

## Welcome to Worship!

Winchester Unitarian Society · Sunday, December 21, 2025

### December's Theme is Choosing Hope

#### Centering Thought

*"Christmas isn't a season. It's a feeling."*

- Edna Ferber

#### Gathering Music

John Kramer

#### Invitation to Greeting

The 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)*

**Ringing of the Bell** *We are called back to worship by the ringing of the bell from our Partner Church in Marosvásárhely, Transylvania*

#### Community Welcome and Announcements

Martin Newhouse

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

#### Invocation

#### Chalice Lighting

Lit by Timothy Suchy

#### Lighting of the Advent Wreath

#### \*Hymn

*Ocho Kandelikas*

See Insert

*\*Please rise in body or in spirit*

## Offering

Roseanne Hogan

This Sunday, we share the plate with **Bridge Over Troubled Waters**, an organization which provides effective and innovative services to runaway, homeless and high-risk youth, helps youth avoid a lifetime of dependency on social services, guides youth towards self-sufficiency, and enables 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](http://www.tinyurl.com/wusgiveonline) Please write or type the date of your offering in the memo line or comment field.



## Offertory

**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.

## **The Paper Bag Pageant**

*See the insert in your order of service for the words for all hymns that are part of the pageant.*

**\*Hymn**                      *Away in a Manger*

**\*Hymn**                      *The First Nowell*

**\*Hymn**                      *Angels We Have Heard on High*

**\*Hymn**                      *We Three Kings*

**\*Hymn**                      *O, Little Town of Bethlehem*

### **Benediction**

**Postlude**                      *Linus and Lucy* by Vince Guaraldi

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

## **Serving Today**

Usher: Brad Steele

The Sunday Pastoral Care Associate is available to those wanting to share a personal concern with an attentive listener.

Today's PCA is Terry Currier 781-690-6112  
or at the pew closest to the candle table  
immediately after the service.

Rev. Seth Carrier-Ladd, *Interim Minister* ♦ John Kramer, *Director of Music* ♦  
Martin Newhouse, *Worship Associate* ♦ Sam Wilson, *Director of Youth and  
Children's Ministries* ♦ Brenna Mayer, *Children's Religious Education  
Coordinator* ♦ Jay Kwan, *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).