

Order of Service

First Parish in Concord

October 6, 2024

Prelude Larghetto from Partita on "Deo Gracias" by Michael Burkhardt – Simon Andrews, organ

Welcome and Announcements – Rev. Jennifer Johnson

Opening Hymn #361 “Enter, Rejoice and Come In”

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.

— Paul Sawyer

Time for All Ages

Invitation to Offering

Offertory “Solace” by Scott Joplin – First Parish Choir, Beth Norton, Director

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

Reading From *The Divinity School Address* by Ralph Waldo Emerson

Anthem “Brave” by Sara Bareilles and Jack Antonoff – First Parish Gospel Singers and Choir, Anderson Manuel & Beth Norton, directors; Jennifer Vandenbos, piano

Sermon “I’m Speaking” – Rev. Jennifer Johnson

Anthem “One Voice” by Ruth Moody (Wailin’ Jennys)

Parish Concerns, Calling of Names, and Prayer

Silence

Responsive Hymn “Return” by Patricia Norton

“Return. Come back. Return. Come inward. Return, return to now.”

Closing Words

Closing Hymn #1015 "I Know I Can"

Unison 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 Toccata on "Deo Gracias" by Michael Burkhardt

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

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

*Rev. Jennifer Beth Johnson
Lead Minister*

*Simon Andrews
Organist*

*Ben Pincus
AV Technician*

*Rev. Elizabeth Ide
Minister for Congregational Care*

*Anderson Manuel
Gospel Choir Director*

*Catherine Hill
Communications & Office
Coordinator*

*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*