FIRST PARISH CHURCH OF GROTON

Sunday, March 18, 2007

A Thought before the Service Begins:

It matters what we say yes to, and it matters what we say no to. Every no gets its value from the yes it also affirms. To say no to that which denies or destroys is also to say yes to what affirms, builds, and creates. (Jacob Trapp)

(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 Cornet Voluntary (William Walond)

Ringing of the Bell Rebecca Pike, Bell-Ringer

Call to Worship Great High Mountain Adult Choir
(traditional, arr. Tom Fettke)

Welcome and Announcements George Downey

***Hymn** My Life Flows On in Endless Song #108

Chalice Lighting Dina Samfield

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.

Blessing the Santa Rosa Travelers

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)

Introduction *To what have you given your heart* Rev. Elea Kemler

Reflections Brenna Mayer Jim Frey

Anthem Wayfaring Stranger Adult Choir
(traditional, arr. Tom Fettke)

Reflections Karen Goudey, Deb Johnson

Offertory Invocation (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.

Reflections Paul Donovan, Barbara Rich

Spoken Prayer, followed by Silent Meditation

Hymn What Wondrous Love #18

***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.

Benediction Response I'm Going Home Adult Choir
(traditional, arr. Tom Fettke)

Postlude Voluntary in F (John Bennett)

(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.**

There are no spoken candles of Celebration and Concern today. If you have a brief joy or sorrow you would like to have spoken by the minister during the time of prayer and meditation, you are welcome to use the colored index cards in your pew rack to write it down and place it in the offertory boxes during the collection.

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

The flowers in church this morning are given by Kurt Staven and family in loving memory of his mother, Joyce Waddell Manget.

Greeters: Paul Donovan, Paul Kurmas, Brynne Kurmas
Ushers: Sophie Wadsworth, Zoa Guernsey
Fellowship Hour Hosts: Judy March, Diane Blackburn