

## Welcome to Worship!

Winchester Unitarian Society · Sunday, October 12, 2025

### October's Theme is Cultivating Compassion

**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

“And I said to my body softly, ‘I want to be your friend.’ It took a long breath and replied, ‘I have been waiting my whole life for this.’”  
— Nayyirah Waheed

### 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](mailto:checkingin@winchesteruu.org)*

### Ringling of the Bell

### Community Welcome and Announcements

Jean McClurken

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

### Invocation

“Come Into This Place” by Margaret Weis

### Chalice Lighting

lit by Ira Spencer

### \*Hymn #1007

*There's a River Flowin' in my Soul*

Teal Hymnal

*\*Please rise in body or in spirit*

**First Reflection**

"Never Not Broken"

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****Kindling of the Light***Hozho*, Connor Chee

*This is the time in our service where we light a candle for a joy or a sorrow that is sitting on our heart. For those in the Sanctuary, if you would like a candle brought to you, please raise your hand.*

**Silence****Hymn #86***Blessed Spirit of My Life*

Gray Hymnal

*Please remain seated***Reading**excerpt from Self-Compassion by Kristin Neff**Anthem***ChaNté Wasté Hoksila*, Lakota Melody,

arr. Linthicum–Blackhorse

WUS Adult Choir

**Second Reflection**

"Cultivating Self-Compassion"

Rev. Seth Carrier-Ladd

## Offering

This week, Share The Plate will be allocated to the **Council of Social Concern** which is headquartered in Woburn. The Council is a charitable, community-based agency responding to the basic needs of people of all ages, providing early childhood education and care, helping individuals develop their potential, creating positive family and community relationships, and fostering respect for diversity. Their services include Childcare Options, Food Assistance, and Family Skill Building Parenting Education Classes. The WUS food drives support the Council's food pantry.

Those in the sanctuary are also welcome to donate electronically. **Text GIVE to (781) 230-6690**, used the QR Code 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

*Navajo Vocabule #4, Connor Chee*

**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 #298

*Wake, Now, My Senses*

Gray Hymnal

## Benediction

## Postlude

*Ode to Life, Don Pullen*

## 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:*** Today's chancel flowers are given by Robin Wolf "In loving memory of Prof. Werner Wolf, his daughter Mary-Anne Wolf, and his son Peter Wolf."

### Serving Today

Ushers: Fritzie Nace & Steve Forcucci  
Greeters: Denise Pappas & Chris Weigand

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

Rev. Seth Carrier-Ladd, *Interim Minister* ♦ John Kramer, *Director of Music* ♦  
Jean McClurken, *Worship Associate* ♦ Sam Wilson, *Director of Youth and  
Children's Ministries* ♦ Brenna Mayer, *Children's Religious Education  
Coordinator* ♦ Devon McClurken, *Livestream Coordinator*

### **WUS Standing Committee (Governing Board) Members**

Gordy McIntosh (Chair), Kim Foley (Vice Chair), John Keller,  
Chuck Khuen, Ryan Levering, Sheila Puffer, Liz Scott, Marcy Tompson,  
Matt Wilson, Ginger Hanson (Clerk), and Judy Murray (Treasurer)  
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 celebrate the music of Native American composers today. The Anthem is by Linthicum Blackhorse, who has devoted himself to preserving the Lakota language and culture. *ChaNté Wasté Hoksila* is a traditional Lakota lullaby, usually sung by a mother to her child. It has been arranged for SATB choir by the composer. It translates to, “My Kind-Hearted Boy.” ♦ We also hear two works by the Navajo pianist and composer Connor Chee, known for combining his classical piano training with his Native American heritage. Chee writes that the Kindling Music, “was inspired by the traditional Diné (Navajo) concept of Hózhó, often translated as “balance and beauty, which permeates Diné life and culture, and reflects the state of harmony that binds all things together in the universe.” The Navajo Vocablé is inspired by traditional Navajo chants, but Chee’s original melodies. ♦ Jazz pianist and composer Don Pullen’s last recording *Sacred Common Ground* was his attempt to explore his Native American heritage (Cherokee). While reproducing that recording is beyond our scope, we close with Pullen’s *Ode to Life*.