

FIRST PARISH CHURCH OF GROTON

September 29, 2019

Ringing of the Bell Emma Rose Marella, Bell-Ringer

A Thought as the Service Begins

In this autumn light
There remains a path for beginning again
Do not hold back your heart break
Or your joy,
your vision for the world that is already
and also not yet
Let every tender longing of your heart
Be an offering for this time
And for this community
where we are building a new way:
where we are building the strength, the courage and the faith
To be the people the world needs.
The change begins now.
In this autumn light,
there remains a path for beginning again.
(Gretchen Haley, adapted)

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 both written and spoken Candles of Celebration and Concern. If you would like a personal joy or sorrow spoken out loud in the prayer, please write it on a pink candle card (in your pew rack). An usher will collect cards while the children are being sung from the Sanctuary. There is also a basket on the candle table; you can put your card there any time before the prayer.

Prelude Avinu Malkeinu (trad., arr. Clif Hardin)

Call to Worship A New Day (Agnès Paulsen) Children's Choir

Welcome and Announcements Julie Andrews, Worship Leader

***Hymn** Building A New Way #1017

Chalice Lighting Barbara Rich

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

Anthem Why Ask Why (Ken Langer) 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.

Sung Prayer When the World is Sick (If Not Now)

When the world is sick, can't no one be well,
but I dreamt we was all beautiful and strong.

Spoken Prayer, followed by Silent Meditation

Offertory Freely poetic (from Four Piano Blues) (Aaron Copland)

Sermon In this Autumn Light, There is a Path for Beginning Again
Rev. Elea Kemler

