

## Welcome to Worship!

Winchester Unitarian Society · Sunday, October 26, 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

*“The important thing is not to stop questioning. Curiosity has its own reason for existing. One cannot help but be in awe when he contemplates the mysteries of eternity, of life, of the marvelous structure of reality. It is enough if one tries merely to comprehend a little of this mystery every day.*

*Never lose a holy curiosity.”*

— Albert Einstein

### 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

### Costume Parade

*Toccata in D minor, J.S. Bach*

### Community Welcome and Announcements

Peter McEntee

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

### Invocation

*“Spirit of Life and Hope” by Clarke Dewey Wells*

**Chalice Lighting**

lit by Otto Spencer

**\*Hymn #389**

*Gathered Here*

Gray Hymnal

**First Reflection**

“Maybe”

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**

“All That We Do Not Know” by Susan Suchocki

**Kindling of the Light**

*Enigma*, J.J. Johnson

*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 #16**

*'Tis a Gift to Be Simple*

Gray Hymnal

*Please remain seated*

**Reading**

“Gift” by W.S. Merwin

**Anthem**

*Again, the Leaves are Falling*, Swedish Folk Song,

arr. Paul Hendrickson

WUS Adult Choir

*\*Please rise in body or in spirit*

## Second Reflection

“The Gifts of Not-Knowing”

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

*Autumn in Our Town*, Dave Brubeck

**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 #1020**

*Woyaya*

Gray Hymnal

## Benediction

## Postlude

*Autumn*, Antonio Vivaldi

*\*Please rise in body or in spirit*

## 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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### Serving Today

Ushers: Marilyn Wilson & Dan Spencer

Greeters: The Levering & McClurken Family

The Sunday Pastoral Care Associate is available to those wanting to share a personal concern with an attentive listener.  
Today's PCA is Marilyn Wilson 781-572-8834  
or at the pew closest to the candle table  
immediately after the service

Rev. Seth Carrier-Ladd, *Interim Minister* ♦ John Kramer, *Director of Music* ♦  
Peter McEntee, *Worship Associate* ♦ Sam Wilson, *Director of Youth and  
Children's Ministries* ♦ Brenna Mayer, *Children's Religious Education  
Coordinator* ♦ Jason Tran, *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*