

Welcome to Worship!

Winchester Unitarian Society · Sunday, February 8th
February's Theme is "Embodying Resilience"

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

"Every time we start thinking we're the center of the universe, the universe
turns around and says with a slightly distracted air, 'I'm sorry.

What'd you say your name was again?"

From Bootlegger's Daughter ~ - Margaret Maron

Gathering Music

John Kramer

Invitation to Greeting

Ivan Correia

*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*

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

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

Invocation

adapted from words by Rebekah Savage

Children's Choral

Count On Me, Bruno Mars

Chalice Lighting

***Hymn #298** *Wake, Now, My Senses v.1-3* Gray Hymnal

First Reflection This is an elephant! 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 “At One” by Victoria Safford

Kindling of the Light *Footsteps in the Snow*, Claude Debussy
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

Centering Hymn #1031 *Filled with Loving Kindness* Teal Hymnal
Please stay seated

Reading *Red Brocade* by Naomi Shihab Nye
Rev. Dr. Anita Farber-Robertson

Anthem *Open the Window*, Elise Witt WUS Adult Choir

**Please rise in body or in spirit*

Reading

Ivan Correia

From *Seeing Us in Them, Social Divisions and the Politics of Empathy*,
by Cigdem Sirin, Nicholas Valentino, and José Villalobos

Second Reflection

“Sometimes They Aren't the Enemy”

Rev. Dr. Anita Farber-Robertson

Offering

This week's share-the-plate recipient is the non-profit organization: **Volunteer Ventures, MA (VVMA.)** VVMA's mission is to harness the energy and spirit of volunteers to create a more just, compassionate and equitable society through hands-on Service Projects to help people in need. Donations will support VVMA in its sponsorship of **WUS's own Intergenerational SOUP JAR #3 event scheduled for 3/22/26.** After just ONE DAY of sign-ups, we've already had 50 members and friends of our congregation who've said “YES, WE WANT TO PARTICIPATE” in this 3rd Annual Service Project! Many of our youngest kids, as well as our Teens, Parents, Adults, and Elders... all saying that they want to take action to address the problem of Food Insecurity in our local communities! No doubt many more people at WUS will choose our UU Values of JUSTICE, EQUITY, and GENEROSITY, all the while keeping LOVE at the CENTER, by volunteering at our SOUP JAR #3 event on Sunday, March 22nd. And YOU can be one of them! After the past TWO SUNDAYS of Share-The-Plate DONATIONS we are 2/3 of the way to funding this event in full. Hopefully we'll be able to reach our GOAL of MAKING 300 SOUP JARS to give to the Food Pantries at the Woburn Council of Social Concern and the En Ka Society. So please donate as generously as you can to make our SOUP JAR #3 EVENT a success, and SIGN-UP DURING COFFEE HOUR to join in the work and the fun of this event. For **“Soup is Justice and Justice is LOVE!”**

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

Winter Pastoral, Frank Bridge

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 #1008**

When Our Heart is in a Holy Place

Teal Hymnal

Benediction

St. Francis of Assisi

Postlude

Snowy Morning Blues, James P. Johnson

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: Pete & Joan Baldwin

Greeters: Clare Dingwell & Barbara Savage

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. Dr. Anita Farber-Robertson, *Guest Minister* ♦

John Kramer, *Director of Music* ♦ Ivan Correia, *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.

Music Notes:

The Children's Chorale brings us the lovely Bruno Mars song with the reminder that we embody resistance when we have each other to rely on. Elise Witt's interpretation of a Georgia Sea Island Spiritual describes many difficulties of human interaction with the reminder to "Open the window, let the dove fly in." Other service music is an homage to the winter we have been enduring.