

FIRST PARISH IN CONCORD
SUNDAY, JANUARY 26, 2025

Prelude: *Adagio e mesto* by William Sewell
Simon Andrews, organist

Welcome and Announcements: Rev. Paul Langston-Daley

Opening Words: “Put Away the Pressures of the World”
by Rev. Erika Hewitt

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.

Opening Hymn #389: “Gathered Here”

Time for All Ages: “Pug Dog” by Andrea U’Ren

“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: Rev. Elizabeth Ide

Pastoral Prayer

Silence

Responsive Hymn: “Loosen, Loosen” by Aly Halpert

Invitation to Offering

Offertory: “I wish I knew how it would feel to be free”
by Nina Simone

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

Reading: from “Transgender Warriors” by Leslie Feinberg

Anthem: “The Road Not Taken” - words: Robert Frost;
music: Randall Thompson
First Parish Choir, Elizabeth Norton Director

Sermon: “Both Sides of the Fence” by Rev. Paul Langston-Daley

Anthem: “This Is Me” from “The Greatest Showman”
by Benj Pasek and Justin Paul, arr. K. Shaw

Closing Words: from Octavia Butler

Closing Hymn #1028: “The Fire of Commitment”

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: “Blue Rondo à la Turk” by Dave Brubeck

*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

Guy Ministeri, Sunday Sexton

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*Today's flowers are given to celebrate the life of
Mary Bates Griffith
(January 25, 1912 - January 1, 2002)*



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.

WWW.FIRSTPARISH.ORG