

Welcome to Worship!
Winchester Unitarian Society · Sunday, May 4
May's Theme is "Imagination"

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

*"Creativity is the language we use to communicate the urgency of our dreams
for a better future." - Audre Lorde*

Gathering Music

John Kramer

Invitation to Greeting

Rev. Seth Carrier-Ladd

*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***

Ringling of the Bell

Community Welcome and Announcements

Martin Newhouse

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

Invocation

"Spirit of Life and Hope" by Clark Dewey Wells

Chalice Lighting

lit by Theo Kent

***Hymn #21**

For the Beauty of the Earth

Gray Hymnal

**Please rise in body or in spirit*

New Member Ceremony

Alison Kirchgasser

Congregational Affirmation:

We welcome you with anticipation and joy. We hope you find here room to flourish in mind, body, and spirit. We accept you into our community as companions in the spiritual journey. We pledge to rejoice with you in times of happiness, to grieve with you in times of sorrow, and to share with you all the blessings of our free faith.

First Reflection

Ish by Peter H. Reynolds

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

Kindling of the Light

Lilac, Tigram Hamasayan

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

Silence

Centering Hymn #1031

Filled with Loving Kindness

Teal Hymnal

Please remain seated

Reading

excerpt from Big Magic: Creative Living Beyond Fear
by Elizabeth Gilbert

Anthem *Here We Are Gathered*, Gustav Holst WUS Adult Choir

Second Reflection “Cultivating Creativity” Rev. Seth Carrier-Ladd

Offering

Our share-the-plate organization this morning will support social justice work with **the Dwelling Place**, a soup kitchen which provides meals for approximately 50 guests on Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday nights at the United Methodist Church in Woburn. The funds collected will be used to purchase food for the meals that we serve at the Dwelling Place.

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 *Im Wunderschönen Monat Mai*, Robert Schumann
Rob Woodin, 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 #309** *Earth is Our Homeland* Gray Hymnal

Benediction

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.

Serving Today

Greeters: Gordy McIntosh & Terrill Levering

Ushers: Chris Weigand & Ryan Levering

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

Your PCA will be sitting at the pew closest to the candle table immediately after the service.

Rev. Seth Carrier-Ladd, *Interim Minister* ♦ John Kramer, *Music Director* ♦
Martin Newhouse, *Worship Associate* ♦ Jay Kwan, *Livestream Coordinator*

WUS Standing Committee (Governing Board) Members

John Keller, Chuck Khuen, Ginger Hanson (Clerk),

Gordy McIntosh (Chair), Claire McNeill, Fritzie Nace,

Ryan Levering, Martin Newhouse (Vice Chair),

Sheila Puffer, Brad Steele (Treasurer), and Marcy Tompson.

Contact your Standing Committee via SC@winchesteruu.org.

Music Notes

Our anthem this morning celebrates our new members with a chorale arrangement of the hymn *Here We Are Gathered*. Other music celebrates the arrival of the month of May, including the celebrated art song *Im Wunderschönen Monat Mai* (In the magic month of May) from Schumann's song cycle *Dichterliebe* setting the poetry of Heinrich Heine.