

Welcome to Worship!

Winchester Unitarian Society · Sunday, May 3, 2026

May's Theme is "Awakening Curiosity"

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

Martin Newhouse

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

Sung Invocation

Let Me Believe that Love is Possible,
Rebekkah Goldsmith

WUS Children's and Youth Choir

Chalice Lighting

***Hymn #1003** *Where Do We Come From?* Teal Hymnal

First Reflection 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 “Blessed, Just by Being” by Cara Fortner

Kindling of the Light *Curious*, Mirai Lave
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 #352 *Find A Stillness* Gray Hymnal
Please remain seated

Reading excerpt from Curious by Ian Leslie

Anthem *The May Day Carol*, English song, arr. J. Epstein
WUS Adult Choir, Mary Cunningham,
Flute; Alison Kirschgasser, violin

**Please rise in body or in spirit*

Offering

This week’s share-the-plate recipient is **St. Mary’s Center**, a multi-service organization supporting women and families which believes shelter is not enough to erase the devastation of cyclical poverty and homelessness. Grounded in social justice, they empower families to achieve emotional stability and economic independence through our pillars of support: life skills, education and workforce development, behavioral health and family medicine, and permanent housing. St. Mary's Center provides a series of residential programs complimented by wrap-around support services across the housing continuum, supporting pathways out of poverty for hundreds of families experiencing homelessness each year.

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 *May, Pyotr Tchaikovsky*

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.

New Member Ceremony

Patty Cameron

Congregational Affirmation:

We welcome you with anticipation and joy. We hope you find here room to flourish in mind, body, and spirit. We accept you into our community as companions in the spiritual journey. We pledge to rejoice with you in times of happiness, to grieve with you in times of sorrow, and to share with you all the blessings of our free faith.

***Hymn #338**

I Seek the Spirit of a Child

Gray Hymnal

Benediction

Postlude

May Dance, Dave Holland

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 & Greeters: Sara Darrieulat, May Darrieulat, Kim Foley,
Joi Loewy, Victoria Ippolito, Sally Degan

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

Flower Dedication: *The altar flowers today are given by
Ginger Hanson "In memory of Catherine "Penny" Twomey Hanson
11/4/1943 - 2/10/2026".*

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.

Music Notes:

We celebrate May today along with curiosity. The anthem is an old English song that describes a traditional sharing of floral gifts on May first. We also hear about May from jazz legend Dave Holland and Pyotr Tchaikovsky, who elegantly describes the mercurial weather we are experiencing. Contemporary vocalist and song leader Rebekkah Goldsmith provides the sung invocation: "Let me believe that love is possible, let me remember the courage in my soul."