

**FIRST PARISH CHURCH OF GROTON**

December 9, 2018

**Ringing of the Bell**

Emma Rose Marella, Bell-Ringer

**A Thought as the Service Begins**

This is an hour of change.  
Within it we stand uncertain on the border of light.  
Shall we draw back or cross over?  
Where shall our hearts turn?  
Shall we draw back, my brother, my sister, my kin,  
or shall we cross over?  
This is the hour of change, and within it,  
we stand quietly on the border of light.  
What lies before us?  
Shall we draw back, my brother, my sister, my kin,  
or shall we cross over?

*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**

Capriccio (W.A. Mozart)

**Call to Worship** Give Me Birds at the Dawning (Betsy Binstock)

Children's Choir

**Welcome and Announcements**

Patrick Hughes, Worship Leader

**\*Hymn** Where You Go (Shoshana Jedwab)

Where you go, I will go, Beloved/Refugee/Children/Ancestors  
Where you go, I will go  
Where you go, I will go, Beloved/Refugee/Children/Ancestors  
Where you go, I will go

And where you lie, I will lie, Beloved/Refugee/Children/Ancestors  
Where you lie, I will lie  
Where you lie, I will lie, Beloved/Refugee/Children/Ancestors  
Where you lie, I will lie

And your people are my people, your people are mine  
Your people are my people, your Divine my Divine

And your people are my people, your people are mine  
Your people are my people, your Divine my Divine

**Chalice and Menorah Lighting**

Donna Nowak

**Advent Wreath Lighting**

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and with your captive children dwell.  
Give comfort to all exiles here, and to the aching heart bid cheer.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come within as Love to dwell.

O come, you splendor very bright, as joy that never yields to might.  
O come and turn all hearts to peace,  
that greed and war at last shall cease.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come within as Truth to dwell.

**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 the Child in Us All**

**Anthem** A Place In The Choir (Bill Staines) – 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

## Candle 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 before speaking.*

**Offertory** Fughetta in C (Buxtehude)

## Spoken Prayer and Silent Meditation

**Sermon** Shall We Cross Over? Rev. Elea Kemler

**\*Hymn** Answering the Call of Love #1014, turquoise

**\*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** Voluntary I (Samuel Wesley)

*(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 is lit. If you are not able to stay, we understand and 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.*

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Greeters: Charles Faucher, Irv Rockwood, Tom Roney

Ushers: Pat Fairchild, Jacqueline Frey

Coffee Hour Hosts: Isabel Conners, Jai Luc Santoro, Sarah Stram

**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



*Image by Jan Richardson*

*Light up the darkness. (Bob Marley)*

### **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.

*"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](http://www.uugroton.org) and our Facebook page at First Parish Church of Groton, MA*