

# FIRST PARISH CHURCH OF GROTON

December 21, 2018

**Welcome Music**      Improvisational Native American Styled  
Flute by Sue Beers with Leo Premru on  
guitar and djembe drum  
*Welcome Song by Ami Saravati*

## A Thought as the Service Begins:

*Solstice Night by S. J. Tucker*

Now comes the Solstice Night  
I wish you safe and sound  
whether snow be light  
or heavy on the ground.

Our hearts bring back the light  
as all the earth must do.  
May stars fill up our sight  
with wishes coming true.

My wish this Solstice Night  
is grace and peace to you.

**Warm Welcome**      Owen Shuman

**Don't Be Afraid**      Marisa Benson

Take my hand,  
Hold it tight,  
Don't be afraid of the night

**Casting the Circle**      Jai Santoro & Marisa Benson

**Gathering Music**      *Winter Sun by Dustin Tebbutt*      Jon Frey

**Reading**      The Shortest Day by Susan Cooper  
Lindy Hanninen

**Music**      *Winter Song by Sara Bareillas*  
Sofie & Deborah Santoro

**Call and Response Reading** by Liz Benjamin      led by Youth

In the greatest darkness  
Out of winter's cold  
*The light is reborn.*  
From our deepest fears  
When all seems lost  
*The light is reborn.*

When the earth lies waste  
When animals hide  
*The light is reborn.*  
When the river is frozen  
When the ground is hard  
*The light is reborn.*  
Shadows are fleeing  
The sun is returning  
*The light is reborn.*  
Warmth will come again  
Summer will be here once more  
*The light is reborn.*  
Plants will grow  
Green will awaken  
Life will continue  
*The light is reborn.*

**Music**      *Winter Sun by Mogli*      Youth Choir

**Winter Solstice Meditation**      Marisa Benson

Improvisational handpan drumming by Sue Beers

**Candle Lighting**      Sofie Santoro

You are, the light in the darkness,  
You are, the light in our lives.

**Offertory**      Jon Frey

Today's offertory goes to *Sanctuary Boston*, in support of their ever-growing beloved musical community.

**Music**      *One Voice by The Wailin' Jennys*  
Kira, Lara & Meredith Hill

This is the sound of all of us  
Singing with love and the will to trust  
Leave the rest behind it will turn to dust  
This is the sound of all of us  
This is the sound of all of us

**Winter Solstice Closing**      Kira Hill

**Solstice Night** by S. J. Tucker

**Opening the Circle**      Jai Santoro & Marisa Benson

**Don't Be Afraid**      Marisa Benson

Take my hand,  
Hold it tight,  
Don't be afraid of the night

*Please join us after the service for snacks, drinks, and warm conversation!*

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### **Sanctuary Boston:**

Our offertory tonight goes to Sanctuary Boston, a UU based multi-age worship that meets twice a month in Boston and Cambridge. Founded in 2012, Sanctuary Boston is remaking what it is to be an active UU, beloved community member, creative being and evolving adult. Music is at the center of their service, inspiring a new vision for worship. Their services have inspired the work we are doing here, including the *Soulful Services*, the Young Adult Service and tonight's service. Music brings a richness to our lives that is unattainable through words.

Come witness more magic on **Wednesday January 16th** at *First Unitarian Church of Boston* when Marisa Benson will be guiding Sanctuary Boston's service and giving the "message" or sermon. It would be a gift to have you there!

For more information visit their website at:

<http://thesanctuaryboston.org/>



Artwork by Cameron Grayson a visionary artist, reiki master, shaman, yoga instructor and light worker. She has a gift and a passion for helping others heal through art. Check out her magical work at [camsconsciouscreations.com](http://camsconsciouscreations.com)!

*"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.*

### **A Warm Welcome to All!**

This is a service for all ages however if you need a break at any time feel free to head into the East Wing Lounge!

**FIRST PARISH CHURCH**  
Groton, Massachusetts