

Order of Service

First Parish in Concord

May 5, 2024

Gathering Hymn #1003 *Where Do We Come From*

Welcome & Announcements – Rev. Jennifer Johnson

Opening Hymn #1020 *Woyaya*

Call to Worship & Unison Chalice Lighting – Rev. Jennifer Johnson & Rev. Amy Freedman

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

(Children depart for religious exploration)

Song: 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 – Rev. Paul Langston-Daley

Offertory *Pastorale* by Darius Milhaud – Eric Huenneke, organ

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

Reading from “Why Hannah Arendt Matters: Revisiting the Origins of Totalitarianism” by Roger Berkowitz

Anthem *Open My Heart* by Ana Hernandez / *Heart Open Wide* by Lea Morris – First Parish Choir

Sermon “Hearts and Minds Wide Open” – Rev. Jennifer Johnson

Keep your heart wide open
though the waves want to push you around.
You’ve got to keep your heart wide open
'til your faith brings you back to solid ground. —Lea Morris

Anthem *Pray* by Jimmie Allen – Gospel Ensemble, Anderson Manuel, director; Rob Castillo, piano

Parish Concerns, Calling of Names, & Prayer – Rev. Elizabeth Ide

Silence

Responsive Hymn #123 *Spirit of Life*

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.

Closing Words

Closing Hymn #145 *As Tranquil Streams*

Extinguish Chalice & 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, Op. 59, No. 1* by Marcel Dupré “Rejoice Greatly, O My Soul”

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-Ladd
Interim Senior Minister*

*Eric Huenneke
Organist*

*Ben Pincus
AV Technician*

*Rev. Elizabeth Ide
Minister for Congregational Care*

*Anderson Manuel
Gospel Choir Director*

*Catherine Hill
Web & Office Administrator*

*Rev. Amy Freedman
Minister of Religious Education*

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

*Bruce Davidson
Facilities Manager*

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

*Arkadiy Barshteyn
AV Technician*

*Beth Norton
Director of Music Ministry*

*David Wisniewski
AV Technician*