

Winchester Unitarian Society
Order of Service
April 26, 2020

Centering Thought

"One of our responsibilities as human people is to enter into reciprocity with the more-than-human world. We can do it through gratitude, through ceremony, through land stewardship, science, art, and in every day acts of practical reverence." - Robin Wall Kimmerer

<https://tinyurl.com/WUSworship>

Be sure to set your screen to "speaker view" in Zoom (upper right-hand corner of the screen) for best reception of those leading the service.

Real-Time Tech Support with Zoom/Community Usher:
Don Daniel - 310-963-6326 and dgdaniel@gmail.com

Note: Some elements of this service were pre-recorded to ensure broadcast quality.

Gathering Music

John Kramer

Community News (In 140 Characters or Less)

Stephen Perepeluk

Whole Community Greeting Use the "chat" function to greet others in worship. Our Chat Covenant: we only write things we would say in person in the sanctuary.

Announcements

- **Your Sacred Space Needed:** Next week, I will be leading a service about "sacred space everywhere." This whole "worship by Zoom" thing has gotten me thinking about the notion of "sanctuary." As always, I would love to have your contributions to the subject. And photos! Do you have a thing or place in or near where you live you consider "sacred?" What makes it so? Perhaps it is a garden or an antique from a beloved family member or a meditation corner. Send your photos and stories to me at heather.janules@winchesteruu.org Thanks!
- Rev. Heather
- **Some have expressed concern about "Zoom trolling,"** when meetings, including worship services, are interrupted by people intending to inflict emotional harm through sharing offensive images and comments. We have taken steps to prevent this from happening and have recruited a volunteer to monitor the worship "meeting" to eject anyone acting inappropriately. Should we experience such an upsetting incident, we will continue with the service, acknowledge it and continue. The strength of our community is far greater than anyone with negative intent.
- **Connecting with the Office at this Time.** When contacting Thomas or Jenny please send your email to both members of the office staff. By sending your emails to both Jenny and Thomas it will ensure we can respond to your requests in a timely manner. Please let us know if there is any way we can help. Thank you.
- **Share Your Light:** We would like to create a slide show of our collective candle lighting for the "kindling the light" portion of our service. Please send a short video of you lighting your candle or a photo of your lit candle to Music Director John Kramer at john.kramer@winchesteruu.org

- **And "Decorate the Chancel":** As flower deliveries and dedications are postponed until we return to the sanctuary, we invite you to send photos of flowers from your garden or from your daily walks to be included in our services. Email these photos to heather.janules@winchesteruu.org
- **We are looking for more "Tech Support" volunteers.** If you are Zoom-fluent and would be willing to be on-call Sunday mornings to assist viewers, please let Rev. Heather know.
- **The Wednesday Night Meditation Group is now on-line!** See the last issue of Highlights or the WUS website for more details.
- **WUS Yoga is now on-line!** See the last issue of Highlights or contact Fritzie Fritzie.nace@gmail.com for more details.
- **NOTE TIME CHANGE!** Please join us for Family Worship Friday at 4:30 PM. Have a family chalice ready, a candle, and these happy and sad (link to graphic) faces, stones or beads or beans or colored paper bits for Joys and Concerns. We look forward to gathering virtually. *A note to adults - we would like to give the children an opportunity to interact with each other after the service ends. Rebecca will be leaving the room open for another 15 minutes or so and inviting the children to visit with each other. <https://tinyurl.com/WUSworship>
- **WUSYG:** We're physically-distancing but socially-connecting, now in 3 different ways a week! *ZOOMSYG!* is every Sunday, 4:30-6 pm, which are similar to our regular meetings; "Weekday Bonus WUSYGs" (WBWs!) are every Wednesday, 7-8:30 pm, which are strictly fun, and "Happy Hour" (unstructured social time) on Fridays at 4 pm. Youth should use this link to join all of our meetings: <https://hbs.zoom.us/my/haleywegner>
- **Town Day and WUS Fundraiser Postponed until September 26th** What does this mean for us? It means we won't have these added funds for FY'20 as anticipated. But it also means more time to prepare! In addition to the chili dog and pie stand on the front lawn with live music to serenade diners, we will have a "not really a rummage sale" WUS Bazaar in Metcalf Hall. There, we will sell creations of all sorts. What might you offer? Here are some ideas, but please let us know if you have a unique offering and use the Sign Up Genius link here to let us know what you hope to contribute. We will envision a time when we can return to a community in person, perhaps a pie baking party, a jewelry-making soiree, a morning of preparing fermented veggies together. If you have a craft or creation that you would like to offer, please let me know with a quick email to Fritzie.Nace@gmail.com. THANK YOU!!

