

FIRST PARISH CHURCH OF GROTON

Sunday, March 11, 2007

A Thought before the Service Begins:

For one human being to love another: that is perhaps the most difficult of all our tasks, the ultimate, the last test and proof, the work for which all other work is but preparation.

Rainer Maria Rilke

(We ask that you turn off the ringers on your cell phones, beepers and electronic devices. Please join us in a time of quiet during the prelude.)

Prelude Trumpet Tune (Francesco Manfredini)

Ringing of the Bell Rebecca Pike, Bell-Ringer

Call to Worship Let There Be Light (Stephen L. Finner)
Children's Choir

Welcome and Announcements Sue Lotz

***Hymn** Love Will Guide Us #131

Chalice Lighting Becky Pine

Response Hymn *(please remain seated)*

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 Annie Arnzen

Anthem Children Helping Children (Dana Clark)
Children's Choir

Singing the Children and Teachers to Church School

Go now in peace. Go now in peace.
May the love of God surround you
Everywhere, everywhere you may go. (repeat)

Candles of Celebration and Concern

You are invited to come forward, light a candle and briefly share a joy or sorrow that has touched your life.

Reading The Invention of Fractions by Leopold Kronnecker

Spoken Prayer, followed by Silent Meditation

Offertory Pastorale (Sigfrid Karg-Elert)

*Offertory Response

Words: Barbara Rich Music: Joshua Rich

Today we give our time
Our compassion, wit and song
Everyday we can choose,
To begin again in love.

We give what we can,
Generous as we can
Opening the doors
To begin again in love.

Sermon Strange Fragments, Bound Together by Love
Rev. Kemler

Hymn There is More Love Somewhere #95

*Benediction (sung)

As we leave this friendly place,
Love give light to every face.
May the kindness, which we learn,
Light our hearts till we return.

Postlude Voluntary in d minor (William Boyce)

(Please remain seated during the Postlude. You are also invited to come to the front of the church and light a candle silently during this time. We ask the congregation to remain seated in quiet until the last candle is lit.)

*Please stand as you are able.

Large Print Hymnals and Assisted Listening Devices are available at the sanctuary doors.

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The flowers in church this morning are donated by Lavender Florist for a Groton Public Library event yesterday and FPCOG today

Greeters: Diane Swift, Colleen Kurmas

Ushers: Donna and Roger Allen

Fellowship Hour Hosts: Mary Larrabee and Elizabeth Malley