

## Welcome to Worship!

Winchester Unitarian Society · Sunday, May 7, 2023

May's Theme is "Creativity"

**Livestream Attendees:** To notify our Tech Deck of a broadcast issue, email [checkingin@winchesteruu.org](mailto:checkingin@winchesteruu.org) or call the WUS Office - 781.729.0949

### Centering Thought

"Artificial intelligence is the future...for all humankind. It comes with colossal opportunities, but also threats that are difficult to predict.

Whoever becomes the leader in this sphere will become the ruler of the world." - Vladimir Putin

### 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](mailto: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

Peter McEntee

You may also review weekly announcements at [www.tinyurl.com/WUShappenings](http://www.tinyurl.com/WUShappenings)

### Invocation

By Octavia Butler

Heather Janules

### Chalice Lighting

By Julianne Lepp

Lit by Calvin Levering

*\*Please rise in body or in spirit*

**\*Hymn #139** *Wonders Still the World Shall Witness* Gray Hymnal

**First Reflection** *Robots of the Future* Riley Simpson

**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 remove their masks if they wish.*

### Pastoral Prayer

The Rev. Cynthia Davidson

### Kindling of the Light

*Lilacs*, Tigran Hamasyan

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

### Silence

### Hymn #1003

*Where Do We Come From?*

Teal Hymnal

*Please remain seated*

### Second Reflection

"AI and the Planet: Blessing or Curse?"

Cynthia Davidson

### Anthem

*We Create*, John Kramer

WUS Adult Choir

### Third Reflection

"AI, You and UU"

Heather Janules

## Offering

Peter McEntee

This morning, we share our gifts with **Massachusetts Interfaith Power and Light**, whose mission is to “educate people on why climate change is a matter of morality and justice., to foster public understanding of policies that will lead to a sustainable future and to work with faith communities and their members to be better environmental stewards of their buildings” Interfaith Power and Light is the organization Rev. Cindy serves as Executive Director.

Those in the sanctuary are also welcome to donate electronically. **Text (781) 230-6690** or visit [www.tinyurl.com/wusgiveonline](http://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

*Lilacs*, Sergei Rachmaninoff

Kirsten Hart  
Solo

**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 #120

*Turn Back*

Gray Hymnal

## Benediction

By Eileen Karpeles (Adapted)

## Postlude

*May*, Fanny Hensel

## 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.

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**Flower Dedication:** The altar flowers celebrate the ministry of many - the Rev. Cynthia Davidson, the shared ministry of minister, staff, members and friends at WUS and the service ministry of our youth group, WUSYG

## Serving Today

Ushers and Greeters: Stephen Perepeluk, Lucille Canava, Claire McNeil and Susan Woodward

The Sunday Pastoral Care Associate is available to those wanting to share a personal concern with an attentive listener.  
Today's PCA is Lee Barton @ 603 845- 8767

John Kramer, *Director of Music* · The Rev. Heather Janules, *Parish Minister and The Rev. Cynthia Davidson, Affiliated Community Minister Candidate* · Peter McEntee, *Worship Associate* · Riley Simpson, *Children's Religious Education Teacher* · Isaac Kamikawa, *Livestream Coordinator*

## 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](mailto: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.*

**Music Notes:**

This morning's anthem was written for the installation of our own *Rev. Heather K. Janules* here at the Winchester Unitarian Society. It reminds us that the actions we take and the decisions we make create the world we live in. We can create worlds of hope and kindness and others too. And I suspect that we can create machines that create the world as well. ♦ The other service music is a tribute to the natural world around us. Lilacs are in bloom now and clearly a worldwide favorite as they are portrayed by Russian composer Rachmaninoff in 1922 and the Armenian jazz pianist Hamasyan in 2016. ♦ The postlude is by Fanny Hensel - sister of Felix Mendelssohn - and part of her collection *Das Jahr (The Year)*: celebrating the year with one piece per month.