

# Order of Service

## First Parish in Concord

June 18, 2023

**Gathering Hymn #1010** “We Give Thanks”

**Welcome & Announcements** – Rev. Seth Carrier-Ladd

**Centering Music** – Eric Huenneke, organ

“Flotenuhr (The Musical Clocks)” by Franz Josef Haydn  
*Minuet, March & Andantino*

**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.

**Opening Hymn #346** “Come Sing a Song With Me”

**Wisdom Story** – Rev. Amy Freedman

**Reading** “Prayer for Desert Times” by Margaret Keip – Rev. Liz Weber

**Anthem** “Trust the Seeds” by Elizabeth Alexander – First Parish Choir, Beth Norton, director

**Homily** “Flower Communion” – Rev. Seth Carrier-Ladd

**Sing & Dance** “Simple Gifts,” American Shaker Tune

‘Tis a gift to be simple, ‘tis a gift to be free	When true simplicity is gained,
‘tis a gift to come down where we ought to be,	to bow and to bend we shan’t be ashamed.
and when we find ourselves in the place just right,	To turn, turn will be our delight,
‘twill be in the valley of love and delight.	‘til by turning, turning we come ‘round right.

**Parish Concerns, Calling of Names & Prayer** – Rev. Liz Weber

**Silence**

**Hymn #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.

## **Covenant Team Decommissioning**

### **Call for Offering**

**Offertory** “A Time for All Things” by Douglas Wagner

**Flower Ceremony** “Garden Song” by Dave Mallett

Chorus:                   Inch by inch, row by row, gonna make this garden grow.  
                              All you need is a rake and a hoe and a piece of fertile ground..  
                              Inch by inch, row by row. Someone bless these seeds I sow;  
                              Someone warm them from below ‘til the rain come tumblin’ down.

**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**                               “Flotenuhr (The Musical Clocks)” by Franz Josef Haydn  
  *Minuet & Vivace*

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

*Large print hymnals are available on the table as you enter the sanctuary.  
Please ask an usher if you would like one.*

*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.*