

FIRST PARISH CHURCH OF GROTON

April 21, 2019

Ringing of the Bell Emma Rose Marella, Bell-Ringer

Thoughts as the Service Begins:

Between impossibility and possibility, there is a door—the door of hope. And the possibility of transformation lies through that door.... (Jim Wallis)

Every morning I walk like this around the pond, thinking: if the doors of my heart ever close, I am as good as dead. Every morning, so far, I'm alive. (Mary Oliver)

(We ask that you turn off the ringers on your cell phones, beepers and electronic devices, and the flashes on your cameras. Please join us in a time of quiet during the prelude. If you brought some flowers today, thank you! Please bring them up front.)

Prelude Fughette (G.F. Handel)

Call to Worship With Songs of Rejoicing (J.S. Bach, arr. Hal Hopson)
Adult Choir

Welcome and Announcements Kaitlin Kramer, Worship Leader

***Hymn** Lo, the Day of Days is Here #269

Chalice Lighting Children of First Parish Church,
with words by Langston Hughes

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 He Shall Feed His Flock (John Ness Beck) Adult Choir

Offertory Largo (John Keeble)

Reverse Offering: Adults and youth, please take an egg from the basket but don't open it up yet. Children are invited to come up front and choose a shiny egg. You can open yours!

Message The Doors of Hope Rev. Elea Kemler

***Anthem** When In Our Music God Is Glorified (Green, Sandford; arr. Zeigenhals)
Adult Choir & Congregation; Ed Strachan, trumpet

(The congregation is invited to join the choir on the final verse. The words are on the insert in your order of service.)

***Hymn** Lo, the Earth Awakes Again! #61

***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.

Benediction Response God Be In My Head (Walford Davies)
Adult Choir

Postlude: Variations from Organ Concerto Set 1, Op. 4, No.1
(G.F. Handel)

(You are invited to come light a candle silently for your own joys, sorrows and prayers during the Postlude. We ask the congregation to remain seated in quiet until the last candle is lit but families with young children should feel free to leave at any time.)

***Please stand as you are able**

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

Join us downstairs for good food and conversation immediately following the service! There is a bunny petting zoo during coffee hour today and garden tours, weather permitting.

The flowers are given today by Carol Swift in celebration of gardens and new life, as well contributed by members of the congregation.

Greeters: The Tessier Family

Ushers: Bernadette Dureault, Nitin Kalra, Suzanne Nelson, Melissa Wood

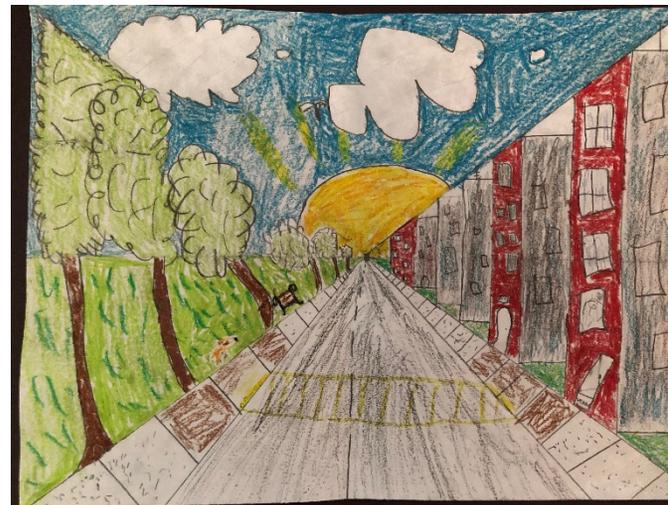
Coffee Hour Hosts: Isabel Conners, Jai Luc Santoro, Sarah Stram

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 and visit the Welcome Table to learn more about us. Everyone here is happy to speak with you and answer any questions you may have. Please sign one of the Guest Books on the tables near the front and back entrances so we can know who you are and send you the monthly print newsletter and weekly emails about life at First Parish. **Look for anyone holding a blue mug at coffee hour. They will have happy to answer any questions you have or speak with you about our community.**

Please join us on Saturday night, April 27 for our Celebration of Seder! You can sign up downstairs today or email Seder@uugroton.org.

First Parish Church is a Welcoming Congregation. We joyfully welcome all!

FIRST PARISH CHURCH Groton, Massachusetts



Artwork by Michael Brunelle

"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, multicolored 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.