

FIRST PARISH CHURCH OF GROTON

June 16, 2019

Ringing of the Bell Emma Rose Marella, Bell-Ringer

Thoughts as the Service Begins:

All praise be yours through Brother Wolf,
All praise be yours through Sister Whale
by Nature's song may Life be praised
by Brother Eagle, Sister Loon, through Brother Tiger, Sister Seal
through Sister Flower, Brother Tree
Let creatures all give thanks to thee,
All praise to those who live in peace.
Ask the Beasts and they shall teach you the beauty of the Earth.
Ask of the Trees and they shall teach you the beauty of the Earth.
Ask of the Beasts and they shall teach you the beauty of the Earth.
Ask of the Flowers and they shall teach you the beauty of the Earth.
("from Canticle of Brother Sun" words adapted by Paul
Winter from St. Francis and the book of Job.)

Prelude Count On You (Bruno Mars) Jon Frey

Welcome and Announcements Melissa Wood, Worship Leader

***Hymn** Morning Has Broken

Morning has broken like the first morning
Blackbird has spoken like the first bird
Praise for the singing
Praise for the morning
Praise for them springing fresh from the word.
Sweet the rain's new fall, sunlit from heaven
Like the first dewfall on the first grass
Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden
Sprung in completeness where God's feet pass
Mine is the sunlight, mine is the morning
Born of the one light Eden saw play
Praise with elation, praise every morning
God's recreation of the new day.
Morning has broken like the first morning
Blackbird has spoken like the first bird

Praise for the singing
Praise for the morning
Praise for them springing fresh from the word

Chalice Lighting Barbara Rich

Response Hymn (please remain seated) #123
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 and Species

Anthem You've Got A Friend In Me (Randy Newman) Jon Frey

Responsive Reading by Mary de la Valette, much adapted

Blessed are the animals, for they shall lead us back to our lost
innocence.
*Blessed are the great whales, for their vast intelligence is
peaceful.*

Blessed are the elephants, for they are pure of heart.
*Blessed indeed are the elephants, for they are pure of heart
and their love is deep and long.*

Blessed is the wolf, who was there at the dawn of Creation.
Blessed is the eagle, full of dignity and power.

Blessed are the antelope, for their grace and fleeting quickness,
*Blessed indeed are the antelope, who tremble when danger
comes.*

Blessed are the cows, for they are the ancient symbol of peace.
Blessed are the mice, who seek shelter from the cold.

Blessed are the rabbits, for their playfulness and their joy.
*Blessed indeed are the rabbits, who hurt nothing and are
the fecundity of the earth.*

Blessed are the bees, for they make the Earth fruitful and green and
sticky with honey.
*Blessed are our cousins the Great Apes. May they forgive us
for refusing to treat them as kin.*

