FIRST PARISH IN CONCORD EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 20, 2025

Prelude: "*The Rejoicing*" from *The Royal Fireworks* by G. F. Handel Margaret Eileen Romero and Alessandra Kingsford, trumpets Nick Tolle, timpani Simon Andrews, organist

Welcome & Announcements: Lisa Bennett, Governing Board

Call to Worship & Chalice Lighting: Rev. Elizabeth Ide

Out of the darkness, light. Out of the light, warmth. Out of the warmth, joy. Out of the joy, togetherness. May this flame hold us for the time we are here with one another. –Ben Soule

Opening Hymn #61: "Lo the Earth Awakes Again"

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.

Anthem: Awake, Now Wintry Earth by J.S. Bach -First Parish Choir

Parish Concerns, Calling of Names, Silence: Rev. Elizabeth Ide

Pastoral Prayer: Rev. Jennifer Beth Johnson

Responsive Hymn #123: "Spirit of Life"

Invitation to Offering: The Nature Connection

- **Offertory:** *Préambule* from "24 Pièces en style libre" by Louis Vierne
 - To give to the Offering via text message, send a text to 855-691-2592.
- Readings: Ezekiel 37:1-3, read by Rev. Elizabeth Ide Matthew 28: 5-7, read by Rebecca Winborn "Bury Me in A Free Land" by Frances E.W. Harper, read by Sophie Wadsworth
- Sermon: "A Brighter Coming Day" by Rev. Jennifer Beth Johnson

Anthem: Yonder Come Day - Georgia Sea Islands song arr. by Clif Hardin

Closing Words

Closing Hymn #270: "O Day of Light and Gladness"

Singers who would like to join the choir in the balcony for the Hallelujah Chorus are invited to come up during the final hymn.

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: Hallelujah Chorus from Messiah by G.F. Handel

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

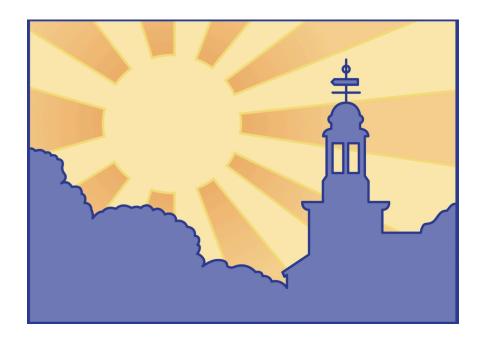
First Parish in Concord A Unitarian Universalist congregation

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 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 Fifi Ball, Director of Finance & Operations Karen Lee, Assistant to the Director of Finance & Operations Catherine Hill, Communications & Office Coordinator Nigel Wonson, Facilities Manager David Wisniewski, AV Technician & Assistant Sexton Arkadiy Barshteyn, AV Technician Ben Pincus, AV Technician Guy Ministeri, Sunday Sexton

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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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