### Welcome to Worship!

# Winchester Unitarian Society · Sunday, March 6<sup>th</sup>, 2022

# March's Theme is "Renewing Faith"

# **Centering Thought**

"God is a shout in the street." - James Joyce

Gathering Music John Kramer

**Invitation to Greeting** 

Rev. Hank Peirce

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** 

Peter McEntee

**Invocation** by Alice Walker

Rev. Hank Peirce

First Reflection and Chalice Lighting by Max Coots

Rev. Hank Peirce

\*Hymn #115

God of Grace and God of Glory

**Recognition of Thomas Slack** 

Fritzie Nace

**Meditation** by A. Powell Davies

Rev. Hank Peirce

Kindling of the Light

Sarabande, Mykola Lysenko

John Kramer

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

Silence

**Anthem** Sicut Cervus, Giovanni Pierluigi de Palestrina

Reading God Found God by Cynthia Rylant Peter McEntee

Second Reflection "God Becoming God" Rev. Hank Peirce

Offering Peter McEntee

This morning, we share our gifts with **Doctors Without Borders**, founded in 1971 with a mission to provide lifesaving medical care to those most in need. They provide assistance to populations in distress, to victims of natural or man-made disasters, and to victims of armed conflict. They do so irrespective of race, religion, creed, or political convictions. Today DWB is working on setting up emergency response activities in Ukraine and deploying teams in Poland, Moldova, Hungary, Romania, and Slovakia. Teams are also ready to respond in Russia and Belarus.

<sup>\*</sup>Please rise in body or in spirit

Those in the sanctuary are also welcome to donate electronically. **Text (781) 230-6690** or visit <a href="https://www.winchesteruu.org/giving/how-to-give/">https://www.winchesteruu.org/giving/how-to-give/</a> 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.

If you are visiting for the first time, we invite you to be our guest. The most valuable thing you can offer is your completed visitor information card so we can stay connected beyond this Sunday. Those in the Sanctuary may find blank cards in the pew rack in front of you and put your completed card in the plate. Online visitors can fill out the virtual visitor card here: https://tinyurl.com/WUSVirVisCard

Offertory

Prayer for Ukraine, Mykola Lysenko

# **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.

**Benediction** by George Fox Peter McEntee

**Postlude** Prelude, Mykola Lysenko John Kramer

#### **Extinguishing the Chalice**

Peter McEntee

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.

This service has ended but our life of service continues.

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Livestreaming attendees are welcome to join Virtual Social Hour by logging on to <a href="https://www.tinyurl.com/WUSworship">www.tinyurl.com/WUSworship</a>

# **Serving Today**

Rev. Hank Peirce, Minister · Peter McEntee, Worship Associate

John Kramer, Director of Music · Alex Boskovic, Livestream Coordinator

If you experience any technical issues with the livestream, please contact the livestream coordinator at wusstreaming@gmail.com

<u>Ushers and Greeters</u>: Sophia Sid, Steve Forcucci, Fritzie Nace, and Kim Foley.

The Sunday Pastoral Care Associate is available to those wanting to share a personal concern with an attentive listener. Today's <u>PCA</u> is Kim Foley – 339-227-0216

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

#### **Music Notes**

This morning, in we offer musical prayers to Ukraine. Mykola Lysenko (1842-1912), considered one of the most famous Ukrainian composers, sought to form a Ukrainian national school of music. The Kindling music and Postlude both come from his *Suite on Ukrainian Themes* where he combines folk songs with established European musical forms, such as the Sarabande (an old type of dance). Lysenko is also the composer of the "spiritual anthem of Ukraine", the *Prayer for Ukraine* which sets a poem by Oleksandr Konysky. It was written in 1885.

Lord, oh the great and Almighty/ Protect our beloved Ukraine/ Bless her with freedom and light/ Of your holy rays./ With learning and knowledge enlighten/ Us, your children small,/ In love pure and everlasting/ Let us, oh Lord, grow./ We pray, oh Lord Almighty, Protect our beloved Ukraine,/ Grant our people and country/ All your kindness and grace./ Bless us with freedom, bless us with wisdom,/ Guide into kind world,/ Bless us, oh Lord, with good fortune/ For ever and evermore.

The Anthem, *Sicut Cervus*, is a setting of Psalm 42 by the great Italian Renaissance composer Palestrina (1525-1594). "Like as the deer longs for running waters, so my soul longs for you, my God."