

## Welcome to Worship!

Winchester Unitarian Society · Sunday, November 21st, 2021  
November's Theme is "Holding History"

### Centering Thought

"I have been finding treasures in places I did not want to search. I have been hearing wisdom from tongues I did not want to listen. I have been finding beauty where I did not want to look. And I have learned so much from journeys I did not want to take...I am ready to see what really exists on other side, what exists behind the blinds, and taste all the ugly fruit instead of all that looks right, plump and ripe." — **Suzy Kassem**

### Gathering Music

*Now Thank We All Our God*, John Kramer

John Kramer

### Invitation to Greeting

The Rev. Heather Janules

*Note that during this time, the congregation will be briefly visible in the livestream. If you do not want to be seen, please sit in the back pews, marked accordingly.*

**Ringing of the Bell** *We are called back to worship by the ringing of the bell from our Partner Church in Marosvásárhely, Transylvania*

### Community Welcome and Announcements

Stephen Perepeluk

### Invocation

by Laura Horton-Ludwig

Heather Janules

### Chalice Lighting

by Amy Brooks

Ivan Correia, Standing Committee Member

### Hymn #67 \*

*We Sing Now Together*

### Meditation

"Praise Song" by Barbara Crooker

### Kindling of the Light

*Gratitude*, Eric Reed

*For those in the Sanctuary, if you would like a candle brought to you, please raise your hand.*

### Silence

### Anthem

*Thanksgiving Song*, Mary Chapin Carpenter

### Reading

"The Last Leaf" by David M. Horst

Stephen Perepeluk

### First Reflection

"Parable of the Last Leaf: Reflections on Gratitude"

Heather Janules

### Offering

Stephen Perepeluk

This morning, we share our gifts with the **Native American Indian Center of Boston**, providing "cultural, social, educational, and professional related services to the New England Native American community for [over] 50 years." They affirm, "as the oldest urban Indian center in Massachusetts, our mission is to empower the Native American community with the goal of improving the quality of life of Indigenous peoples."

*\*Please rise in body or in spirit*

Those in the sanctuary are also welcome to donate electronically. **Text (781) 230-6690** or visit <https://www.winchesteruu.org/giving/how-to-give/> Please write or type the date of your offering in the memo line or comment field. Note that contributing soon in lieu of one lump sum for a period of time is easier to process and empowers us to send our collective gift as soon as possible.

## Offertory

*Gratitude*, Edvard Grieg

**Those in the sanctuary are now invited to leave for the back yard of the WUS building for the All Community Benediction.**

**Affirmation of Shared Ministry** *Those who wish to do so are invited to join in the unison 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.

## Second Reflection

"Litany of Gratitude"

All Community

## Hymn #1010\*

*We Give Thanks*

Oh, we give thanks for this precious day,  
For all gather'd here, and those far away;  
For this time we share with love and care,  
Oh, we give thanks for this precious day.

## Benediction

"A Thanksgiving Blessing" (Adapted) by Naomi King

Heather Janules

## Extinguishing the Chalice

*Please read together the words for extinguishing the 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.

**For those at the WUS building, please consider taking home a Guest At Your Table box.**

**Virtual attendees may print their own Guest At Your Table box here:**

<https://www.uusc.org/resources/congregations/guest-at-your-table/>

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Livestreaming attendees are welcome to join Virtual Social Hour  
by logging on to [www.tinyurl.com/WUSworship](http://www.tinyurl.com/WUSworship)

## Serving Today

The Rev. Heather Janules, Minister · Stephen Perepeluk, Worship Associate  
John Kramer, Director of Music · Alex Boskovic, Livestream Coordinator

Ushers and Greeters: Steve Forcucci, Brad Steele, Terry Currier

The Sunday Pastoral Care Associate is available to those wanting to share a personal concern with an attentive listener. Today's PCA is Carol Delaney - 781.507.3366

### **Music Notes**

On this Thanksgiving Sunday, we begin with an organ prelude setting the old German tune *Nun Danket Alle Gott*. You will hear the tune throughout, especially in the pedals in the central part of the piece. ♦ Our Kindling music is by jazz pianist and composer Eric Reed, from his 2008 release *Stand*. ♦ The anthem is a choral setting of Mary Chapin Carpenter's song from her 2008 album *Come Darkness, Come Light*. ♦ And we close with our Offertory and transition music by the Norwegian composer Edvard Grieg. Gratitude is part of his *Lyrical Suite Op. 62 No. 2*.

*As part of our commitment to racial justice, each worship service includes wisdom or an artistic gift from people or communities-of-color.*