Ringing of the Bell *Today we are called back to worship by the ringing of the bells at our Partner Church in Marosvásárhely, Transylvania on Easter morning.*

Opening Words

by Rainer Maria Rilke

Maggie Russell

Chalice Lighting

by Robin Wall Kimmerer (Adapted)

Jared Richardson

If you wish to do so, please read together the words for our chalice lighting and light a chalice at home as we light the chalice.

"For all of us,
 becoming indigenous to a place means living
 as if your children's future mattered,
 to take care of the land as if our lives,
 both material and spiritual, depended on it."
 We light our chalice in affirmation of this great challenge and possibility.

Hymn

Our World

John Kramer

1.This is our world, a miracle of life beyond conceiving,
 Interweaving all creation in a web.
 While our world, it spins around in space through time eternal,
 Let our vernal song flow on and never ebb.
 Let our living be a prayer that people everywhere
 Find the truth in life and change our ways.
 This is our world, don't use so much she's got no more to give.
 We can live in peace and harmony with all.

CHORUS:

Our world, one world.
 Honor creation, true ecology restore.
 Our world one world.
 Life in balance find our Eden once more.

2.In our world there is a balance we can comprehend,
 Let us mend our ways and then we'll put an end,
 To a world where hast and greed make waste and desecration.
 Let our salvation be the life we long to live.
 Let our living be a prayer that people everywhere
 Find the truth in life and change our ways
 This is our world, the only one that we will ever know
 Let the seeds we sow bear fruit for evermore.

Repeat CHORUS 2x

First Reflection

The Wonder of Nature

Woody Wood

*Attached to this order-of-service is a packet for young children
 so they may engage in an activity concurrent with the rest of the service.
 You may also find these materials here: [\[link\]](#)*

Blessing

May the light within you shine before you, everyday, everyday.
 May the light within you shine before you guide your way, guide your way.
 May the love we share surround you and chase your fears away.
 May the light within you shine before you, this we pray, this we pray.

Pastoral Prayer

Heather Janules

Meditation

by e.e. cummings

Cynthia Randall

Kindling of the Light

Consolation No. 3

Franz Liszt

*You are invited to now light a candle of joy, sorrow or concern.
 Today's Kindling of the Light is dedicated in memory of Linda Reck*

Silence

Hymn #64

Oh, Give Us Pleasure in the Flowers Today

Oh, give us pleasure in the flowers today,
and give us not to think so far away
as the uncertain harvest; keep us here
all simply in the springing of the year.

Oh, give us pleasure in the orchard white
like nothing else by day, like ghosts by night;
and make us happy in the happy bees,
the swarm dilating round the perfect trees.

And make us happy in the darting bird
that suddenly above the bees is heard,
the meteor that thrusts in with needle bill,
and off a blossom in mid air stands still.

For this is love and nothing else is love,
the which it is reserved for God above
to sanctify to what far ends he will,
but which it only needs that we fulfill.

Second Reflection

Nurture Your Soul, Heal Our Planet

Fritzie Nace

Anthem

The Peace of Wild Things

John Kramer
Cheryl Medeiros-Nancarrow, solo

Third Reflection

Confluence

Lindy Brown

Offering

Phil Coonley, Green Sanctuary Committee

This morning, we share our gifts with **Food Link**, a local “community organization that rescues fresh food, alleviates hunger, and contributes to environmental sustainability.”

You may donate through Give+ [[link to app tutorial](#)] PayPal [[link](#)] or by mailing a check to WUS, 478 Main Street, Winchester, MA 01890. Please write or type “March 22 Offering” in the memo line or comment field.

Our practice is to invite first-time worship attendees to be our guests. In lieu of a contribution, please complete the Virtual Visitor Card: <https://tinyurl.com/WUSVirVisCard> so we can stay connected beyond this Sunday.

Offertory

Three Flowers

McCoy Tyner

Affirmation of Shared Ministry *Those who wish to do so are invited to join in reading together the community affirmation:*

We gather not for ourselves alone, but to use our common power to build the Beloved Community within and beyond these walls.

We create and reaffirm this covenant this day - to make justice flourish, to practice compassion amidst difference and to embody transformative love.

Fourth Reflection *What Can One Person Possibly Do?* Sue Doubler

Hymn #1064 *Blue Boat Home*

1.Though below me, I feel no motion Standing on these mountains and plains
Far away from the rolling ocean Still my dry land heart can say
I've been sailing all my life now Never harbor or port have I known
The wide universe is the ocean I travel And the earth is my blue boat home.

