

Welcome to Worship!

Winchester Unitarian Society · Sunday, May 17, 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

"Kindness and kin have the same mother. Maybe making those to whom we are kind our kin. To whom, even, those we might be. And that circle is big." - Ross Gay

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

Milo Ippolito

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

Invocation

"An Elemental Blessing" by Stacey Elza

Sam Wilson

Chalice Lighting

by Oberlin UU Fellowship

Locke Elledge

*Hymn #346

Come, Sing a Song with Me

Gray Hymnal

**Please rise in body or in spirit*

First Reflection “Love Grows” by Rebecca Vernaglia & Riley Simpson
Diana Jaquinta, Caroline Bronski

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 “Spilling the Light” by Julián Soto Amelia Pellegrini

Kindling of the Light *Arabesque*, Claude Debussy Caroline Bronski
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 #123 *Spirit of Life* Gray Hymnal
Please remain seated

Senior Reflections Diana Jaquinta, Milo Ippolito

Offering Zhahira Crawford

This week’s share-the-plate recipient is the **Dwelling Place**. We will purchase food for the meals that we serve at the Dwelling Place, a soup kitchen which provides meals for approximately 50 guests on Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday nights at the United Methodist Church in Woburn. Winchester Unitarian Society plans and serves the meals on the fourth Saturday of every second month.

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

Unwritten by Natasha Beddingfield, arr. John Kramer
WUS Youth Group, Locke Elledge, bass

Affirmation of Shared Ministry

Maya Mulder

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.

Bridging

Rev. Seth Carrier-Ladd, Sam Wilson, Amelia Pellegrini

Seniors: We grew up in this congregation, a home that has welcomed us and
loved us as we are. Thank you for nurturing us and for helping us to form and
strengthen our identities. Thank you for creating the sacred space that gave us
so many friendships, deep connections, and meaningful moments in our lives.
Even as our bodies venture beyond this community, a part of our hearts will
always remain here.

Congregation: We cherish the gifts that you have shared during your time
here. We honor your dreams and your visions for who you will become. We
encourage you to hold your roots close to your hearts as we set you free to
spread your wings.

Young Adults: We welcome you with open arms into this next stage of your
lives. We know it is simultaneously exciting and terrifying, but we are here to
sway in these winds of change with you. We are with you as you embark on a
new journey beyond this community, spreading kindness and love like
wildflowers! Welcome to young adulthood!

***Hymn**

Seed of Hope

There's a seed of hope* in my soul,
A little seed of hope* in my soul.
Gonna tend it every day
So that it grows strong, oh this I pray,
Then that seed of hope* soon will bloom in my soul.
*grace, kindness, love

Benediction

Postlude

Three Flowers, McCoy Tyner

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: Lua Spencer, Lisa Spencer & Sally Degan

Greeters: Elias Jones & Joi Loewy

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 ♦ WUS Youth Group (WUSYG), *Worship Associates* ♦
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.