringer

A Thought as the Service Begins:

I have woken from the sleep of ages
and I am not sure
if I am really seeing, or dreaming,
or simply astonished
walking toward sunrise
to have stumbled into the garden
where the stone was rolled from
the tomb of longing. (David Whyte)

*(We ask that you turn off the ringers on your cell phones, beepers
and electronic devices, and the flashes on your cameras.
Please join us in a time of quiet during the prelude.)*

Prelude Variations from Organ Concerto Set 1, Opus 4, #1 (Handel)

Call to Worship Ubi Caritas (Ola Gjeilo) Adult Choir

Welcome and Announcements Donna Nowak, Worship Leader

***Hymn** Morning Has Broken #38

Chalice Lighting children of First Parish Church,
with words by Langston Hughes

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

A Time for All Generations

***Hymn** Lo, the Earth Awakes Again #61

Anthem Sanctus (Gounod) Adult Choir
solo: Kathryn Ellis Moore

Offertory Fughetta in C (Dietrich Buxtehude)

Reverse Offering: *Please choose a stone from the basket!*

Offertory Response *(Words: Barbara Rich and 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.

Message Roll Away That Stone Rev. Elea Kemler

***Hymn** Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee #29
*(All are invited to join the Choir at the back of the sanctuary or sing
from the pews.)*

***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 Rondo from piano sonata in c minor, Op. 13 (Beethoven)

*(You are invited to come light a candle silently for your own joys,
sorrows and prayers during the Postlude. We ask the congregation to
remain seated in quiet until the last candle is lit but families with
young children should feel free to leave at any time.
Please leave as quietly as you are able!*

***Please stand as you are able**

*Large Print Hymnals, Sunday Bulletins and Assisted Listening Devices
are available at the sanctuary doors. There are also puzzle pages for
kids at all of the doors.*

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

The flowers are given today by the Premru family in dedication to our wonderful and amazing congregation and the coming of Spring!

Greeters: Cameron Hadland, Lyda Budrys, Victoria & Valerie Preslavska, John Appleton
Ushers: Suzanne Nelson, Bernadette Dureault, Melissa Wood, Alan Hurvitz
Coffee Hour Host: Dmitri Foster, Jacob Tessier, Kiernan DeMeis-Dullea, Isabel Conners

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. Everyone here is happy to speak with you and answer any questions you may have. Please sign one of the Guest Books on the tables near the front and back entrances so we can know who you are and send you the monthly print newsletter and weekly emails about life at First Parish. **Look for anyone holding a blue mug at coffee hour. They will have happy to answer any questions you have or speak with you about our community.**

First Parish Church is a Welcoming Congregation. We joyfully welcome all!

FIRST PARISH CHURCH
Groton, Massachusetts



Artwork by Hatzy Hornblower

Keep some room in your heart for the unimaginable.
(Mary Oliver)

“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.