

Prayers this Week:

- Bonnie Martin, recovering from carpal tunnel surgery.

Our Ongoing Prayer List:

Megan Bettison	Joe Marchesani	Rudi Schmid
Joel Eaton	Bill Moeller	Edie Tompkins
Frank Kanour	Myrtle Murphy	Laurie Wade
Scott Joyce	Debbie Sampson	Liz Waggoner
Chris Laursen		

This list will be refreshed on June 1. If you wish to keep a name on the list, or want to add a name, please let Gail Miller or Carol Zaiatz (978-448-2091 or unioncc@uccgroton.org) know.

Confidential Prayer Chain Need prayer and need it now? Simply email prayer@uccgroton.org and your request will go to the confidential pray-ers; or call Carol or Gail in the Church Office (978-448-2091) and they will put your prayer request in motion for you. Prayer requests are held in confidence among those who are praying for you, and you may request that your name be withheld.

Anthem

I Hear the Words of Love

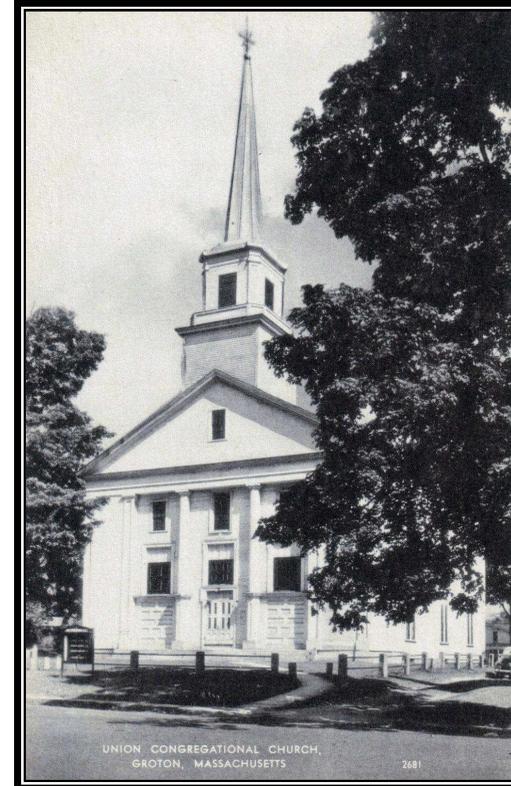
J. Sparkman

I hear the words of love, I gaze upon the blood; I see the mighty sacrifice, And I have peace with God.	My love ofttimes is low, My joy still ebbs and flows, My peace with Him remains the same, No change my Savior knows.
'Tis everlasting peace, Sure as Jehovah's name; 'Tis stable as his steadfast throne, For evermore the same.	The Cross still stands unchanged, Though heaven is now His home; The mighty stone is rolled away, But yonder is His tomb!
I change — he changes not; The Christ can never die; His love, not mine, the resting place, His truth, not mine, the tie.	And yonder is my peace, The grave of all my woes! I know the Son of God has come, I know He died and rose.
	And I have peace with God.

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
 Cheryl Townsend, Handbell Director

**May 20, 2018 10:00 a.m.
 Pentecost/Music Appreciation Sunday**

*The altar flowers are given by
 Margaret Wheeler to the glory of God and
 in loving memory of her father, William Green, on his birthday.*

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. There is no Sunday School today; children will remain in Worship. Feel free to approach an Usher or the Pastor with any questions.

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Preparation

Music is the art of the prophets, the only art that can calm the agitations of the soul; it is one of the most magnificent and delightful presents God has given us. ~Martin Luther

Prelude *Berceuse from Premieres Valses* —R. Hahn

Processional Hymn #228 *Rejoice, The Lord Is King* —M. Burkhardt, arr.

v. 1-3 Choir

***v. 4 Congregation** **Rejoice in glorious hope! Our Lord the Judge shall come
And take His servants up to their eternal home.
Lift up your heart, lift up your voice!
Rejoice, again I say, I say rejoice! Amen.**

***Call to Worship**

Leader: The love of God has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us;

People: **We dwell in him and he in us.**

Leader: Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his name;

People: **Make known his deeds among the peoples.**

Leader: Sing to him, sing praises to him, and speak of all his marvelous works.

People: **Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God almighty, who was and is and is to come!**

***Unison Prayer of Confession**

Almighty God, who sent the promised power of the Holy Spirit to fill disciples with willing faith; we confess that we resist the force of your Spirit among us, that we are slow to serve you and reluctant to spread the good news of your love. God, have mercy on us. Forgive our divisions and by your Spirit draw us together. In flame us with a desire to do your will and be your faithful people for the sake of your Son, our Lord, Jesus Christ. Amen.

***Assurance of Forgiveness**

Friends in Christ: by the power of the Spirit, we are united with Christ and given a new spirit. Live in the joy and peace of that assurance. **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

Youth Choir *The Joy of the Lord* —Rend Collective

*Please Rise

Time with the Children

(There is no Sunday School today. Children remain in Worship.)

Youth Handbell Choir *Joshua, Fit the Battle of Jericho* — T. Gregory, arr.

Music Appreciation

Ministry of the Word

Scripture Lesson

Colossians 3:1-4 (p. 957, pew Bible)

Anthem *I Hear The Words of Love* —J. Sparkman

Sermon Bernard Crane

***The Apostles' Creed** (blue insert)

Ministry of Response

Offering of Gifts and Prayer Requests

Offertory *The Glorious Tree* —M. J. Glasgow

***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**

Almighty God, we have opened our hands to you, and our hands have been filled with good things. Receive the gifts we bring in gratitude for your care for us, and help us to bless you with dedication of our lives; through Christ, by the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Pastor: We shall not offer God...

All: ...that which costs us nothing. **Amen.**

Offering of Prayers

Song of Preparation (first page of Hymnal) *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 *Twofold Amen* —C. Franck

***Hymn Insert** *When in Our Music God Is Glorified*

***Benediction**

***Benediction Response** *Gloria Patri* —Reinecke

Postlude *Holy Spirit, By Grace Inspire* (Recessional in F#) —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 downstairs in the Fellowship Hall.

Thank you for serving today: Kim Burgess and Craig Smith (Deacons); Juliet Silveri (Greeter); Bill Gale and Margaret Wheeler (Ushers); Megan Mahony and Tom Wickham/Brenda and Doug Barker (Fellowship Hour)

*Please Rise