

**FIRST PARISH CHURCH of GROTON**

**December 1, 2019**

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

**A Thought as the Service Begins**

Attention without feeling, I began to learn, is only a report. An openness — an empathy — was necessary if the attention was to matter. (Mary Oliver)

*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** The Lone, Wild Bird (traditional, arr. Clif Hardin)

**Call to Worship** Dona Nobis Pacem (traditional) Youth Choir

**Welcome and Announcements** Marisa Benson, Worship Leader

**\*Hymn** Process (Beautiful Chorus)

Allow and be open, begin with one step,  
Moment to moment, envision your journey, your process.

**Chalice Lighting** Jillian Bartlett, Coming of Age Youth

**Advent Wreath Lighting**

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and with your captive children dwell.  
Give comfort to all exiles here, and to the aching heart bid cheer.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come within as Love to dwell.

**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** Let's Write Some Poetry

Rev. Aaron Stockwell

**Anthem** Sweet Radiant Mystery (Catherine Dalton) Youth 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** Inner Peace (Beautiful Chorus)

Please let me feel inner peace

From my center at the center of me

**Spoken Prayer, followed by Silent Meditation**

**Offertory** This Little Light of Mine (traditional, arr. Clif Hardin)

**Sermon** Attention as a Unit of Measurement

Rev. Aaron Stockwell

**\*Hymn** Wake Now My Senses #298

**\*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** I Know This Rose Will Open (Mary Grigolia; arr. Clif Hardin)  
*(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.*

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Please consider donating flowers or artwork to beautify our altar.

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Greeters: Barbara Rich, Loraine Scampini, John Appleton

Ushers: Krys Salon, Bernadette Dureault

Coffee Hour Hosts: Jai Luc Santoro, Sarah Stram

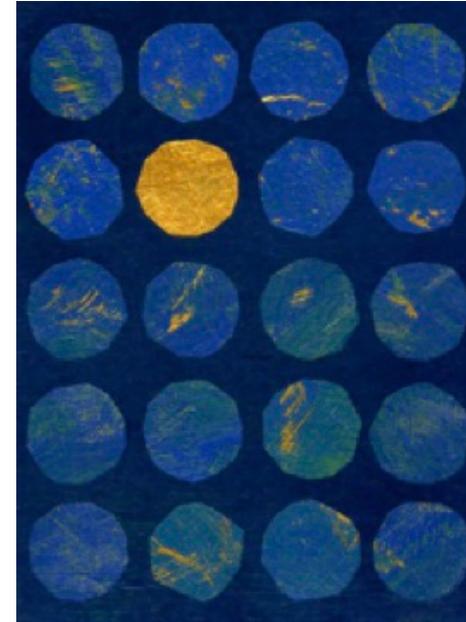
**A WARM WELCOME TO ALL, ESPECIALLY VISITORS.** We are so glad you are here. All are invited for coffee, tea and conversation after the service in the Vestry, the large room beneath us, where you can meet the minister, Rev. Elea Kemler and Director of Religious Education, Liz Davis-Chaffin. Please visit the much quieter Welcoming Space in the East Wing (through the double doors by the coffee) to meet members of the Welcoming All Group.

If you sign one of the Guest Books on the tables near the front and back entrances, we will send you the monthly print newsletter and weekly emails about life at First Parish. Finally look for anyone holding a blue mug at coffee hour. They will be happy to answer any questions you have.

*First Parish Church of Groton is a Welcoming Congregation.  
We joyfully welcome members of the GLBTQ community and all!*

## FIRST PARISH CHURCH

Groton, Massachusetts



Where Advent Begins by Jan Richardson

### 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