

**Order of Service**  
First Parish in Concord  
October 22, 2023

**Prelude** “Four Hungarian Peasant Songs” by Béla Bartók – D. Eric Huenneke, piano  
A video memory from Vadrozsak (Wild Roses) Dance Ensemble  
in Székelykeresztúr, Transylvania

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

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

**Call to Worship** – Rev. Gary Smith

**Partner Candle & Chalice Lighting** – Tim Whitney & Lillian Anderson, Rev. Liz Weber

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** – Rev. Amy Freedman

*(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.

**Reflection** – Tim Whitney

**Invitation to Offering**

**Offertory** “Offertorium” by Franz Liszt

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

**Reflection** – Leah Russell

**Anthem** “Bizakodó: Hopeful” by Lajos Bardos – First Parish Choir

**Reflection** – Rev. Seth Carrier-Ladd

**Anthem** “Esti Dal” by Zoltán Kodály

**Parish Concerns, Calling of Names, & Prayer**

## Silence

### Responsive Hymn

Find a stillness, hold a stillness, let the stillness carry me.  
Find the silence, hold the silence, let the silence carry me.  
In the spirit, by the spirit, with the spirit giving power,  
I will find true harmony.

Seek the essence, hold the essence, let the essence carry me.  
Let me flower, help me flower, watch me flower, carry me.  
In the spirit, by the spirit, with the spirit giving power,  
I will find true harmony.

### Closing Words

#### Closing Hymn #1043 “Székely Áldás”

### 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 “Ballad” by Béla Bartók

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

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*Please join us for coffee and social time after the service.*

*Many people contribute to making our Sunday worship services a smooth and meaningful experience, both in person and on Zoom. Thank you to the many volunteers who give generously of their time, including our ushers and Zoom chat hosts. Thanks also to our staff worship team:*

*Rev. Seth Carrier-Ladd  
Interim Senior Minister*

*Beth Norton  
Director of Music Ministry*

*Arkadiy Bar  
AV Technician*

*Rev. Liz Weber  
Minister for Congregational Care*

*Eric Huenneke  
Organist*

*David Wisniewski  
AV Technician*

*Rev. Amy Freedman  
Minister of Religious Education*

*Anderson Manuel  
Gospel Choir Director*

*Catherine Hill  
Web & Office Administrator*

*Rev. Paul Langston-Daley  
Minister of Social Action*

*Dawn Van Patten  
Asst. Dir. of Religious Education*

*Bruce Davidson  
Facilities Manager*