

FIRST PARISH CHURCH of GROTON

October 20, 2019

Ringing of the Bell

Emma Rose Marella, Bell-Ringer

A Thought as the Service Begins

Kindness toward others and radical kindness to ourselves buy us a shot at a warm and generous heart, which is the greatest prize of all.

(Anne Lamott)

This is my simple religion. There is no need for temples; no need for complicated philosophy. Our own brain, our own heart is our temple; the philosophy is kindness. (Dalai Lama)

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

Fantasia (Telemann)

Call to Worship

Spirit of Truth, of Life, of Power (Westwood, Mason)
Adult Choir

Welcome and Announcements

Kathy Reiff, Worship Leader

*Hymn Give Light (Artzner, Leonino)

1. Give light, and people will find the way (x3)
People will find the way, I do believe
2. Teach peace...
3. Stand together...
4. Reach out...
5. Give light...

Chalice Lighting

Carol Sarasin, on behalf of the Caring Committee

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

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.

Anthem We Will Walk Together (Clif Hardin) Adult Choir

Reading Small Kindnesses by Danusha Laméris

Sung Prayer There Is A Love (Parker, Norton)

There is a love holding me / us.

There is a love holding all that I / we love.

There is a love holding all. I / We rest in this love.

Spoken Prayer, followed by Silent Meditation

Offertory Fughetta in C (Buxtehude)

(Today's offering is for the work of the Caring Committee, which provides gas and grocery cards to those in need of them, as well as emergency financial help and holiday gifts. This is in addition to their weekly work of providing cards, meals, and rides to medical appointments. Thank you for your generosity.)

Sermon These Fleeting Temples We Make Together
Rev. Elea Kemler

***Hymn** I'm Gonna Lift my Sister Up (Faye Rose Toure)

I'm gonna lift my sister up, she is not heavy,
I'm gonna lift my sister up, she is not heavy,
I'm gonna lift my sister up, she is not heavy,
If I don't lift her up,
If I don't lift her up,
If I don't lift her up,
I will fall down.

(My brother/the children/our elders/my people)

***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 Cornet Voluntary (John Travers)

(All are invited to light a silent candle during the Postlude. We ask the congregation to remain seated until the last candle. If you can't stay, we understand, just 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.

The flowers today are given by Annie McGinty

Greeters: Nancy & Margaret Burdine, Suzanne Nelson

Ushers: Donna Nowak, Ellen Allen

Coffee Hour Hosts: Jai Luc Santoro, Sarah Stram

A WARM WELCOME TO ALL, ESPECIALLY VISITORS. We are so glad you are here. All are invited for coffee, tea and conversation after the service in the Vestry, the large room beneath us, where you can meet the minister Rev. Elea Kemler and Director of Religious Education, Liz Davis-Chaffin. Please visit the much quieter Welcoming Space in the East Wing (through the double doors by the coffee) to meet members of the Welcoming All Group. Also look for anyone holding a blue mug. They will be glad to answer your questions and sign one of the books by the doors to receive our monthly newsletter and weekly email.

FIRST PARISH CHURCH

Groton, Massachusetts



Heart of Walnuts - photo by Liz Davis-Chaffin

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 several places 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 and our Facebook page at First Parish Church of Groton, MA*