

## Welcome to Worship!

Winchester Unitarian Society · Sunday, August 3, 2025

All are welcome to join an in-person conversation about today's service in the Parlor or to participate virtually by logging in to [www.tinyurl.com/WUSworship](http://www.tinyurl.com/WUSworship) at 11:30 a.m.

### Serving Today

Marianne DiBlasi, *Summer Minister* ♦ John Kramer, *Director of Music* ♦ Dan Spencer, *Worship Leader* ♦ Jean McClurken, *Worship Associate* ♦ Jay Kwan, *Livestream Coordinator*

### WUS Standing Committee (Governing Board) Members

Kim Foley, Ginger Hanson (Clerk), Jeanne Johnson (Assistant Treasurer), John Keller, Chuck Khuen, Ryan Levering, Gordy McIntosh (Chair), Judy Murray (Treasurer), Sheila Puffer, Liz Scott, Marcy Tompson, and Matt Wilson.

Contact your Standing Committee via [SC@winchesteruu.org](mailto:SC@winchesteruu.org).

### Music Notes

*St. Anthony of Padua's Sermon to the Fishes* is from Gustav Mahler's collection of songs based on German folk tales, *Des Knaben Wunderhorn* (The Boy's Magic Horn). Saint Anthony of Padua was a 13<sup>th</sup> century Franciscan priest who was renowned for the power and eloquence of his preaching. One legend has him preaching at the water's edge and captivating the multitude of fishes with his oration. Mahler's satirical take on this legend depicts the various aquatic denizens listening entranced so long as the sermon lasts, but then immediately reverting to their animalistic ways.

**Livestream Attendees:** To notify our Tech Deck of a broadcast issue, email [checkingin@winchesteruu.org](mailto:checkingin@winchesteruu.org) or call the WUS Office at 781.729.0949.

### Centering Thought

*My heart has grown capable of taking on all forms  
It is a pasture for gazelles; A table for the Torah  
A convent for Christians; Ka'bah for the Pilgrim  
Whichever the way love's caravan shall lead  
That shall be the way of my faith  
– Ibn Arabi, 12th century*

**Prelude**      *En Priere*, Gabriel Faure      Mary Cunningham, Flute

### Community Welcome, Announcements, and Invitation to Greeting

Jean McClurken

*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

**Opening Words**      by Jon Krakauer      Dan Spencer

**Chalice Lighting**      by Ram Dass      Jean McClurken

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

**First Reflection**      "Bayesian Probability for Babies"      by Chris Ferrie

*\*Please rise in body or in spirit.*

**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.

**Joys and Sorrows** *At this time, you are invited to come forward, light a candle and share a joy or sorrow you carry within. Please note that as this service is being livestreamed, it is available over the internet in the moment and as an archived recording. If anyone wishes to have a candle brought to them, please raise your hand.*

**Silence****Hymn #194***Faith is a Forest*

Gray Hymnal

*Please remain seated***Reading***“Looking for Faith?”* by Ross Douthat Jean McClurken**Song***Des Antonius von Padua Fischpredigt*, Gustav Mahler

(Anthony of Padua’s Sermon to the Fishes) Peter McEntee

**Second Reflection***“Spiritual Uncertainty”* Dan Spencer**Offering**

Jean McClurken

The offering is a spiritual practice, a collective affirmation of our shared values and commitment to the mission of this liberal religious congregation.

Here are the different ways you can donate to the Winchester Unitarian Society: Those in the sanctuary are also welcome to donate electronically. **Text (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.

**Offertory***Be Thou My Vision*, arr. Arthur Frackenpohl

**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 #187***It Sounds Along the Ages*

Gray Hymnal

**Benediction**

by Tony Schwartz

**Postlude***The Preacher*, Horace Silver**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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