

Order of Service

First Parish in Concord

September 17, 2023

Gathering Hymn “Return, Come Back” by Patricia Norton

Welcome & Announcements – Rev. Seth Carrier-Ladd

Opening Hymn #287 “Faith of the Larger Liberty”

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.

Wisdom Story

“Blessing of the Travelers” – Rev. Amy Freedman, Beth Norton, Rev. Seth Carrier-Ladd
(Children depart for religious exploration)
Let us open our eyes to see what is beautiful,
Let us open our minds to seek what is true;
Let us open our hearts to love one another
And may we walk in peace.

Invitation to Offering

Offertory “Andante semplice” by Frederick Jacobi – Eric Huenneke, organ

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

Reading

Anthem “Hineh ma tov” Hebrew Folk Tune, arr. Iris Levine – First Parish Choir
Psalm 133:1 “How good and pleasant it is when people dwell together in unity.”

Sermon “Looking Within” – Rev. Seth Carrier-Ladd

Anthem “Return Again/Hashiveinu” Traditional/Rabbi Schlomo Carlebach, arr. E. Norton
“Cause us to return to you and we will return;
Renew us as in the days of old”

Parish Concerns, Calling of Names & Prayer

Silence

Responsive Hymn “Return, Come Back”

Closing Words

Closing Hymn #1011 “Return Again”

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 “Incantations” by Alfred V. Fedak

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*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