

FIRST PARISH CHURCH OF GROTON

September 9, 2018

Ringing of the Bell Emma Rose Marella, Bell-Ringer

A Thought as the Service Begins

It starts here, in this moment
In the breath you feel rising in your chest
It starts here: The healing, the hunger, the hope
The courage, the calling, the commitment

It begins now, in this song we sing
this prayer we bring into being
from our hearts to our lips
from our hands to our life, our shared life

It starts here with praise, and thanksgiving
Forgiveness, and this humble
centering confession
that we could be wrong -
It starts here with this promise that we make -
to keep learning, to keep trying
to keep our sense of humor, to keep close
this knowing
that we are all in this together (Gretchen Haley)

Each of us is more than the worst thing we've ever done.
(Bryan Stevenson)

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 The Water Is Wide
(American folk tune, arr. Edward Broughton)

Welcome and Announcements Ed McNierney, Worship Leader

***Hymn** When the World is Sick (If Not Now)
When the world is sick,
can't no one be well,
but I dreamt we was all beautiful and strong.

Chalice Lighting Sal Lombardi

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 I Can Change (Lake Street Dive) Maddy Premru

Singing the Children, Youth 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 gather your thoughts into one or two sentences.

Offertory Offrande (Flor Peeters)

Spoken Prayer and Silent Meditation

Response: We forgive ourselves and each other.
We begin again in love.

Sermon Each of us is More Rev. Elea Kemler

*Hymn Life Calls Us On (insert)

*Sung Benediction #414

As we leave this friendly place,
love give light to every face.
May the kindness which we've learned,
light our hearts 'til we return.

Postlude Siciliano from Sonata for Flute
(J.S. Bach, arr. Jean Pasquet)

*(You are invited to come light a candle silently during the Postlude.
We ask the congregation to remain seated in quiet witness until the
last candle. If you are not able to stay, 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.*

Please consider donating flowers to beautify our altar. Donation sign
up sheet is outside the kitchen door or you may email the office.

Greeters: John Appleton, Amy Grosso, Cyndi Premru

Ushers: Suzanne Nelson, Betty Keddy

Coffee Hour Hosts: Dmitri Foster, 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,
our Director of Religious Education, Liz Davis Chaffin 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 is a Welcoming Congregation. We joyfully welcome
all into this community.*

FIRST PARISH CHURCH

Groton, Massachusetts



Photo taken by Liz Davis-Chaffin

“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 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.