

Welcome to Worship!

Winchester Unitarian Society · Sunday, December 14th, 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

"A republic ... if you can keep it." - Benjamin Franklin

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

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

Invocation

Chalice Lighting

lit by Cora McVey

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

*Hymn #108

How Can We Keep From Singing

Gray Hymnal

**Please rise in body or in spirit*

First Reflection

Rev. Seth Carrier-Ladd

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

Solace, Scott Joplin

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 #155

Circle 'Round for Freedom

Please remain seated

Offering

This week's share-the-plate will be used to provide \$25 gift certificates to youth that Bridge serves as holiday gifts. **Bridge Over Troubled Waters** provides housing and services to runaway, homeless, and high-risk youth between the ages of 14 and 24. Bridge's mission is to help guide youth towards self-sufficiency, and to enable youth to transform their lives and build fulfilling, meaningful futures.

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 *The People United Will Never be Defeated* (Theme),
Frederic Rzewski

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.

Introduction

Freedom and Democracy Suite

*The Moral Universe
Child of the Enlightenment
We Won't Go Back
E Pluribus Unum
Never Give Up on Hope!*

Benediction & 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: Sally DeGan & Brad Steele

Greeters: Sue Doubler & 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 Kim Foley 339-227-0216

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 ♦ Jay Kwan, *Livestream Coordinator* ♦
Omar Chen Guey, *Violin*; Shannon Williams, *Clarinet*;
Shay Rudolph, *Cello*.

This service is made possible by the Sue Swap Music Fund

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.