

**FIRST PARISH CHURCH OF GROTON**

May 12, 2019

**Ringing of the Bell** Emma Rose Marella, Bell-Ringer

**A Thought as the Service Begins**

Here we are, together on a planet radiating ever more into space - where there is no darkness, only light we cannot see. (Kate Marvel)

Instructions for living a life:

Pay attention.

Be astonished.

Tell about it. (Mary Oliver)

*We ask that you put your electronic devices in "worship mode" by turning off all ringers. Join us in a time of quiet during the prelude.*

*Today we have both spoken and written candles. If you would like a personal joy or sorrow included in the prayer but prefer not to light a spoken candle, please write it on a candle card (in your pew rack). An usher will come around while the children are being sung from the Sanctuary to collect cards. There is also a basket on the candle table up front and you can put your card there any time before the prayer.*

**Prelude** Earth Song (Michael Jackson)

**Call to Worship** Peace, Salaam, Shalom (Pat Humphries, Sandy Opatow) Children's Choir

**Welcome and Announcements** Kaitlin Kramer, Worship Leader

**\*Hymn** For the Earth Forever Turning #163

**Chalice Lighting** Betty Keddy

**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** Pocket Full of Miracles (Carl Strommen) 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.*

**Sung Prayer** Rising Green #1068

**Spoken Prayer, followed by Silent Meditation**

**Offertory** Mother Nature's Son (Paul McCartney)

**Sermon** Kiss this Beautiful, Holy Ground Rev. Elea Kemler

**\*Hymn** Blue Boat Home #1064

**\*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** Big Yellow Taxi (Joni Mitchell)  
*(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: Nancy & Margaret Burdine, Tom Roney  
Ushers: Sal & Diane Lombardi  
Coffee Hour Hosts: Isabel Conners, Jai Luc Santoro, Sarah Stram

**A WARM WELCOME TO ALL, ESPECIALLY VISITORS.** We are so glad you are here. All are invited for coffee, tea and conversation after the service in the Vestry, the large room beneath us, where you can meet the minister Rev. Elea Kemler and Director of Religious Education, Liz Davis-Chaffin. **Please visit the new and much quieter Welcoming Space in the East Wing (through the double doors by the coffee) to meet members of the Welcoming All Group.**

If you sign one of the Guest Books on the tables near the front and back entrances, we will send you the monthly print newsletter and weekly emails about life at First Parish. Finally look for anyone holding a blue mug at coffee hour. They will be happy to answer any questions you have.

## FIRST PARISH CHURCH Groton, Massachusetts



Spring Flowers – Photo by Liz Davis-Chaffin

### **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