

**FIRST PARISH CHURCH of GROTON**

**February 9, 2020**

**Ringing of the Bell**

Emma Rose Marella, Bell-Ringer

**Thought as the Service Begins**

You will know this blessing  
by how it opens its heart to you.

You will know this blessing  
by how it turns its face toward you.

You will know this blessing not by the ease it offers you  
but by what it asks of you: patience and kindness  
forbearance and belief, hope and endurance  
not because this is what you owe  
but because it is what this blessing stirs in you,  
what it provides for you, what it pours into your hands  
that you suddenly find open  
like your heart -  
which unfolds itself in welcome,  
finally knowing and fully known. (Jan Richardson)

*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.*

**Prelude**

The Faith Ringers Handbell Choir  
Union Congregational Church

**Welcome and Announcements** Pamela Worden and Sofia Santoro,  
Worship Leaders (and Coming of Age mentor and youth!)

**\*Hymn** Gather the Spirit #347

**Chalice Lighting** Donna Nowak

**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.*

**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**

The Faith Ringers Handbell Choir

**Sermon** Blessed are the Forgotten, the Unrepresented  
and the Kind Rev. Elea Kemler

**\*Hymn** There is More Love Somewhere #95

**\*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.



