Order of Service

First Parish in Concord February 25, 2024

Gathering Hymn #1023 Building Bridges

Welcome & Announcements – Rev. Seth Carrier-Ladd

Opening Hymn #318 We Would Be One

Call to Worship & Chalice Lighting – Beth Norton

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.

— Paul Sawyer

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.

Handrail Dedication Ceremony – Rev. Seth Carrier-Ladd and Gib Metcalf

Invitation to Offering

Offertory Partita No. 2 in C minor, Sarabande by J.S. Bach – David Owens, keyboard

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

Reading

Anthem *Tikkun Olam* by Clif Hardin – First Parish Choir

Translation of Hebrew from *Pirkei Avot* and the *Kabbalah*: On three things does the world depend: On Torah, on labor and on acts of loving-kindness.

Repair the world.

Sermon "You Are Not Alone" – Rev. Seth Carrier-Ladd

Anthem *Al Shlosha d'Varim* by Allan E. Naplan

Translation from *Pirkei Avot*: The world is sustained by three things, By truth, by justice, and by peace.

Parish Concerns & Calling of Names, & Prayer

Silence

Responsive Hymn *There Is a Love* by Elizabeth Norton

Stewardship Testimonial – Suzan Brinker

Closing Words

Closing Hymn #1014 Answering the Call of Love

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 Chorale Prelude, Kirken den er Gammelt Hus by Austin Lovelace

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

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 the First Parish Choir, flower committee, ushers, and Zoom chat hosts. Thanks also to our staff worship team:

Rev. Seth Carrier-LaddBeth NortonArkadiy BarshteynInterim Senior MinisterDirector of Music MinistryAV Technician

Rev. Liz Weber David Owens David Wisniewski Minister for Congregational Care Keyboards David Wisniewski AV Technician

Rev. Amy Freedman Anderson Manuel Catherine Hill

Minister of Religious Education Gospel Choir Director Web & Office Administrator

Rev. Paul Langston-Daley Dawn Van Patten Bruce Davidson
Minister of Social Action Asst. Dir. of Religious Education Facilities Manager