

## Welcome to Worship!

Winchester Unitarian Society · Sunday, March 17, 2024

### March's Theme is "Transformation"

**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

"Church is a place where you get to practice what it means to be human." - James Luther Adams

### 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

Ivan Correia

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

### Responsive Invocation

By Shari Woodbury

Heather Janules

One: Welcome, all who seek renewal in a weary world.

Many: *Welcome, all who come with love and energy to share.*

Welcome, to those who worry for the future.

*Welcome, each one who is grateful for today.*

Know that in this place, you are not alone.

*In community we share our strength with one another and we keep the flame of love burning bright.*

Know that in this place, responsibility is shared.

*Here, tradition holds us; ancestors shine a light from the past.*

Here, the young lift their bright faces, and beckon us onward.

*Take my hand, and we can go on together.*

**Chalice Lighting**

By Maureen Killoran

Lit by Lua Spencer

**\*Hymn #1017**

*We Are Building a New Way*

Teal Hymnal

**First Reflection**

*The Rare, Tiny Flower* by Kitty O'Meara

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.

**Meditation** "Things to Remember as This World Dies," by Chris Taylor

**Kindling of the Light**

*Adagio*, W.A. Mozart

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

**Silence**

**Hymn #10**

*Immortal Love*

Gray Hymnal

*Please remain seated*

*\*Please rise in body or in spirit*

**Second Reflection**

Heather Janules

“Grabbing Bananas: The Art of Transforming Culture,” Part I

**Anthem***O Nata Lux*, Thomas Tallis

WUS Adult Choir

**Second Reflection**

Heather Janules

“Grabbing Bananas: The Art of Transforming Culture,” Part II

**Offering**

Ivan Correia

In recognition of Women’s History Month, this morning, we share our gifts with **the International Convocation of UU Women**, whose mission is “[advancing] equity for women and girls worldwide through leadership development, empowerment and awareness programs, advocacy, and resources. Led by Unitarian\*Universalist women from around the world, its members include Unitarian\*Universalists and other people of liberal religious faith.”

Consider attending the Fourth Convocation of the ICUUW in Transylvania from September 5-8, 2024. Learn more here:

<https://intl womensconvo.org/page/4th-convo-2024-september/>

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***Come Sunday*, Duke Ellington

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 #295**                      *Sing Out Praises for the Journey*                      Gray Hymnal

**Benediction**                      By Michelle Collins

**Postlude**                      *Dansa*, Heitor Villa-Lobos

### **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 flowers are a gift from Judy Murray and James Pidacks "in memory of our immigrant ancestors."

### **Serving Today**

Ushers and Greeters: Susan Woodward, Sheila Rudolph Correia, Lisa Spencer, Lua Spencer and James Pidacks

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  
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* ♦ Jay Kwan, *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**

*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:**

Culture is such a rich human construct. We have music this morning that by definition is “cultured” as in the Kindling Music by Mozart. I’d observe that Mozart was as much the product of the culture he grew up in; he was born at a time when there was abundant encouragement and support for his genius.

This is similar to how Duke Ellington comes of age during the Harlem Renaissance, both supported by and contributing to that cultural movement.

The postlude, by Brazilian composer Heitor Villa-Lobos is offered as an example of cultures inform each other; Villa-Lobos infuses European traditions with sounds from his native land. ♦ The European Renaissance was a culturally rich time for choral music, as evidenced by the stunning work by Thomas Tallis we present as the anthem. As these older anthems do, this one celebrates Christ as, “light, born of light, redeemer of the world.” And wherever one’s theology stands, it should be recognized that Jesus changed (and shaped) culture more than most.