

FIRST PARISH CHURCH OF GROTON

January 20, 2019

Ringing of the Bell

Emma Rose Marella

Thoughts as the Service Begins

To give thanks is to admit that our lives are gifts, not achievements. We love because we've been loved and fight for justice because someone fought before us to make our freedom possible.

(Rev. Dr. William Barber)

We're trying to push something new into the world. We're trying to bring something through that's never been brought through, and it's hard. And we have to continually remind ourselves that our discomfort and our grappling is not a sign of failure. It's a sign that we're living at the edge of our imaginations. (America Ferrara)

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.

Today we have both spoken and written candles. If you would like to have your joy or sorrow shared but prefer not to light a spoken candle, write it on a bright pink card (in your pew rack) and put it in the basket on the candle table or in the offering box during the offertory. The minister will include it in the prayer.

Prelude Improvisations on African American Spirituals

Call to Worship Sing and Rejoice (traditional) Children's Choir

Welcome and Announcements Amy Grosso, Worship Leader

***Hymn** Keep on Moving Forward (Emma's Revolution)

We're gonna keep on moving forward
Keep on moving forward, keep on moving forward
Never turning back, never turning back.

We're gonna keep on moving proudly
We're gonna keep on singing loudly
We're gonna keep on loving boldly
We're gonna reach across our borders
We're gonna keep on moving forward

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 the Child in Us All

Anthem Take Up The Song (Carole Etzler and Brenda Chambers)
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

Candles of Celebration and Concern

You are invited to come forward, introduce yourself, briefly share a personal and heartfelt joy or sorrow, light your candle from the chalice and place it on the candle table. Before you speak, please take a moment to gather your thoughts into one or two sentences.

Offertory Improvisations on African American Spirituals

Spoken Prayer and Silent Meditation

Sermon At The Edge of Our Imaginations Rev. Elea Kemler

***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

***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 Improvisations on African American Spirituals

*(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.*

The flowers today are given by Anne McGinty.

Greeters: Lyda Budrys, Jan Hadland, Peg Lorenz

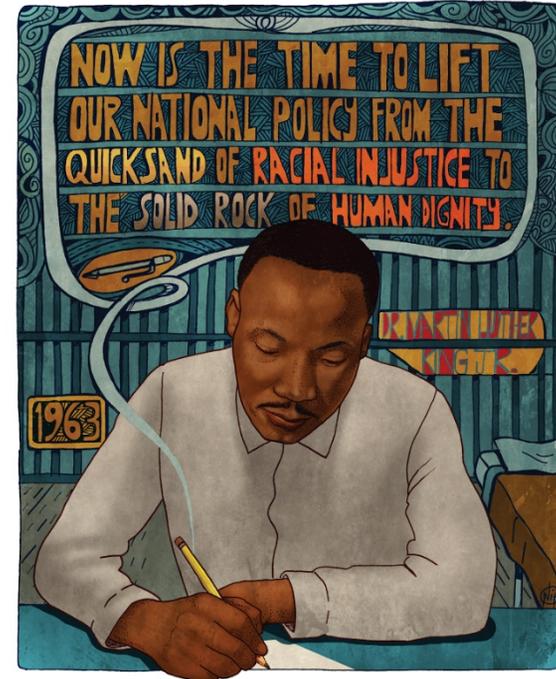
Ushers:

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.

FIRST PARISH CHURCH

Groton, Massachusetts



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 and our Facebook page at First Parish Church of Groton, MA