2.Sun, my sail and moon, my rudder As I ply the starry sea
Leaning over the edge in wonder Casting questions into the deep
Drifting here with my ship's companions All we kindred pilgrim souls,
Making our way by the lights of the heavens In our beautiful blue boat home

3.I give thanks to the waves upholding me Hail the great winds urging me on
Greet the infinite sea before me Sing the sky my sailor's song
I was born upon the fathoms Never harbor or port have I known
The wide universe is the ocean I travel And the earth is my blue boat home.

Benediction by Wendell Berry Phil Coonley

Postlude *Earth Dance* John Kramer

Extinguishing the Chalice *Please join us in reading together the words for extinguishing our chalice:*

We extinguish this flame but not the light of truth, the warmth of community, or the fire of commitment. These we carry in our hearts until we are together again.

Join the Chat!

Questions for Reflection

How can we reorient ourselves to find a healthier balance in a reciprocal relationship with the Earth, and with each other?

What is a "doable" action your household could do to reduce its Green House Gas emissions (aka carbon footprint?)

Has an action of a friend or neighbor caused you to think about climate actions you might take?

Serving Today

Real-Time Tech Support with Zoom/Community Usher:

Don Daniel - 310-963-6326 and dgdaniel@gmail.com

Kim Foley, Pastoral Care Associate: Contact Information - 339-227-0216

Special thanks to John Kramer for serving as Video Coordinator

Music Notes

Last year for Earth Day we presented a new *Jazz Suite* that I wrote for the occasion. Given the digital medium we are using for our services it felt appropriate to reprise some selections from that Sunday. For *The Peace of Wild Things* and *Earth Dance* you will hear Lihi Haruvi on saxophone, Rick McLaughlin on bass, Brooke Sofferman on drums, and myself on piano. *The Peace of Wild Things* is a setting of the poem by Wendell Berry. The opening hymn *Our World* also comes from the suite.

I am dedicating the very beautiful *Consolation No. 3* to Linda Reck, who passed away this week from Covid 19. Linda was a beautiful spirit and wonderful musician who kept on singing until the very end. We will miss her charming personality and whimsical sense of humor.

The Green Sanctuary Committee would also like to share this article with you about The Global Environmental Recycling Crisis: [\[link\]](#)

Good morning families and friends,

Today's worship service is for Earth Day. Members of our Green Sanctuary group will be reflecting upon spiritual and activist connections to Earth on the 50th anniversary of the first Earth Day. If you have a chance, and time to watch with your children, look for some of the many videos that show animals coming into cities and parks and streets that humans have left during this time. What can we do today, and on the days that follow, to protect the life on our planet, and the resources which all living beings share?

There are coloring pages beyond these introductory pages, for meditative coloring (with thanks to Fritzie Nace for contributing several). What do you see, smell, feel that is of Earth in your immediate environment? An apple, potting soil?

I invite you to have manipulative play items as well as the resource pages attached here as the service unfolds. As with in sanctuary worship, your children will check in and out, and it bears repeating that attention on something else does not mean they are not taking in the service, or the elements appropriate to their age. If weather permits, invite them to look for signs of spring, either by going outside or from a window. Invite them to draw what they see, or to make a list.

We finish the day with the all-important ritual of snack or lunch. Breaking bread together is an important part of many religious observances. We can call it snack or fellowship, but it is a time to share food and enjoy the company of each other. This sharing deepens relationships. Enjoy. Enlist your children in creating snack or lunch. They are more likely to eat something they helped to make.

I will continue to include a description for the Settling In part of the morning which we use in Religious Education sessions. These are pinned to the top of this week's pages.

Before our Morning Begins You'll need your chalice, other candles for kindling the light, blank paper, things to color/draw with, and the pages attached. You can also add scissors, glue, ribbon and decorative cardstock* if you'd like to get working on a May basket sooner than May! Plain paper can also work, you can do your own decorating!

Settling in ritual and description (skip this part if you know it!)

- **Entering** –Ask everyone to “check in” with their name and something specific (an animal they like, favorite food etc.) This week I recommend “something I like about outside/nature”. Even though you know each other, naming and responding is a way of bringing one's self into the present.
- **Introduce and practice chime time signals:** If you have a physical chime or bell, great, if not, there's an app for that. Ring the chime (or better still, have a child ring the chime). The set up goes something like this. “Relax, soften your gaze or close your eyes if you like. To soften your gaze, just look off in the distance at nothing in particular. I think you probably know how to close your eyes.

When the chime sounds, listen carefully to when the sound ends and the silence begins and when you hear that change, raise your hand or” (any signal you agree on).

- **Introduce and practice Collective Breaths:** We breathe together three times with a slow count inhale and a slow count exhale (I use a four count for each). Set up goes something like this “As with chime time, you can soften your gaze or close your eyes. If you like place a hand on your chest, over your heart and one on your belly so that can also feel the breath go in and out. Let us begin, 1, 2, 3, 4, and out, 1, 2, 3, 4. Again (repeat the sequence). And one last time (repeat the sequence)

Chalice Lighting: We do this collectively, online as our service begins

WHAT SHALL WE DO THIS WEEK? HERE ARE SOME IDEAS FOR TODAY AND OTHER DAYS.

