

Order of Service
First Parish in Concord
September 10, 2023

Gathering Hymn #1046 “Shall We Gather at the River”

Welcome & Announcements – Rev. Seth Carrier-Ladd & Rev. Liz Weber

Opening Hymn #145 “As Tranquil Streams”

Call to Worship & Chalice Lighting – Rev. Seth Carrier-Ladd

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.

Wisdom Story “Rivers” by Rev. Christopher Buice – Rev. Amy Freedman

Invitation to Offering – Rev. Paul Langston-Daley

Offertory “Water Music: Air” by G. F. Handel – Eric Huenneke, organ

To give to the Offering via text message, send a text to 855-691-2592.

Reading “The Cup of Beauty” by Richard S. Gilbert (excerpt) – Rev. Amy Freedman

Anthem “Oh River” by Karisha Longaker – First Parish Choir

Homily – Rev. Seth Carrier-Ladd

Musical Interlude - Beth Norton, piano

Water Ceremony – Rev. Seth Carrier-Ladd & Rev. Amy Freedman

As part of this ritual, you will be invited to share one word that represents a gift you received related to your water, and one word that represents a gift you’re giving to First Parish.

Anthem “The Good Old Way” – Trad. arr. Jason Shelton – First Parish Choir
 Lauren Evans, soloist

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

Silence

Responsive Hymn #123 “Spirit of Life”

Closing Words – Rev. Seth Carrier-Ladd

Closing Hymn #1007 “There’s a River Flowin’ in My Soul”

Benediction – Rev. Seth Carrier-Ladd

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 “Water Music: Hornpipe” by G. F. Handel – Eric Huenneke, organ

*We invite you to stay seated as our service concludes with the postlude.
Please join us for coffee and social time after the service.*

If you’d like to share with us about your experience of the new sound systems and screens, please take our Sanctuary Technology Feedback survey by using the camera app in your phone to scan the QR code.



Much thanks and appreciation to our worship team who help make our Sunday services special:

Rev. Seth Carrier-Ladd
Interim Senior Minister

Rev. Liz Weber
Minister for Congregational Care

Rev. Amy Freedman
Minister of Religious Education

Rev. Paul Langston-Daley
Minister of Social Action

Dawn Van Patten
Assistant Director of Religious Education

Beth Norton
Director of Music Ministry

Eric Huenneke
Organist

Anderson Manuel
Gospel Choir Director

Bruce Davidson
Facilities Manager

Catherine Hill
Web & Office Administrator