

Welcome to Worship!

Winchester Unitarian Society · Sunday, May 31, 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

*"To exist is to change, to change is to mature,
to mature is to go on creating oneself endlessly."*

– Henri Bergson

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

Sam Wilson

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

Invocation

Chalice Lighting

Lit by Phoebe Carrier-Ladd

*Hymn #1064

Blue Boat Home

Teal Hymnal

**Please rise in body or in spirit*

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.

Kindling of the Light *Prayer*, Eric Reed

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 #1007 *There's a River Flowin' in my Soul*

Teal Hymnal

Please remain seated

Offering

This week's share-the-plate recipient is **Strong Girls United Women (SGUW)**. SGUW is a small NGO working in Sierra Leone to promote women and girls through education and economic empowerment using community-led initiatives. SGUW's school-based health classes provide information on reproductive health, GBV and pregnancy prevention while creating a fun, safe space to build self-esteem and critical thinking skills. SGUW's economic empowerment program equips small holder, women farmers to improve and diversify staple crops like rice, corn, and okra, and to collectively cultivate pineapples for market sales. By increasing and stabilizing incomes, this program helps women-headed households afford school fees and access medical care, strengthening women farmers for long-term resilience and prosperity.

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

Wade in the Water, arr. Moses Hogan

WUS Adult Choir, Kirsten Hart, solo

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.

Introducing Cremos - Woyaya

*We are going, heaven knows where we are going
But we'll know we're there*

*And we will get there, heaven knows how we will get there
But we know we will. Woyaya, woyaya (2x)*

Credo Sharing

Alex Bronski, introduced by Devon McClurken

Kai McVey, introduced by Liz Black-Suchy

Elias Jones, introduced by John Grebe

Calvin Levering, introduced by Dan Spencer

Sung Response

*It will be hard, we know and the road will be muddy and rough
But we'll get there, heaven knows how we will get there
We know we will.*

Woyaya, woyaya.....(Repeat)

Charge from Minister

Coming of Age Ceremony

Congregational blessing:

We give thanks for the unique gift that is you, and we delight in who you are becoming.

Thank you for showing us more about love, beauty, creativity, resilience, and joy.

We offer you our care, and the gift of spiritual community.

We want to partner with you in making this world a more loving and just place for future generations.

Thank you for holding us accountable to our stated values and boldest dreams.

Thank you for reminding us to laugh, play, make art, and imagine what is not yet possible.

***Hymn #1028**

Fire of Commitment

Teal Hymnal

Benediction

Postlude

Exultation No. 6, John Kramer

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: Deb Wlash, Kim Foley, Lua & May

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* ♦
Sam Wilson, *Director of Youth and Children's Ministries* ♦ Brenna Mayer,
Children's Religious Education Coordinator ♦
Jason Tran, *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.