Sunday, April 26th - Try a new recipe day— Perhaps in celebration of **Pretzel Day**

Monday, April 27th— **Morse Code Day**— try to write your name or a message to a friend

Tuesday, April 28th— look up at the stars tonight and observe what you see for **Astronomy Day**

Wednesday, April 29th— Write a letter to someone. Or draw a picture and have an adult help mail it

Thursday, April 30th - Watch the sun rise or sun set or BOTH!

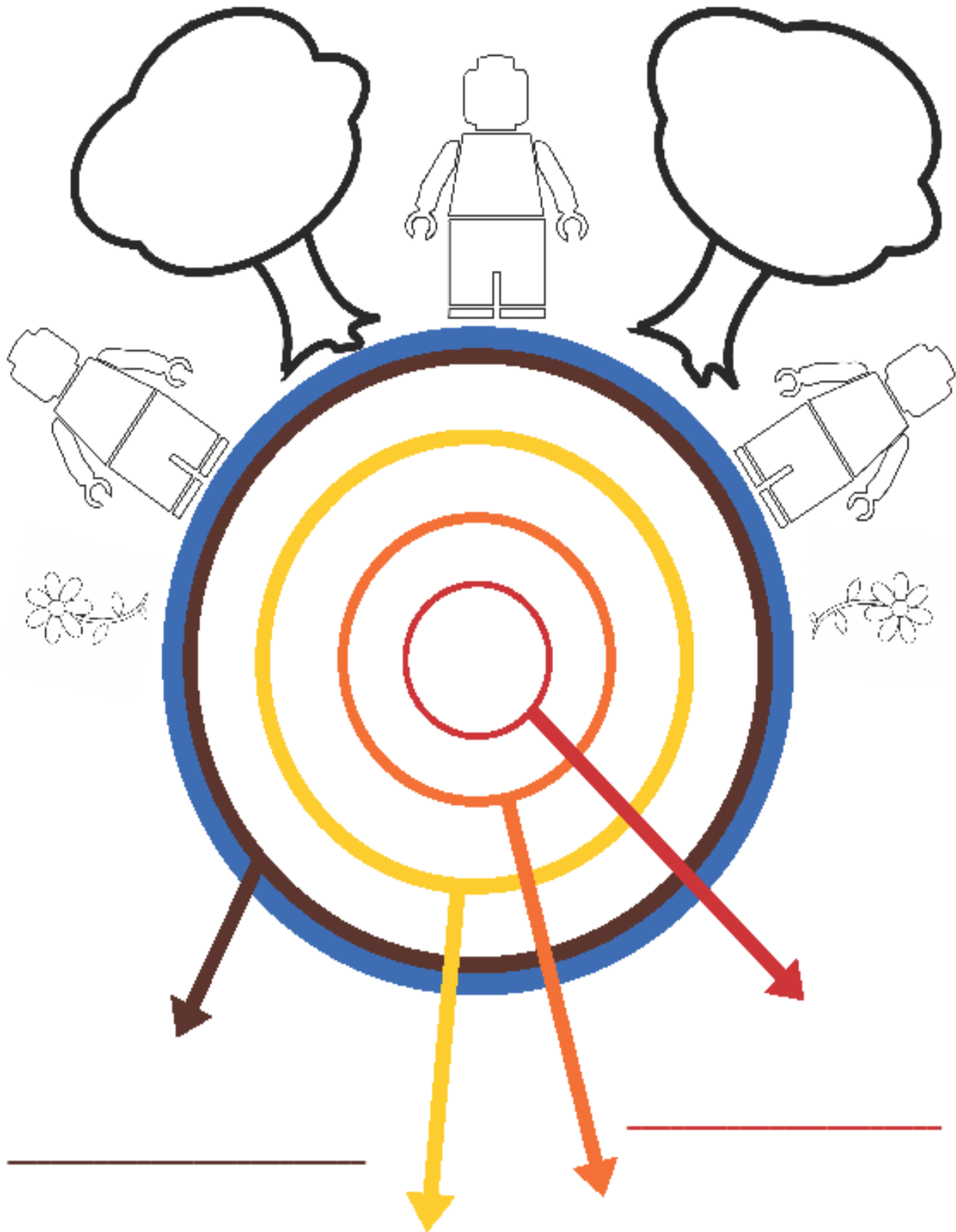
Friday, May 1st— Make a May Day basket* and fill them with paper flowers, notes or? And hang them on door-knobs

*Template attached to the end of these pages.

