

# FIRST PARISH CHURCH OF GROTON

February 3, 2008

## A Thought before the Service Begins:

"Something there is that doesn't love a wall, that wants it down."  
Robert Frost

*(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.)*

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

**Prelude** Voluntary XIII (Maurice Greene)

**Call to Worship** Love, Be Our Way (Carolyn McDade)  
Adult Choir

**Welcome and Announcements** Andrea Mason

**\*Hymn** All Creatures of the Earth and Sky 203

**Chalice Lighting and Sabbatical Reflection** Diane Hewitt

**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** Stone Soup Denise Noble

**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.

**Anthem** I Will Sing With the Spirit (John Rutter) Adult Choir

**Reading** Mending Wall by Robert Frost

## Spoken Prayer, followed by Silent Meditation

**Offertory** Nun Danket Alle Gott (H.W. Tauscher)

**\*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** Good Fences Make Good Neighbors?  
Rev. Sue Phillips

**\*Hymn** Oh Life that Maketh All Things New 12

**\*Sung Benediction** Carry the Flame  
Carry the flame of peace and love until we meet again.  
Oh, carry the flame of peace and love until we meet again.

**Benediction Response** Go Your Way In Peace (Jim Scott,  
adapted from W.A. Mozart) – Adult Choir

**Postlude** Fugue in G Minor (Johann Ernst Eberlin)

*(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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*Join us downstairs for good food and conversation immediately following the service!*

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The flowers in church this morning are given in loving memory of  
Susan Skinner Gordon by C. David Gordon.

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**Greeters:** Judy March, Suzanne Nelson

**Ushers:** Bob and Donna Nowak

**Fellowship Hour Hosts:** Stone Soup Luncheon