

FIRST PARISH CHURCH OF GROTON

September 9, 2018

**Ringing of the Bell** Emma Rose Marella, Bell-Ringer

**A Thought as the Service Begins**

We gather, from the ebb and flow of our lives

Thirsty for connection to ourselves

Thirsty for connection to others

Thirsty for connection to the larger life.

May all who gather here on this new morning, at the start of this new year, be filled.

Filled with hope

Filled with compassion

Filled with gratitude for all that is good

Filled with yearning to share that goodness with all.

Here are this deep well, may we be filled

So that we can pour ourselves out into the world.

(G. Pelley, adapted Elea Kemler)

*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.*

**Prelude** Alla Hornpipe from Water Music (G. F. Handel)

**Call to Worship** Love, Be Our Way (Carolyn McDade) Adult Choir

**Welcome and Announcements** Cyndy Premru, Worship Leader

**\*Hymn** We're All Swimming to the Other Side insert  
(Emma's Revolution: Pat Humphries, Sandy O)

**All children and youth are asked to help return the chalice!**  
**Please gather in the center aisle during the hymn.**

**Chalice Lighting** The children and youth of First Parish Church

*Leader:* We learn from the sea how to hold this light.

**Congregation: Gently, lightly, we hold this light.**

*Leader:* This light says, "Love exists in as many ways as there are angles of the sun on the ocean."

**Congregation: Gently, lightly, we hold this light.**

*Leader:* This light says, "Love exists in as many ways as there are beating hearts in this room."

**Congregation: Gently, lightly, we hold this light.**

*Leader:* This room is filled with light.

**Congregation: Gently, lightly, we hold this light.**

*Leader:* Our chalice holds our light. It is warmth and brightness.

**Congregation: Gently, lightly, we hold this light.**

**ALL: May the light of love shine strongly here. May we bring this love into the world.**

**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

**Anthem** The Water Remembers (Jason Shelton) Adult Choir

**A Time for All Generations**

**Offertory** On Your Shore (Enya)

**Gathering the Water**

*(All are invited to come forward and pour water into the common bowl, along with one word about your water or your spirit.)*

Music: Holy Waters (Jason Shelton, Mary Katherine Morn)

Holy waters make us new

Holy waters make us whole

Holy waters make us free

Holy waters make us one

