

Welcome to Worship!

Winchester Unitarian Society · Sunday, March 19, 2023

March's Theme is "Vulnerability"

Centering Thought

"And the day came when the risk to remain tight in the bud was more painful than the risk it took to blossom" - Anais Nin

Hospitality Note: We may open the windows during worship to increase air circulation. You may wish to have your coat handy or choose a seat close to the center of the Sanctuary to remain warm.

Gathering Music

John Kramer

Invitation to Greeting

The Rev. Heather Janules

In person attendees: Note that 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. Livestreamers: Please let us know who you are and what's on your mind by sending an email to checkingin@winchesteruu.org

Ring 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

Heather Janules

You may also review weekly announcements at www.tinyurl.com/WUShappenings

Invocation

The Rev. Mary Margaret Earl

Chalice Lighting

Lit by Patty Cameron, WUS Delegate to the UUUM

**Please rise in body or in spirit*

*Hymn

Seed of Hope

There's a seed of hope* in my soul,
A little seed of hope* in my soul.
Gonna tend it ev'ry day
So that it grows strong, oh this I pray,
Then that seed of hope* soon will bloom in my soul.
*Love, Joy, Justice

First Reflection

Keep Peace Alive!

Heather Janules and Brenna Mayer

Blessing

The Light Within

John Kramer

As children and teachers leave for Religious Education, the community is invited to sing them on their way!

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.

At this point, those remaining in the Sanctuary may gather "mask optional." Those wishing to sit among people wearing masks may join the Choir in the first few rows.

Meditation

Mary Margaret Earl

Kindling of the Light

In an Old Garden, Lili Boulanger

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

Silence

*Hymn #315

This Old World

Gray Hymnal

Please remain seated

Reading From “White Fragility” by Robin DiAngelo

Anthem *Mother Earth, Beloved Garden,*
Amanda Udis-Kessler, arr. J. Kramer WUS Adult Choir

Second Reflection “The Gardener’s Guide to Racial Justice”
The Rev. Mary Margaret Earl

Offering Heather Janules

This morning, we share our gifts with the **Unitarian Universalist Urban Ministry**, whose mission and vision are to “work across race and place to dismantle racism and white supremacy culture and to advance racial, social, and economic justice.” The UU Urban Ministry “envisions a Greater Boston where all people live with freedom and dignity, and have equitable access to resources and opportunity to shape the present and the future.”

Those in the sanctuary are also welcome to donate electronically. **Text (781) 230-6690** or visit www.tinyurl.com/wusgiveonline
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 *African Flower*, Duke Ellington

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.

***Hymn #207** *Earth Was Given as a Garden* Gray Hymnal

Benediction Mary Margaret Earl

Postlude *Country Gardens*, Percy Grainger

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.

Flower Dedication: *The altar flowers are given
in loving memory of Zion Song Sid*

Serving Today

Ushers and Greeters: Terrill Levering and Ryan Levering

The Sunday Pastoral Care Associate is available to those wanting to share a personal concern with an attentive listener.

Today’s PCA is Vicky Coccoluto @ 781-729-9313

John Kramer, *Director of Music* · The Rev. Heather Janules, *Worship Associate* · The Rev. Mary Margaret Earl, *Guest Minister* · Brenna Mayer, *Children's Religious Education Coordinator* · Jay Kwan and Griffin Correia, *Livestream Coordinators*

WUS Standing Committee (Governing Board) Members

Vicky Coccoluto, Ivan Correia, Terry Currier, Terrill Levering (Clerk,) Gordy McIntosh (Co-Chair,) Claire McNeill, Fritzie Nace (Co-Chair,) Martin Newhouse, Brad Steele (Treasurer,) Marcy Tompson and George “Woody” Wood

Contact your Standing Committee via **SC@winchesteruu.org**

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