

FIRST PARISH CHURCH OF GROTON

October 14, 2018

Ringing of the Bell Emma Rose Marella, Bell-Ringer

Thoughts as the Service Begins

How do we give voice to those raw, essential, heartbreaking and life-giving places in us, so that we may know them more consciously, live what they teach us, and mine their wisdom for our life together? (Krista Tippett)

What if the mightiest word is love? (Elizabeth Alexander)

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 Voluntary in B flat (Maurice Greene)

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

Welcome and Announcements Eric Elbot, Worship Leader

***Hymn** Building a New Way #1017, turquoise

Chalice Lighting Patrick 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.
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

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

Anthem Great High Mountain (traditional, arr. Tom Fettke)
Adult Choir

Spoken Candles 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. Then light your candle from the chalice and place it in the sand on the candle table. We ask that you gather your thoughts into one or two sentences.

Offertory Short Voluntary (John Worgen)

Reading Praise Song for the Day Elizabeth Alexander

Spoken Prayer and Silent Meditation

Sermon The Mightiest Word Rev. Elea Kemler

***Hymn** Let the Life I Lead

1. Let the life I lead speak for me
Let the life I lead speak for me
When I come to the end of the road
And I lay down my heavy load
Let the life I lead speak for me
2. Let the friends I have...
3. Let the work I do...
4. Let the love I share...
5. Let the songs I sing

***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 XIII (Maurice Greene)

(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. If you are not able to stay, 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.

Today's altar decorations are given by Carol Swift.

Greeters: Susan Fry, Trish Garrigan, Melissa Wood
Ushers: Pat Fairchild, Peg Lorenz
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



*We cannot be too careful about the words we use;
we start out using them and they end up using us.*

Eugene Peterson, clergyman and author

*We are starved, and ready, for fresh language to approach each other.
The point of learning to speak together differently is learning to live together differently.*

It's a dance of words with arts of living.

Krista Tippett, *Becoming Wise: An Inquiry into the Mystery and Art of Living.*

"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 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.