

Invitation to Greeting

Heather Janules

Flower Dedication: Today's flowers celebrate the leadership and hard work of our Standing Committee and the mission of the Winchester Unitarian Society

Serving Today

Ushers and Greeters: Sheila Rudolph Correia and Pete Baldwin

The Sunday Pastoral Care Associate is available to those wanting to share a personal concern with an attentive listener. Today's PCA is Kim Foley @ 339-227-0216 or at the pew closest to the candle table immediately after the service.

John Kramer, *Director of Music* ◦ The Rev. Heather Janules, *Parish Minister* ◦ Ivan Correia, *Worship Associate* ◦ Brenna Mayer, *Children's Religious Education Coordinator* ◦ Jason Tran, *Livestream Coordinator*

WUS Standing Committee (Governing Board) Members

Dennis Brett, Vicky Coccoluto, Chuck Khuen, Liz Lintz (Clerk,) Gordy McIntosh, Claire McNeill, Fritzie Nace, Martin Newhouse, Stephen Perepeluk, Brad Steele (Treasurer) and Marcy Tompson
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.

Music Notes:

The wonderful Methodist musician Mark A. Miller sets a brilliant text by the Episcopal Priest Gordon inviting us to *Draw the Circle Wide* and include all in our community. So we draw in music from Manuel Ponce (1882-1948) of Mexico and his astonishingly beautiful *Intermezzo*. Remembering that this circle is justice work, we invoke that with *Truth, Justice, and the Blues* by composer and pianist James Williams (1951-2004). And we also include an invitation into the unknown as we travel through the mists of autumn and leaves dancing in a swirl.

Welcome to Worship!

Winchester Unitarian Society · Sunday, September 24, 2023
September's Theme is "Welcome"

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

Centering Thought

"If you feel uncomfortable you have reached the doorstep of opportunity." - Jil Novenski, Director of Religious Education for Children and Youth, Community Church of New York

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 to worship by the ringing of the bell from our Partner Church in Marosvásárhely, Transylvania*

Gathering Music

John Kramer

Invocation

The Rev. Heather Janules

Community Welcome and Announcements

Ivan Correia

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

Welcome and Affirmation of Standing Committee Members

Chalice Lighting

By Vanessa Titang

WUS Standing Committee

**Please rise in body or in spirit*

***Hymn # 131** *Love Will Guide Us* Gray Hymnal

First Reflection *Superheroes Everywhere!* 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

Poem "Pray for Peace" (Abridged) by Ellen Bass

Kindling of the Light *Intermezzo* by Manuel Ponce
For those in the Sanctuary, if you would like a candle brought to you, please raise your hand.

Silence

Hymn # 123 *Spirit of Life* Gray Hymnal
Please remain seated

Welcome Cailin Smith, Our New Soloist!

Offering Ivan Correia

This morning, we Share the Plate with **The Anna LaViolette SNAP Matching Fund**. "Anna's Fund' was created to honor the memory of Anna LaViolette.... She was a strong believer in [the Market's] mission of providing healthy, fresh food to all families. Through Anna's Fund the Winchester Farmers Market doubles SNAP benefits up to \$15 per customer card, per market day."

If local food security is important to you, consider volunteering next Saturday in our Love in Action event: installing a garden to grow produce for Gardens for Good. Like the Winchester Farmers Market, G4G provides fresh vegetables to local food pantries. **We need 12 volunteers to install the garden and we currently have 5.** 10 am at a local home in Winchester; Children are welcome! Contact Rev. Heather if you can participate.

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 *Into the Unknown*, Patrick McHale Cailin Smith, Soprano

Visual Meditation "Disrupting Church: An Introduction" (Abridged)

Anthem *Draw the Circle Wide* by Mark A. Miller WUS Adult Choir

Second Reflection "Disrupt Church" Heather Janules

Postlude *Truth, Justice, and the Blues* by James Williams
Tyson Kamikawa, sax

***Hymn #1028** *The Fire of Commitment* Teal Hymnal

***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.