

FIRST PARISH IN CONCORD
SUNDAY, JANUARY 19, 2025

Prelude: Improvisation on *Amazing Grace*
Simon Andrews, organist

Welcome and Announcements: Rev. Jennifer Beth Johnson

Chalice Lighting & Unison Response:

For the stories that long to be told and retold,
for the stories that long to be imagined and reimagined,
for the stories that long to be envisioned and celebrated,
we kindle this chalice.

May its flame bring the light of different truths,
different paths and different voices,
all needed to cultivate a transformative story
of justice, love and beauty.

—Sandra Fees

Opening Hymn #1074: “Turn the World Around”

Opening Words

Time for All Ages: Rev Amy Freedman

“Let Us Open Our Eyes”
by Elizabeth Norton

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.

Parish Concerns, Calling of Names, Pastoral Prayer:
Rev. Elizabeth Ide

Responsive Hymn #391: “Voice Still and Small”

Invitation to Offering

Offertory: “Precious Lord” by Thomas Dorsey

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

Readings: Excerpt from *The Odyssey*, Homer
Excerpt from “I’ve Been to the Mountaintop,”
Martin Luther King, Jr.

Anthem: *Let Justice Roll Down* by Aileen Vance, arr. J. Hammill -
First Parish Choir & Gospel Singers

Reflection 1: “The Arc of Justice: Bending Towards a More
Beloved Community” by Anderson Manuel

Anthem: *MLK* by U2, arr. B. Chilcott - Rick Moore, soloist

Reflection 2: “MLK, Sisyphus and the Beloved Community” by
Rev. Jennifer Beth Johnson

Closing Hymn #1020: “Woyaya”

Closing Words & 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: *Ride on King Jesus*, arr. Kurt Kaiser

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

First Parish in Concord
A Unitarian Universalist congregation

20 Lexington Road, Concord, MA 01742

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

Rev. Elizabeth Ide, Minister for Congregational Care

Rev. Amy Freedman, Minister of Religious Education

Dawn Van Patten, Assistant Director of Religious Education

Elizabeth Norton, Director of Music Ministry

Simon Andrews, Organist

Anderson Manuel, Gospel Choir Director

Rev. Paul Langston-Daley, Minister of Social Action

David Wisniewski, AV Technician

Arkadiy Barshteyn, AV Technician

Ben Pincus, AV Technician

Catherine Hill, Communications & Office Coordinator

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FIRST PARISH IN CONCORD IS A WELCOMING UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST
CONGREGATION THAT SEEKS WAYS TO DEEPEN SPIRITUALLY, BUILD
COMMUNITY,
AND MAKE A POSITIVE DIFFERENCE IN THE WORLD.

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