

# FIRST PARISH CHURCH OF GROTON

June 13, 2010

## A Thought as the Service Begins

The reason for the kite to fly happily in the sky, is not  
because it's free,  
It's because there is a string that will eventually tug it close.  
...Beyond that string is a place to go home to.  
Even if it gets tattered and torn...  
there is a gentle hand that will hold it close.

Kimi wa Petto (Japanese Drama)

Throw your dreams into space like a kite, and you do not  
know what it will bring back, a new life, a new friend, a new  
love, a new country. (Anais Nin)

*(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** Freely Poetic (from Four Piano Blues)  
(Aaron Copland)

**Call to Worship** May This Light Shine (Agnes V. Paulsen)  
Children's Choir

**Welcome and Announcements** Brenna Mayer, Worship Leader

**\*Hymn** The Circle Game (Joni Mitchell)  
*(see insert)*

**Chalice Lighting** Coming of Age Youth, 2009-2010

**Response Hymn** *(please remain seated)* #123  
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** I'm in Charge of Celebrations  
by Byrd Baylor, pictures by Peter Parnall

**Anthem** Magic Bells Children's Choir  
(adapted from The Magic Flute - W. A. Mozart)

## Bridging Ceremony

**\*Hymn** Bridge Over Troubled Water (Paul Simon)  
*(see insert)*

**\*Blessing**  
*(See insert)*

**Offertory** Nocturne in e minor Op. 72, No. 1 (Chopin)  
*This morning's offering is an "in-reach" collection to replenish the  
funds of the First Parish Caring Committee. Please give as  
generously as you are able.*

**\*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.

## Honoring the Turning of the Wheel of the Year

**\*Hymn** Turn, Turn, Turn (Pete Seeger)  
*(see insert)*

**\*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.

**Postlude** Impromptu in Ab major (Chopin)

*(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. Please  
place your candle toward the back of the candle table. We ask the  
congregation to remain seated in quiet until the last candle is lit.)*

**\*Please stand as you are able.**

*Large Print Hymnals, Sunday Bulletins and Assisted Listening Devices are  
available at the sanctuary doors. If you don't wish to keep your Sunday  
Bulletin, please place it one of the recycle baskets at the sanctuary exits.*

(Service continues on back cover)

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*Join us outside on the town green for the First Parish picnic immediately following the service! All are welcome to take a tiny bottle of this year's holy water on your way out of the sanctuary this morning. Use the bottle to collect some water this summer and bring it back to church with you on Sunday, September 12.*

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The flowers in church this morning are given by Edythe Salzman  
in memory of Edward R. Speare, II

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Greeters: Diane Swift, Katharyn Dawson  
Ushers: Pamela Worden, Betty Keddy

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**WELCOME TO VISITORS:** Visitors are encouraged to sign the Visitor's Book downstairs. Please stop by the Newcomer's Table on the stage in the Vestry. It has information on the First Parish Church and Unitarian Universalism. Join us for our fellowship hour in the Vestry following the service. Nametags help us to identify one another. You can order one at the Visitors' Table. Our minister, staff and identified leaders are available to meet with you to answer questions about our community.

**THE FIRST PARISH CHURCH OF GROTON** was gathered as the town church in 1664. The congregation worships in its fourth Meeting House which was completed in 1755. A town clock and Revere-cast bell rings out our call to service every Sunday. The congregation is a member of the Unitarian Universalist Association, a liberal faith that affirms the inherent worth and dignity of every person; justice, equity, and compassion in human relations; acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth; a free and responsible search for truth and meaning; the right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large; the goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all; and respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.

Membership is open to all age 13 and older. If you are interested in membership, please speak to the minister or any member of the Membership Committee.

*"First Parish is a Unitarian Universalist Association Welcoming Congregation. We warmly welcome members of the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender community."*

**Our Web Page:** [www.uugroton.org](http://www.uugroton.org)      **Email:** [office@uugroton.org](mailto:office@uugroton.org)

**Office Hours** are Tuesday–Friday, 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. The office telephone number is 978-448-6307.

Our newsletter is published monthly from September through June. The deadline for submitting articles is the 15th of the previous month. Articles can be submitted through the church e-mail address, on disk, or placed on the administrator's desk.



## FIRST PARISH CHURCH

Groton, Massachusetts

“We are a community seeking to deepen spiritually, to take care of one another, and to be a blessing to the world.”

### A Warm Welcome to All!

There is childcare for infants and toddlers through age 4 years beginning at 9:50 AM on the second floor of the East Wing and you are welcome to take children there at any time during the service. There are quiet toys in the soft, red pouches in each pew. The service is also broadcast downstairs in the large room beneath us if children become restless.