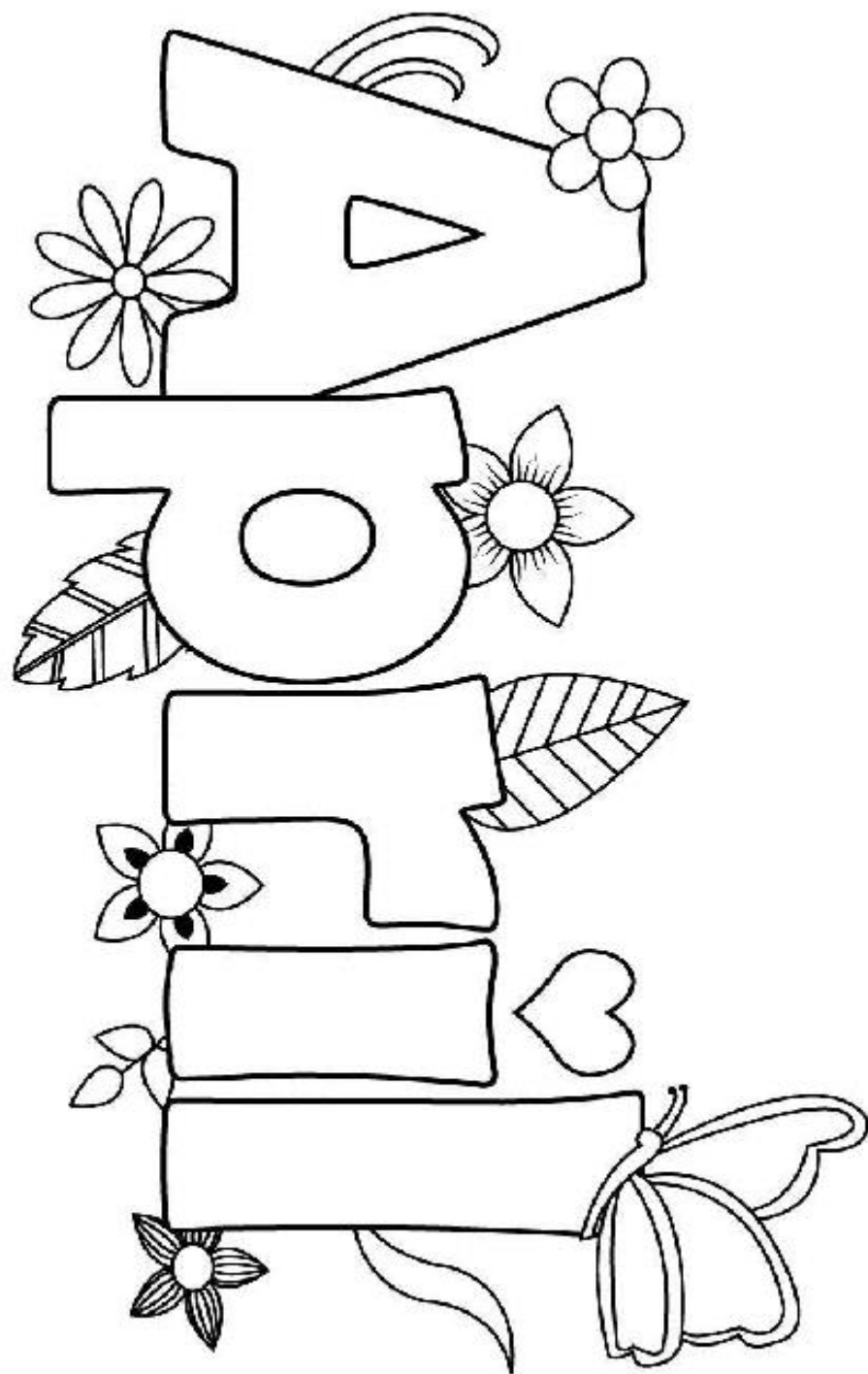
Saturday, May 2nd — — Search for 5 signs of Spring in Plants

- bulbs spring up from the earth; daffodil, iris, crocus, etc.
- Dandelions and other weeds begin to sprout.
- Leaf and flower buds begin to appear on once bare winter branches.
- Spring colors can be seen as plants and flowers come back to life.
- Lawns need to be mowed.

LAYERS OF THE EARTH: COLOR AND WRITE



What's the Earth Made of? Layers and layers? How can you find out?



