

# FIRST PARISH CHURCH OF GROTON

Sunday, April 29, 2007

## A Thought before the Service Begins:

“Things have an end but feeling is infinite.  
We’re changing, but it’s alright.  
Everything is finite” – David Byrne

*(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** Teneramente by B. Semmann arr. by N. Peters

**Ringing of the Bell** Rebecca Pike, Bell-Ringer

**Call to Worship** First Parish Chimes

**Welcome and Announcements** Jeff Close

**\*Hymn** The Winds of Change Forever Blown #183

**Chalice Lighting** John Jackson, with John Jackson, Sr.

**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** Jake Jackson

## 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** Excerpts from *Slaughterhouse Five* by Kurt Vonnegut

**Spoken Prayer, followed by Silent Meditation**

**Offertory** Leaves on the Seine by D. Lanz arr. by N. Peters

## \*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** Life, and (Hopefully Even) Grace in Transition  
Jake Jackson

**\*Hymn** I’ve Got Peace like a River #100

## \*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** Volante by B. Semmann arr. by N. Peters

*(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 given by Ellen Todd and John Jackson. Additional flowers are given by Marion and Dana Balch in memory of Mary Ripley and in celebration of her life.

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Greeters: Michelle and Paul Kurmas

Ushers: Caleb Clark, Clark Jackson

Fellowship Hour Hosts: Ellen Todd & John Jackson, Kathryn Ellis Moore, and Keith & Katharyn Dawson