

Welcome to Worship!

Winchester Unitarian Society · Sunday, December 7th, 2025

December's Theme is Choosing Hope

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

“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

Ringling of the Bell

Community Welcome and Announcements

Jean McClurken

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

Invocation

“Religious Witness” by Rebecca Parker

Chalice Lighting

lit by Lidia Suchy

Lighting of the Advent Wreath: Peace

***Hymn #226** *People, Look East* Gray Hymnal

First Reflection *The New Colossus* 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 “A Prayer for Immigrants” by Jessica Vazquez Torres

Kindling of the Light *A Child is Born*, Thad Jones

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 #225 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel Gray Hymnal
Please remain seated

Reading “We Are Not Guests” by Alicia Forde

Anthem *In the Bleak Midwinter*, arr. John Kramer
WUS Adult Choir

**Please rise in body or in spirit*

Second Reflection

“Misplaced, Displaced, and Dehumanized”

Rev. Seth Carrier-Ladd

Offering

This week, Share The Plate will be allocated to the **LUCE**. LUCE is part of the “Neighbor to Neighbor” effort to help immigrants. They run a hot line which helps people deal with ICE, providing counseling and helping to identify and provide other resources to immigrants, and advise immigrants of their rights. They also assist immigrants with food needs through a network of food banks, some of which of focused on foods which are staples of the immigrant community.

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 Please write or type the date of your offering in the memo line or comment field.



Offertory

Every Valley (from the Messiah) G.F Handel

Brendan Buckley, Tenor

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

For Everyone Born

(see insert)

Benediction

Postlude

White Christmas, Irving Berlin
(Berlin immigrated to the U.S. at the age of five.)

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

Ushers: Fritzie Nace & Brad Steele

Greeters: Lindy Brown & Cynthia Randall

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* ♦
Jean McClurken, *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.

*As part of our commitment to racial justice, each worship service includes
wisdom or an artistic gift from people- or
communities-of-color.*