

In The Stillness

Be still and know that I am God! (Psalm 46:10)

E. S. Tompkins

M.M. ♩ = 72

(Piano Intro)



In the still - ness _____ Sa - vior draw me near. _____ In the still - ness _____



teach my heart to hear _____ Like a lit - tle child _____ I come to Thee



and pray that In the still - ness _____ I may rest in Thee And know that



In the still - ness _____ You will speak to me. _____

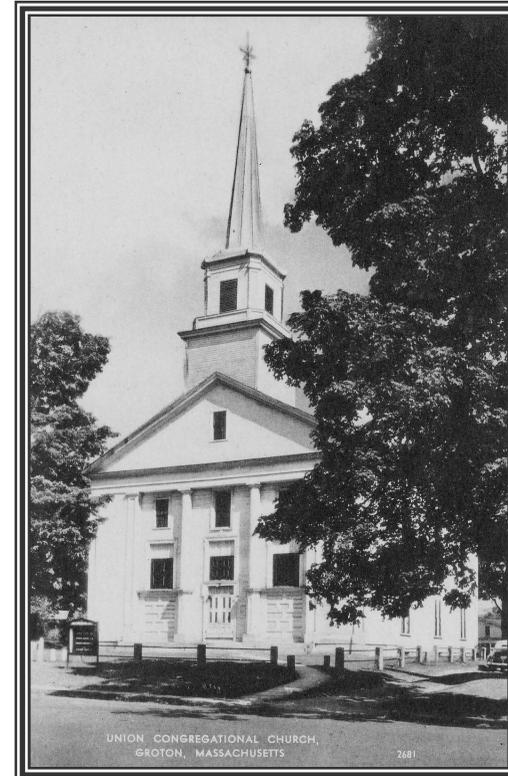
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In memory of Bert Tompkins

Welcome Guests and Newer Folk

Please fill out the beige cards found in the pew racks before you. This is a good way to let us know a little bit about you, and (if desired) to begin to receive information from us (weekly email, monthly newsletter). You may place the card in the offering plate or hand it to an usher or the Pastor, Gail Miller. We are glad you are here!

Sharing Christ ~ Changing Lives
*Creating a Christian foundation for families
Helping people learn more about Jesus
Living our faith beyond our walls by serving others*



The Union Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
Groton, Massachusetts

The Reverend Gail L. Miller, Pastor
Bernard Crane, Music Director

March 18, 2018 10:00 a.m.
Fifth Sunday in Lent

*The altar flowers are given by Doris Barreiro
to the glory of God and in gratitude for family.*

Welcome! We are glad you are worshipping with us today. Large print bulletins are available at the back of the Sanctuary or from an Usher. There is a comfortable rocker by the right side exit door for those who need a more comfortable seat. If your baby or children become restless during worship, feel free to walk with them in the back of the Sanctuary or use the rocker. If you desire childcare, our nursery for infants and toddlers is in the Fellowship Hall downstairs. Children (pre-school through 9th grade) are usually released from worship after the *Time with the Children* to Sunday School in the Parish House. Feel free to approach an Usher or the Pastor with any questions.

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Prelude *Looking to Jesus* —B. Crane
(Incorporating *Fairest Lord Jesus*)

Introit *Here In This Place* —M. Haugen

***Call to Worship** Bonnie Marchesani

Leader:: Let us worship God,
People: for whom our souls thirst and bodies long.
Leader: Come to the Lord, who is rich in grace,
People: approaching our God who is full of mercy.
Leader: People of God, repent! Believe in the Gospel!
People: Come let us turn, return, and follow our God.

***Hymn #10** *O Worship the King*

***Unison Prayer of Confession**
Most merciful God, whose Son, Jesus Christ, was tempted in every way, yet was without sin, we confess before you our own sinfulness; we have hungered after that which does not satisfy; we have compromised with evil; we have doubted your power to protect us. Forgive our lack of faith; have mercy on our weakness. Restore in us such trust and love that we may walk in your ways and delight in doing your will. We pray in Jesus' name, as he taught us to pray together saying,

***Our Lord's Prayer**
Our Father, Who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us, this day, our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

***Assurance of Forgiveness**
Leader: Jesus knows our every weakness, and loves us still. Awaken to the promise of Christ's amazing grace. Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.
People: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven! Amen.

***The Gloria Patri, #623** (A song of praise Christians have sung together for 1900 years.)
*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost:
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, Amen.*

***The Passing of the Peace**
(As a sign of reconciliation with God and each other, you are invited to share the peace.)
Leader: The Peace of Christ be with you.
People: And also with you.

Announcements

Time with the Children
(Children are released to the Fellowship Hall for music with Bernard Crane.)

*Please Rise

Ministry of the Word

Scripture Lessons
Jeremiah 31:31-34 (p. 642, pew Bible)
Psalm 51:1-12 (p. 452, read responsively)
Hebrews 5:7-10 (p. 973)
John 12:20-33 (p. 875)

Sermon The Reverend Gail L. Miller

**The Apostles' Creed* (blue insert)

***Hymn Insert** *My Life Flows On*

Ministry of Response

Offering of Gifts and Prayer Requests

Offertory *Arabesque No.1* —C. Debussy
(Cheryl Townsend, piano)

***The Doxology, #625** (A Christian song of praise from the 16th century.)
*Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

***Unison Prayer of Dedication**
O God, we offer these gifts and our lives, not for the sake of their appearance, but in gratitude for all you have given to us. Above all, we thank you for the great gift of Jesus, for his selflessness and sacrificial love. May our discipleship possess these same qualities. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

Pastor: We shall not offer God...
All: ...that which costs us nothing. Amen.

Offering of Prayers
Song of Preparation (Insert) *In The Stillness* —E. Tompkins
*In the stillness, Savior, draw me near. In the stillness, teach my heart to hear.
Like a little child I come to Thee, and pray that in the stillness I may rest in
Thee; and know that in the stillness You will speak to me.*

Pastoral Prayer, Lifting Names into God's Light, Silent Prayer
Prayer Response *Threefold Amen* Traditional

***Closing Hymn #304** *Lift High the Cross*

***Benediction**

***Benediction Response** *The Lord Whom We Love* —K. Kaiser

Postlude *New Heart* —B. Crane

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Following the *Benediction Response*, feel free to leave immediately or remain in the Sanctuary to listen to the *Postlude*.

Ministry of Fellowship A sincere welcome to all who are visiting this morning. We're glad to have you sharing in our celebration of worship. Please join us for refreshments in the Fellowship Hall downstairs.

Thank you for serving today: Kim Burgess and Tom Hanson (Deacons); Brenda Semienko (Greeter); Bill Gale, Jr., and Jeffrey Barbon (Ushers); Bonnie Martin and Mark Rzeznikiewicz; Juliet Silveri (Fellowship Hour)

*Please Rise