Unscramble the Words

ROSFET

DAHES

SMAIANL

AVEESL

TREBCAELE

PTALN

AODHYLI

IRTENNVOME

CROAN

HELERST

OPINNECE

RUUTEF

DRBIS

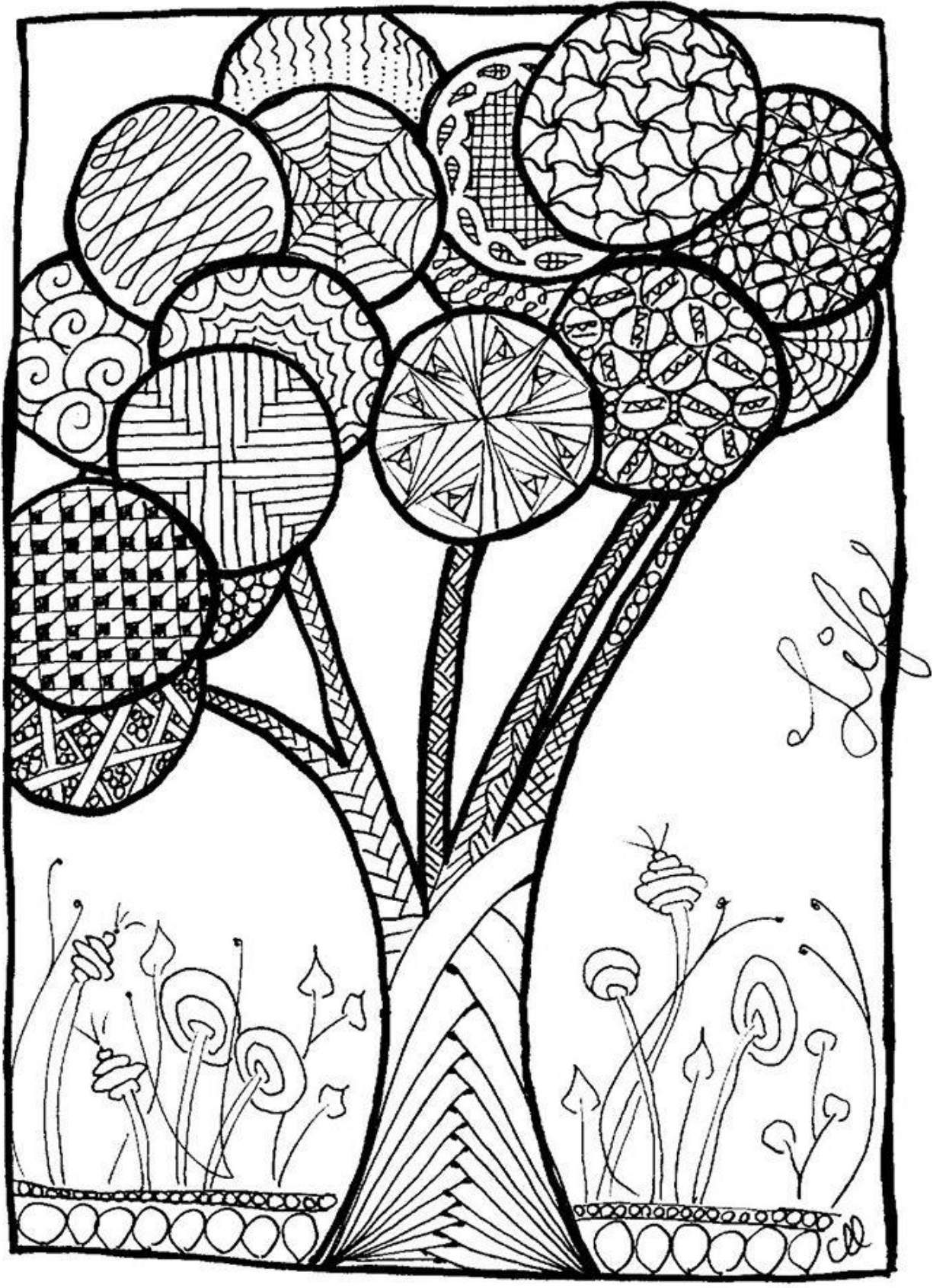
WROG

DLWFEILI

DRAYBORA

THATBIA





Tree Trivia

1. How old is the oldest tree in the United States?
A. 750 years old B. 2,000 years old C. 4,800 years old
2. How many people rely on forests for clean drinking water in the United States?
A. 180 million B. 1 million C. 50 million
3. How many species of trees are there in the United States?
A. 850 B. 375 C. 2,000
4. How many trees does the average American use each year in paper, wood, and other tree products?
A. 1 B. 7 C. 15
5. Baseball bats are made out of wood from which species of tree?
A. Ash B. Oak C. Pine
6. How many gallons of maple sap are needed to make one gallon of maple syrup?
A. 5-7 B. 10-15 C. 30-40
7. At what rate will most tree seedlings grow per year?
A. 6 inches B. 1 foot C. 2 feet
8. What is the biggest tree in the world in terms of overall height and circumference?
A. Giant sequoia B. Douglasfir C. White oak

two gallons of syrup. / 7. B. Most tree seedlings will grow about 1 foot per year, depending on growing conditions and species/type of tree. / 8. A. The biggest tree in the world is a giant sequoia in California named General Sherman. It is 102 feet in circumference and 207 feet tall.

