

FIRST PARISH IN CONCORD
SUNDAY, MAY 18, 2025

Prelude: *Improvisation Matinale*
Simon Andrews, organist

Welcome & Announcements

Chalice Lighting & Call to Worship:

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 #38: “Morning Has Broken”

Volunteer Recognition: Rev. Jennifer Johnson, Gib Metcalf &
Jan Power

Time for All Ages

“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: *No One Mourns the Wicked* from the musical
Wicked by Stephen Schwartz; Pamela Schweppe, soloist

Invitation to Offering: Dee Dee’s Cry, Rev. Paul Langston-Daley

Offertory: Intermezzo in F by Johannes Brahms

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

Sermon Part 1: “The Story of the Wicked Witch of the West”
by Rev. Margalie Belizaire

Parish Concerns, Calling of Names, Silence

Prayer: “When We Pause to Remember” by Rev. Alicia Forde

Responsive Hymn #123: “Spirit of Life”

Reading: From “The Danger of a Single Story,” a TED talk
by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie

Sermon Part 2: “Stories and Truths in a World of Untruths”
by Rev. Margalie Belizaire

Closing Hymn #1008: “When Our Heart Is in A Holy Place”

Closing Words: “Naming the Largest Truths”
by Rev. Vanessa Southern

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: Prelude IX in E major 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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