

**Order of Service**  
First Parish in Concord  
Earth Day  
April 23, 2023

*It matters how we treat ourselves, each other, and our communities.  
It matters that we treat each other with love.*

**Piano Prelude** “For the Beauty of the Earth” by Rudy Davenport – Eric Huenneke, piano

**Welcome & Announcements** – Rev. Amy Freedman

**Call to Worship**

**Chalice Lighting**

Unison Response:

O flame of our faith, open our hearts  
And fill our bodies and souls with persistent strength;  
Enliven our spirits and engage us deeply in this life of ours,  
This sacred essential moment now.

**Giving Thanks for All Earth’s Creatures** – Dawn Van Patten

**Opening Hymn #1064** “Blue Boat Home”

**Reflection** “Living our 7th Principle at First Parish” – Bob Andrews

**“We All Are Kin”** based on *Braiding Sweetgrass* by Robin Wall Kimmerer – CC King & Animal Puppets

**Singing** “Keepers of the Earth” by Joyce Poley

We are blessed by ev’ry \*river, Ev’ry \*river makes us whole,  
With its riches and its beauty, Ev’ry \*river feeds our soul.  
And we are called as keepers of the earth,  
We are called to speak its sacred worth,  
For our children and our children’s children  
We are called as keepers of the earth.

**Reflection** “Celebrating Earth Day” – Rev. Amy Freedman

**Singing** “Keepers of the Earth” (reprise)

**Parish Concerns and Calling of Names** – Rev. Liz Weber

**Prayer**

**Silence**

**Hymn #123** “Spirit of Life”

**Call for Offering**

**Offertory** “Offertory on *Finlandia*” by John S. Dixon

**Closing Hymn #159** “This is My Song”

**Closing Words & Benediction**

Go out into the world in peace  
Have courage  
Hold on to what is good  
Return to no person evil for evil  
Strengthen the faint-hearted  
Support the weak  
Help the suffering  
Honor all beings

**Postlude** “Epilogue” by Norman Gilbert

*We invite you to stay seated as our service concludes with the postlude.*

*To give to the Offering via text message - send a text message to 855-691-2592.  
Please join us for coffee and social time after the service.*