

FIRST PARISH CHURCH OF GROTON

September 30, 2018

Ringing of the Bell

Emma Rose Marella, Bell-Ringer

A Thought as the Service Begins

In this world

Joy is an of resistance

And singing too

Hope is a stubborn practice

An insistent assertion

That not everything can be undone

So let us come now,

determined to lift up our eyes

to the beauty that remains even now (Gretchen Haley)

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

Avinu Malkeinu (trad., arr. Clif Hardin)

Call to Worship

Gathered Here (Philip A. Porter) Children's Choir

Welcome and Announcements

Ed McNierney, Worship Leader

***Hymn**

I Am Willing (Holly Near)

I am open and I am willing

To be hopeless would seem so strange

It dishonors those who go before us

So lift me up to the light of change

There is hurting in my family

There is sorrow in my town

There is panic in the nation

There is wailing the whole world round (Chorus)

May the children see more clearly

May the elders be more wise

May the winds of change caress us

Even though it burns our eyes (Chorus)

Give me a mighty oak to hold my confusion

Give me a desert to hold my fears

Give me a sunset to hold my wonder

Give me an ocean to hold my tears

Chalice Lighting

Barbara Rich

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

Anthem

We Want Harmony (John Maas)

Children's Choir

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 Largo (John Keeble)

Sung Prayer There is a Love (Parker, Norton)

There is a love holding me.
There is a love holding all that I love.
There is a love holding all.
I rest in this love.

There is a love holding us.
There is a love holding all that we love.
There is a love holding all.
We rest in this love.

Spoken Prayer and Silent Meditation

Sermon Rev. Elea Kemler

***Hymn** Give Light (Artzner, Leonino)

1. Give light, and people will find the way (x3)
People will find the way I do believe
2. Teach peace... 3. Stand together...
3. Bring hope... 4. Sing out... 5. Give light...

***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 Cornet Voluntary (John Travers)
*(You are invited to come light a candle silently during the Postlude.
We ask the congregation to remain seated in quiet until the last
candle. If you are unable to stay, please leave as quietly as able.)*

***Please stand as you are able**

*Large Print Hymnals, Sunday Bulletins and Assisted Listening Devices
are available at the sanctuary doors.*

Today's flowers are given by Carol Swift

Greeters: John Appleton, Jan Hadland, Diane Hewitt
Ushers: Jacqueline Frey, Suzanne Nelson
Coffee Hour Host: Isabel Connors, Jai Luc Santoro, Sarah Stram

FIRST PARISH CHURCH Groton, Massachusetts



Photo 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.