

FIRST PARISH CHURCH OF GROTON

December 21, 2015

Ingathering Celtic Music musicians: Ryan and J. Chaffin
violin and guitar

Song (adopted) *Hallelujah* by Leonard Cohen
Singers: Kathryn Ellis Moore, Kira and Lara Hill

Call to Worship & Welcome “The Shortest Day” by Susan Cooper
Karen G. Johnston

Song Solstice Carole -The Wyrd Sisters- (see insert)
led by Melinda Stewart and Wendy Frank guitarist- All : Chorus

Casting the Circle/Calling the Directions led by Liz Davis-Chaffin

Story *How the Raven Stole the Sun*
Michael Roberts & Nick Maciel

Call & Response *The Servant Candle: Part 1*, by Judy Bressler
led by Karen G. Johnston

One: A candle alone is a small thing.

Many: But one candle can light another

One: and see how its own light increases

Many: as it gives flame to another.

One: Light is the power to chase away the darkness.

Many: Throughout history, darkness has tried to smother the light.

One: But always in the end it fails.

Many: For always, somewhere in the world, the light remains,

One: ready to burn its brightest where it is darkest.

Many: And every free people in the world has remained free

One: by resisting those who would extinguish this light in people's hearts

ALL: the light of freedom, of truth, of love.

Candle Pass

All are invited to pass the candle and share a word or two.

What has been a light in your life?

Music reflection—The Huron Carol
arranged by John Sarantos. Played by Sue Beers

Candle Pass Closing Words-

All: Light is the power to chase away the darkness.

Round *Longest Night* by Jim Scott- led by Dave Hill

Reveling Play “*Rebirth of the Sun*” adapted by Starhawk

Narrator –Lindy Hanninen

Players, Maiden Sun, Mother Sun, Wise Woman Crone Sun,
Night Sky and New Sun

Native American flute tunes transporting the Sun

Opening to Storytelling --Zuni Sunrise - Traditional

Maiden Dance--Lakota Courting Song –Traditional

Mother Dance--Anasazi Love Song - by Steven DeRuby

Arr. By Ami Sarasvati

Crone Dance--Kiowa Love Song - Traditional

Night Sky and New Sun Dance --Whippoorwill - by R. Carlos Nakai

(Musician Sue Beers)

Pagan Carol Sing-a-long *Holly and the Ivy*
(Musicians Wendy Frank guitar and Melinda Stewart)

The holly and the ivy
When they are both full grown,
Of all the trees that are in the wood,
The holly bears the crown.

Chorus: Oh, the rising of the sun
And the running of the deer,
The playing of the merry organ,
Sweet singing in the choir.

The holly bears a blossom
As white as lily flower,
And when the Sun is newly born,
'Tis at the darkest hour.

(Continued on Back Cover)

The holly bears a berry
And blood-red is its hue,
And when the Sun is newly born,
It maketh all things new.

The holly bears a leaf
That is forever green,
And when the Sun is newly born,
Let love and joy be seen.

The holly and the ivy
The mistletoe entwine,
And when the Sun is newly born,
Be joy to thee and thine.
Chorus: Oh, the rising of the Sun
And the running of the deer,
The playing of the merry organ,
Sweet singing in the choir.

Postlude

Celtic Music

HAPPY SOLSTICE!

A Warm Welcome to All! Thanks for joining in the Winter Solstice reveling! *"We are a community seeking to deepen spiritually, to take care of one another, and to be a blessing to the world."*

Blessed Be!

Music Fun Facts

I have been playing the Native American Style Flute since 2010; I bought my first flute of this type at Bryce Canyon in Utah. My flutes are made of cedar and come in different keys: Am, Gm, and F#m. R. Carlos Nakai, the most widely known Native American flute player in the world, has been a major source of inspiration, and I hold immeasurable gratitude for my NASF teacher Ami Sarasvati from Manchester, NH.

—Sue Beers

FIRST PARISH CHURCH

Groton, Massachusetts



(Artwork by Dmitri Foster)

“Light is the power to chase away the darkness”

“LONGEST NIGHT”

LIGHT OF OUR HEARTS' FIRES
BURNING BRIGHT WE DREAM OF
THE SPRING THIS WINTER'S NIGHT
SURELY THE EARTH IS TURNING, IS
TURNING, FROM DARK TO LIGHT
GATHERED FRIENDS IN
REV'RENCE HERE TO CELEBRATE
THE LONGEST NIGHT

-Jim Scott