Welcome to Worship!

Winchester Unitarian Society · Sunday, February 4, 2024 February's Theme is "Liberating Love"

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

"Power without love is reckless and abusive, and love without power is sentimental and anemic. Power at its best is love implementing the demands of justice, and justice at its best is power correcting everything that stands against love." - The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

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

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

Martin Newhouse

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

Invocation By Katie Kandarian-Morris Heather Janules

Chalice Lighting By Alison Miller (Adapted) Lit by Emily Ippolito

^{*}Please rise in body or in spirit

*Hymn #188 Come, Come, Whoever You Are Gray Hymnal

First Reflection Restoring Connection 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.

Prayer Heather Janules

Kindling of the Light Andante, Florence Price
For those in the Sanctuary, if you would like a candle brought to you, please raise your hand.

Silence

Hymn #1031 Filled with Loving Kindness Teal Hymnal

Please remain seated

Reading By Danya Ruttenberg

Anthem O Love, Elaine Hagenberg WUS Adult Choir

Second Reflection "A Restorative Path Towards Justice" Heather Janules

Offering Martin Newhouse

This morning, we share our gifts with **Concord Prison Outreach**, a local organization providing "human kindness behind prison walls" through cultural, job and life skills and educational programs.

Those in the sanctuary are also welcome to donate electronically. **Text GIVE to (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 Rhosymedre (Lovely), Vaughan Williams

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 #131 Love Will Guide Us Gray Hymnal

Benediction By Phoenix Bell-Shelton Biggs (Adapted)

Postlude Forgiven, Alexis Ffrench

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: Today's flowers celebrate all who lead and serve the Winchester Unitarian Society, as occasional volunteer, elected leader or staff.

Serving Today

<u>Ushers and Greeters</u>: Gordy McIntosh, Deb Eiler, Naomi Delairre and Marilyn Mullane

The Sunday Pastoral Care Associate is available to those wanting to share a personal concern with an attentive listener. Today's PCA is Karen Caputo @ 617-851-5947 or at the pew closest to the candle table immediately after the service.

John Kramer, *Director of Music* • The Rev. Heather Janules, *Parish Minister* • Martin Newhouse, *Worship Associate* • Brenna Mayer, *Children's Religious Education Coordinator* • Isaac Kamikawa, *Livestream Coordinator*

WUS Standing Committee (Governing Board) Members

Dennis Brett, Vicky Coccoluto, Chuck Khuen, Liz Lintz (Clerk), Gordy McIntosh (Co-Chair), Claire McNeill, Fritzie Nace, Martin Newhouse (Co-Chair), Stephen Perepeluk, Brad Steele (Treasurer) and Marcy Tompson. Contact your Standing Committee via SC@winchesteruu.org

Music Notes: The Anthem this morning is composed by the emerging choral composer Elaine Hagenberg and sets a text (written in 1882) by the Scottish minister George Matheson. It reminds us that Love will see us through the trials of life. "O Love that will not let me go,/ I rest my weary soul in thee;/ I give thee back the life I owe,/ That in thy ocean depths its flow/ May richer, fuller be./ O Joy that seeks me through pain/ I cannot close my heart to thee;/ I trace the rainbow through the rain,/ And feel the promise is not vain,/ That morn shall tearless be.

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