7. At what rate will most tree seedlings grow per year?

- A. 6 inches B. 1 foot C. 2 feet

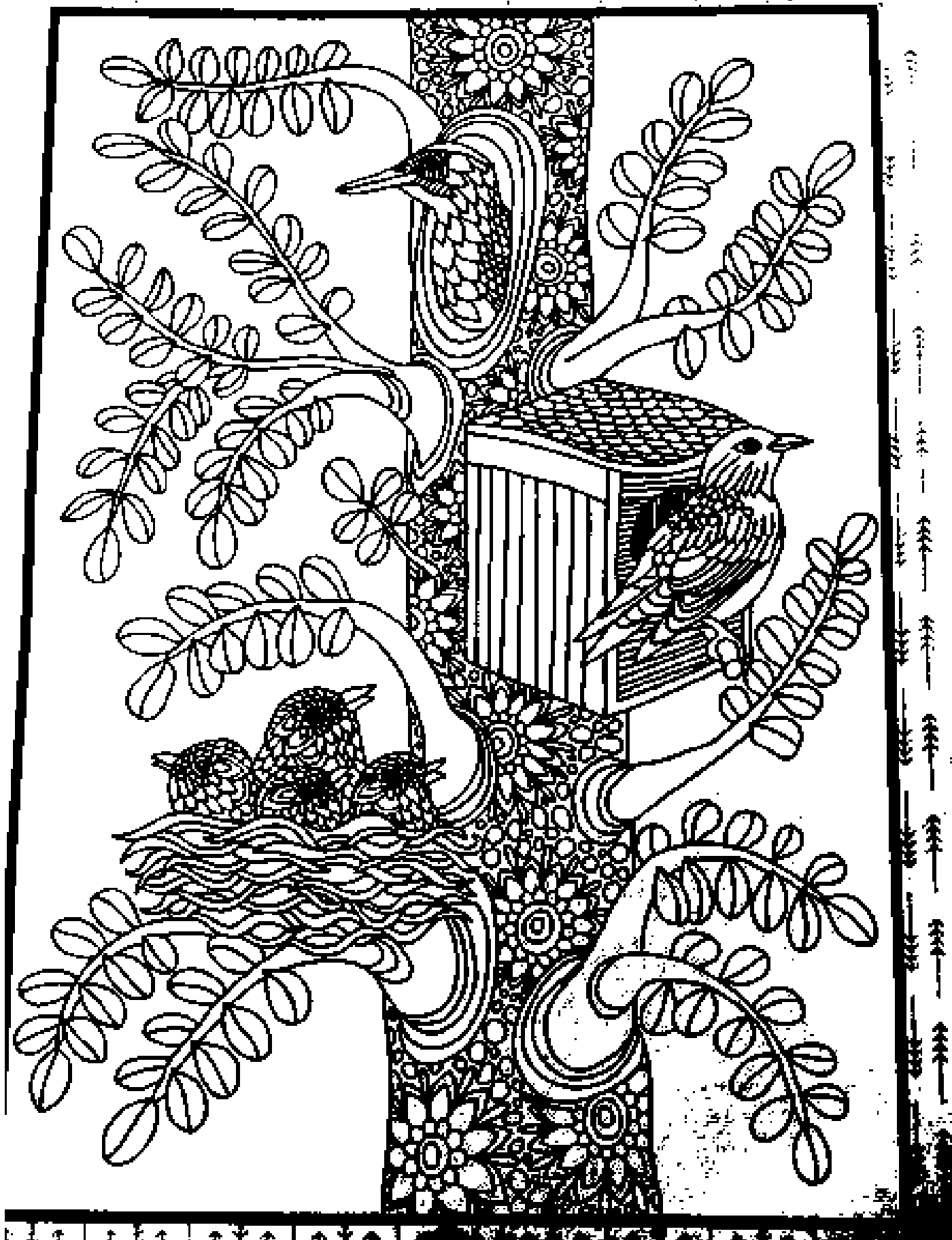
8. What is the biggest tree in the world in terms of overall height and circumference?

