

# FIRST PARISH CHURCH OF GROTON

April 20, 2008

## A Thought before the Service Begins:

*What lies before us and what lies behind us  
Are small matters compared to  
What lies within us.*

*And when we bring what is within  
Out into the world,  
Miracles happen.* Henry David Thoreau

*(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** Fughetta (Karl Heinrich Graun)

**Call to Worship** The Universe Within and Without  
(Bob Lotz, Judy Brett) Adult Choir

**Welcome and Announcements** Brenna Mayer

**\*Hymn** Morning Has Broken #38

**Chalice Lighting and Sabbatical Reflection** Melinda Green

**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** My Many-Colored Days Dr. Seuss

**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** Sanctus (Gounod)  
Adult Choir; soloist: Kathryn Ellis-Moore

**Reading** The Road Not Taken by Robert Frost

## Spoken Prayer, followed by Silent Meditation

**Offertory** Prelude and Fugue in d minor  
(from The Well Tempered Clavier) (J.S. Bach)

**\*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** Reflections on Mental Illness  
Rebecca Pike, Greg Reiff, Kathy Reiff

**\*Hymn** We're Gonna Sit at the Welcome Table #407

**\*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** That Lonesome Road (James Taylor, Don Grolnick;  
arr. Steve Burne) – Adult Choir

**Postlude** An Wasserflussen Babylon (Johann Pachelbel)

*(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.*

\* \* \* \*

*Join us downstairs for good food and conversation immediately following the service! All are welcome to join the Small Group Conversation, a quieter alternative to Fellowship Hour, in the first floor library at 11:30 AM.*

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The flowers in church this morning are given by Fran Bergeron

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Greeters: Kathy Reiff, Eric Fisher  
Ushers: Heidi Becker, Diane Swift  
Fellowship Hour Hosts: Mental Health Working Group and Social Action Team