

**FIRST PARISH CHURCH OF GROTON**

April 14, 2019

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

**A Thought as the Service Begins**

Hope is a high risk project, but my people are high risk people.  
(Brittney Cooper, from “Eloquent Rage”)

We’re trying to push something new into the world. We’re trying to bring something through that’s never been brought through, and it’s hard. And we have to continually remind ourselves that our discomfort and our grappling is not a sign of failure. It’s a sign that we’re living at the edge of our imaginations. (America Ferrara)

*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 spoken and written candles. If you would like to have your joy or sorrow shared out loud in the prayer but prefer not to light a spoken candle, write it on a bright pink card (in your pew rack) and put it in the basket on the candle table or give it to one of the ushers while the children are sung from the Sanctuary.*

**Prelude** Allegro in F (William Hine)

**Call to Worship** Rise Up, O Flame (anonymous) Children’s Choir

**Welcome and Announcements** Patrick Hughes, Worship Leader

**\*Hymn** Swimming to the Other Side (Emma’s Revolution – Pat Humphries, Sandy O) Insert

**Chalice Lighting** Sarah Iacobucci

**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

**The Dedication of Ezra John Dallas, child of Matt and Alyssa Dallas**

**Anthem** Wake Up! (Doris Clevenger) 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.*

**Message from the Chair of the Trustees, Amy Grosso**

**Spoken Prayer, followed by Silent Meditation**

**Offertory** Siciliano (John Alcock)

**Sermon** Living at the Edge of our Imaginations Rev. Elea Kemler

**\*Hymn** Keep on Moving Forward (Pat Humphries, Sandy O)

We’re gonna keep on moving forward  
Keep on moving forward, keep on moving forward  
Never turning back, never turning back.

We’re gonna keep on moving proudly  
We’re gonna keep on singing loudly  
We’re gonna keep on loving boldly  
We’re gonna reach across our borders  
We’re gonna keep on moving forward

**\*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** Allegro (Thomas Arne)  
*(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.)*

**The ushers have palms to give to you today. You are welcome to take one or several. There will also be palms at coffee hour for the children to take home.**

**\*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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Today's flowers are given by John Appleton in celebration of the life of his brother, Andrew Hooper Appleton.

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Greeters: Jackie and Jim Frey  
Ushers: Kathleen Callahan, Suzanne Nelson  
Coffee Hour Hosts: Isabel Conners, Jai Luc Santoro, Sarah Stram

**A WARM WELCOME TO ALL, ESPECIALLY 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. .

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 be happy to answer any questions you have or speak with you about our community.**

## FIRST PARISH CHURCH Groton, Massachusetts



Palm Tree by Joni Parker-Roach

### **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