

FIRST PARISH IN CONCORD
SUNDAY, MAY 11, 2025

Prelude: “Matines” by Louis Vierne
Simon Andrews, organist

Welcome & Announcements: Kimma Brainerd, Governing Board

Chalice Lighting & Call to Worship: Rev. Jennifer Beth Johnson

We light this chalice,
a spark in the darkness,
kindling the embers of imagination within us.
May its flame ignite wonder,
fuel dreams of justice,
and illuminate the path toward what could be.
—Rev. Michelle Collins

Opening Hymn #1068: “Rising Green” v. 1, 2, 4

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: “So Still” - words: Emily Carr; music: Brian Tate -
First Parish Choir

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

Prayer: Rev. Jennifer Beth Johnson

Responsive Hymn #83: “Winds be Still”

Invitation to Offering: Rev. Elizabeth Ide

Offertory: “Arioso” by J. S. Bach (*arr. Denis Agay*)

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

Reading: “Kids are People Too” by Sara York,
From *Hold on to Your Kids* by Gordon Neufeld,
Ph.D. and Gabor Maté, M.D.

Sermon: “Being Mother Trees” by Rev. Jennifer Beth Johnson

Anthem: “Great Trees” words: Wendell Berry; music by
Mary Alice Amidon, arr. P. Amidon

Closing Words

Closing Hymn #301: “Touch the Earth, Reach the Sky”

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: Fantasia in C minor by J. S. Bach

*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. Gary Smith, Minister Emeritus
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 & Facilities Assistant
Arkadiy Barshteyn, AV Technician
Ben Pincus, AV Technician
Guy Ministeri, Facilities Assistant

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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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