

## Welcome to Worship!

Winchester Unitarian Society · Sunday, February 11th, 2024

February's theme is "Liberating Love."

**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

"Find those who tell you, 'Do not be afraid,' yet stay close enough to tremble with you. This is love." - Cole Arthur Riley

### 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)*

**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

Stephen Perepeluk

*You may also review weekly announcements at*

[www.tinyurl.com/WUShappenings](http://www.tinyurl.com/WUShappenings)

### Invocation

*Give Us Hope*, Jim Papoulis

Children's Chorale

### Chalice Lighting

By Vance Bass

Read by Karen Caputo, Pastoral Care Associate;

Lit by Max and Maya Mulder

### \*Hymn #353

*Golden Breaks the Dawn*

Gray Hymnal

*\*Please rise in body or in spirit*

**First Reflection** *Visible Threads*

Brenna Mayer with  
Donna Reed and Sheila Rudolph-Correia, PCAs

**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.

**Meditation** “Blessed Are You Who Bear the Light” by Jan Richardson

**Kindling of the Light** *As His Own Soul*, Nathaniel Dett

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

**Silence**

**Hymn #1008**

*When Our Heart Is in a Holy Place*

Teal Hymnal

*Please remain seated*

**Reading**

By Auburn Sandstrom

Harris Gibson

**Second Reflection** “Love in the Universe”

Heather Janules, Vicky Coccoluto, PCA and Stephen Perepeluk

**Offering**

Stephen Perepeluk

This morning, we share our gifts with **the American Foundation for the Prevention of Suicide**, whose mission is to “[give] those affected by suicide a nationwide community empowered by research, education and advocacy to take action against this leading cause of death...AFSP...[engages] in...funding scientific research, educating the public about mental health

and suicide prevention, advocating for public policies in mental health and suicide prevention [and] supporting survivors of suicide loss and those affected by suicide.”

Our donation will support WUS member Ginger Hanson’s team participating in the Out of the Darkness AFSP walk on June 22nd. She and the team walk in memory of her daughter and our youth group alumni Brenda Martino. To learn more, visit <http://tinyurl.com/AFSPTeamBrenda24>

Those in the sanctuary are also welcome to donate electronically. **Text GIVE to (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**

*My Shepherd Will Supply My Need, Virgil Thomson*

WUS Adult Choir

## **Affirmation of Shared Ministry**

Harris Gibson

*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.

## **Pastoral Care Associate Commissioning**

Congregational Response: *We thank you for your ministry of presence, companionship and care. We join you as partners in ministry, fostering connections from heart to heart, through sharing our own needs, noting the needs of others or seeking to meet needs greater than our own with you. We offer a ministry of compassion together.*

**\*Hymn #1021**

*Lean on Me*

Teal Hymnal

**Benediction**

By Eric Williams (Adapted)

**Postlude**

*Liuyang River, Wang Jianzhong*

**Extinguishing the Chalice**

Harris Gibson and Kim Foley, PCA

*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 chancel flowers celebrate all those who companion another through life's challenges, be they friend or stranger, helping professionals or not.

### **Serving Today**

John Kramer, *Director of Music* ◦ The Rev. Heather Janules, *Parish Minister* ◦ Stephen Perepeluk and Harris Gibson, *Worship Associates* ◦ Brenna Mayer, *Children's Religious Education Coordinator* ◦ Griffin Correia, *Livestream Coordinator* and members of the Pastoral Care Associates Team.

The PCA team is Marilyn Wilson, Sheila Rudolph-Correia, Karen Caputo, Donna Reed, Vicky Coccoluto, Dennis Brett and Lee Barton. Terry Currier will join in the near future.

Ushers and Greeters: Sheila Rudolph-Correia, Marilyn Mullane, Phil Coonley and Joe Eiler

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.

## **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\*\*](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:**

We begin this Sunday's worship with a rousing song reminding us that our children are the future and it is incumbent on us to "give them hope" and "help them believe." At WUS we do this in many ways, certainly by creating a community that cares for each other as is evidenced by the Pastoral Care Associates. Together we all help provide the care invoked in the Anthem, a setting of Psalm 23. The Kindling music is offered in tribute to Black History Month; it is a selection from Dett's *Eight Bible Vignettes*. And the opening hymn and postlude are offered in celebration of the Lunar New Year.