

Welcome to Jazz Sanctuary



Les Jumeaux de Longo, 1982
Lois Malou Jones
Acrylic on canvas,
The Studio Museum in Harlem

Jones was a Boston native who was a much awarded student at the School of the Museum of Fine Arts, and then completed her degree at Howard University. Her work in her long career focused on both conventional Western European styles and subject matter and influences of African subject matter and styles.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

[Please send any announcements for the bulletin or weekly Enews to the Secretary (secretary@concordfirstchurch.org) by **9am Thursday morning**. Please include the exact wording of how you would like the announcement to appear. Any information received after 9am will be included in the following week's bulletin and Enews. Thank you!]

Weekly Prayers for the Nation: Join Rev. Renee' for a weekly hour of prayer for our nation on Zoom. Wednesdays at 1pm. Zoom link is in the weekly E-News and in the calendar on the website.

NEW Website: Please visit and explore at www.concordfirstchurch.org.

Reminder: We will no longer be live-streaming our worship services on Facebook. Go to **Youtube.com/ConcordsFirstChurch** to watch the services live.

Next Circle Gathering - SAVE THE DATE: Our next Circle Gathering will be Sunday, October 26th before worship from 9:30-10:15am

Delegates Needed!!! Dear First Church Members and Associate Members, the Annual Meeting of the New Hampshire Conference, UCC, and the FIRST annual meeting of the newly formed Granite State Association is:

Saturday, October 25th, 9-4:30 pm at Geneva Point Center (108 Geneva Point Rd, Moultonborough, NH 03254). –Or you can attend virtually.–

There are important topics being discussed and voted on that will have an impact on us at the local church, association, and conference level. You are invited to prayerfully consider volunteering to represent First Church, Concord either in person or online (Pastor Emilia will be attending online), so that we can be informed about the changes that are coming and foster community and reconnect with the wider church.

Crop Walk: The CROP Hunger Walk is a nationwide movement sponsored by Church World Service to raise funds to end hunger and poverty in the U.S. and around the world. Please consider donating to this program. Please address checks to The First Congregational Church and on the memo line add the words **Crop Walk**. Thank You.

Musicians' Flea Market – Saturday, November 1

Calling all music lovers! First Congregational Church will host its third annual *Musicians' Flea Market* on Saturday, November 1, from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. in **Hanna Hall**. Come browse a wide assortment of instruments, sheet music, audio gear, records, and other music-related treasures—perfect for musicians, collectors, and curious shoppers alike. **Admission is \$2 per person; children under 13 are free with an adult.** Don't miss this fun, music-filled morning in the heart of Concord!

Your smartphone wants to know what's happening at First Church!
Scan this QR code with your phone's camera.



Jazz Sanctuary
"Color - The Clothing of Beauty"
Sunday, October 19th, 2025

Welcome and Introduction of the Theme

Jazz Set

On Green Dolphin Street (Used with Permission)

My Sweet Lord (Used with Permission)

Backlash Blues (Used with Permission)

Black Is the Color of My True Love's Hair (Used with Permission)

Rainbow Connection (Used with Permission)

I Loves You Porgy (Used with Permission)

Over the Rainbow (Used with Permission)

Introduction of Musicians and Deacons

Scripture in Many Voices (Jazz Sanctuary Riff on Genesis 1 inspired by John O'Donohue)

All: **In the beginning God created everything; the heavens above and the earth below.**

Emilia: Here's what happened...

Band: At first the earth lacked shape and was totally empty, and a dark fog draped over the deep while God's spirit-wind hovered over the surface of the empty waters.

Emilia: Then there was the voice of God.

Congregation: **Let there be light!**

Deacons: And light flashed into being.

Emilia: God saw that the light was BEAUTIFUL and good, and God separated the light from the darkness. God named the light "day" and the darkness "night."

Band: From "day" came red, orange, and yellow.

Deacons: From "night" came blue, indigo, and violet.

Congregation: **And from the earth came green**

All: **And color was everywhere!**

Emilia: Evening gave way to morning. That was day one.

Song: Feeling Good (Used with Permission)

Coming Into the Embrace of Beauty: by John O'Donohue

Emilia: Our exploration of color has concentrated on certain distinctive colors but every color tends to change in the vicinity of other colors.

All: **Color is the clothing of beauty.**

Band: No color stands alone. Each single color emerges in a dance where its other sustaining partners are invisible.

Deacons: Color is always a togetherness that remains kinetic, a brightening or darkening.

All: **Yet each color has its own individuality, personality, and native mood. The divine artistry of nature is seen in how lyrically it combines and modulates its raiment of colors.**

Sharing our Offerings of Beauty

Agape Feast

Call to the Feast

Prayer of Adoration:

Living God, you are present in our midst and we praise you. You are tearing down walls of alienation and exclusion. For this, we praise you because, in Jesus, you have shown us a way of hospitality, simplicity, prayer, peacemaking, and resistance. Because your Spirit makes a new path for us, as we struggle to live in the shadow of doubt and fear. Weak as we are, you fill us with hope. Lover of our souls, you give us joy and we praise you. Amen.

Signs & Symbols

Song: #31 All Things Bright and Beautiful (Public Domain)

Refrain: All things bright and beautiful, all creatures great and small,
all things wise and wonderful, our dear God made them all.

1 Each little flower that opens, each little bird that sings,
God made their glowing colors, and made their tiny wings. **[Refrain]**

2 The purple-headed mountain, the river running by,
the sunset and the morning that brightens up the sky. **[Refrain]**

3 The cold wind in the winter, the pleasant summer sun,
the ripe fruits in the garden: God made them every one. **[Refrain]**

Reading "Color Thresholds" from John O'Donohue in "The Invisible Embrace of Beauty"

Song Four Women (Used with Permission)

Conversational Time:

In her day, Nina Simone was a powerful and disquieting voice concerning the folly of ignoring and oppressing people of color, especially women of color. If colors need other colors to be what they are, do people need other people to be who they are? What does this say about human diversity as necessary for human actualization?

Song Blackbird (Used with Permission)

Prayer (Author Unknown)

Lord's Prayer (translated from the Aramaic by Neill Douglas-Klotz)

O Birther! Father-Mother of the Cosmos, focus your light within us - make it useful. Create your reign of unity now-through our fiery hearts and willing hands. Help us love beyond our ideals and sprout acts of compassion for all creatures. Animate the earth within us: we then feel the Wisdom underneath supporting all. Untangle the knots within so that we can mend our hearts' simple ties to each other. Don't let surface things delude us, but free us from what holds us back from our true purpose. Out of you, the astonishing fire, returning light and sound to the cosmos. Amen.

Time of Gratitude

Invitation to offer Our Time, Talent, and Financial Resources

Passing the Peace

Gratitude Music Fairest Lord Jesus (Public Domain)

Prayer of Dedication

Benediction (Diversity Blessing from <http://jesuiteresource.org>)

Sending Music: #434 All Beautiful the March of Days (Public Domain)

1 All beautiful the march of days, as seasons come and go.
The hand that shaped the rose has formed the crystal of the snow,
Has sent the silver frost of heaven, the flowing waters sealed,
And laid a silent loveliness on hill and wood and field.

2 O'er brilliant fields of sparkling snow the radiant morns unfold;
The solemn splendors of the night burn brightly through the cold.
Life mounts in every pulsing vein, love deepens 'round the hearth,
And clearer sounds the angel hymn, "Good will to all on earth."

3 O you from whose unfathomed law the year in beauty flows,
Yourself the splendid vision seen in crystal and in rose,
The passing days with grace declare, and passing nights proclaim,
In ever changing words of light, the wonder of your name.