- A. Giant sequoia B. Douglasfir C. White oak

Answers: 1. C. Methuselah, a pine tree in California, is 4,800 years old. / 2. A. 180 million. / 3. A. 850. / 4. B. 7 / 5. A. Ash / 6. C. 30-40. / A sugar maple tree can produce up to 60 gallons of sap a year, which yields two gallons of syrup. / 7. B. Most tree seedlings will grow about 1 foot per year, depending on growing conditions and species/type of tree. / 8. A. The biggest tree in the world is a giant sequoia in California named General Sherman. It is 102 feet in circumference and 207 feet tall.







May Day Basket Template

Cut out template and use as is and color in, or use as template with cardstock or scrapbook paper.

Use a hole punch on holes 1 - 8

Glue cone together, let dry.

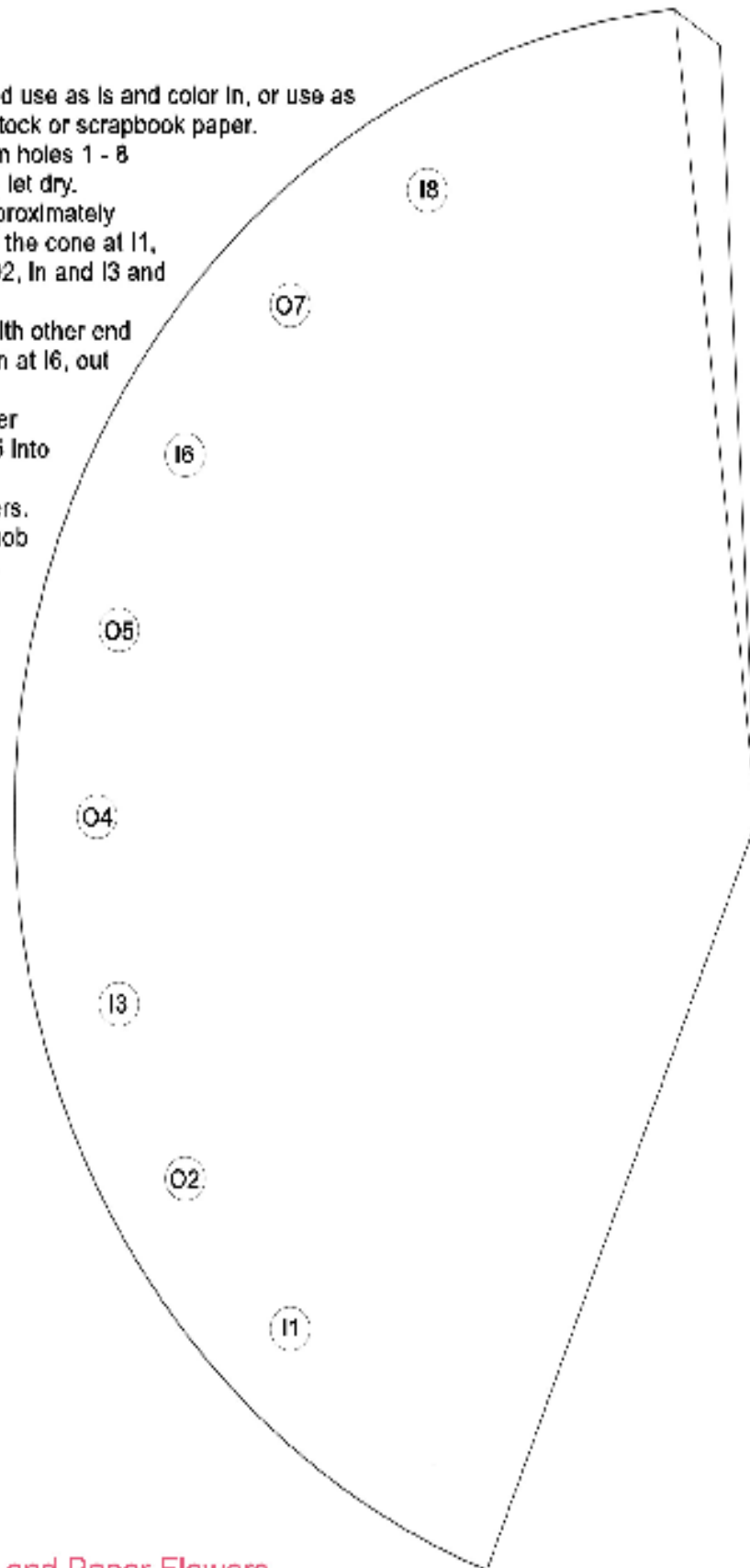
Thread a ribbon approximately 24 inches long in to the cone at I1, out of the cone at O2, in and I3 and out again at O4.

Repeat threading with other end in at I8, out at O7, in at I6, out at O5.

Tie the ends together between O4 and O5 into a pretty bow.

Fill with pretty flowers.

Hang from a doorknob or deliver to friends and neighbors.



← Glue Here