

FIRST PARISH CHURCH OF GROTON

June 20, 2010

Ringing of the Bell Rebecca Pike, Bell-Ringer

A Thought as the Service Begins

To become a father is to experience an infinite dependency on an infinitely small, frail being, dependent on us and therefore omnipotent over our heart... (Louis Evely)

(We ask that you turn off the ringers on your cell phones, beepers and electronic devices, and the flashes on your cameras. Please join us in a time of quiet during the prelude.)

Prelude Peacherine Rag (Scott Joplin)

Call to Worship Now Let Us Sing (traditional) Adult Choir

Welcome and Announcements Gina Perini-Benedict

***Hymn** When Our Heart Is in a Holy Place #1008

Chalice Lighting Luke and Owen Benedict

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.

The Welcome and Celebration of New Members

Keith Dawson, Deacon, and the Membership Committee

***Hymn** Enter, Rejoice and Come In #361

A Time for All Generations

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 Go Not Far From Me, O God (Zingarelli) Adult Choir

Reading First Lesson by Philip Booth

Offertory Solace (Scott Joplin)

Today's offering is for Our Prison Neighbors, a nonprofit organization that seeks to expand the role of volunteers in the Massachusetts prison system. The programs Our Prison Neighbors administers build on an individual's desire for growth and teach inmates skills necessary to become productive members of society. 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.

Reflections Tenderness is the First Lesson Rev. Elea Kemler

***Hymn** Here We Have Gathered #360

*Sung Benediction

Carry the flame of peace and love until we meet again.
Oh, carry the flame of peace and love until we meet again.

Postlude The Entertainer (Scott Joplin)

(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.

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

(Service continues on back cover)

Today's flowers are given in celebration of the 90th birthday of Florence Funch - and her twin brother Dick Buysler - and the 60th birthday of her son Paul Funch. Happy Birthday Funches!

Greeters: Marcia Synnott, Suzanne Nelson

Ushers: Betty Keddy, Pamela Worden

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."

First Parish Staff:

Minister	Rev. Elea Kemler minister@uugroton.org	(978) 448-5106
Director of RE	Liz Davis-Chaffin RE_Director@uugroton.org	(978) 448-5106
Director of Music	Shawn McCann music@uugroton.org	(978) 433-7922
Office Administrator	Susan Parks office@uugroton.org	(978) 448-6307
Office Assistant	Debby Smith assistant@uugroton.org	(978) 448-6307

Our Web Page: www.uugroton.org **Email:** office@uugroton.org

Office Hours are Tuesday–Friday, 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. The office telephone number is 978-448-6307. The office closes on June 25, 2010 for the summer and reopens on September 7, 2010.



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.