

Welcome to Worship!

Winchester Unitarian Society • Sunday, August 23 , 2026

Livestream Attendees: To notify our Tech Deck of a broadcast issue, email checkingin@winchesteruu.org or call the office 781.729.0949

Centering Thought

Filksongs and filksinging are the folk music of a time and a community, just as, say, Celtic ballads, or New England sea chanteys are — except the time is today (or tomorrow) and the community is science fiction and fantasy fandom. — Jordin Kare

Prelude

Fairy Dance, Edvard Grieg

Andrew Goodridge

Community Welcome Announcements, and Invitation to Greeting

Liz Lintz

In person attendees: Members of the congregation seated in the front pews will be briefly visible in the livestream. If you do not want to be seen, please sit in the back pews. 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

Opening Words

Worship Leader

Excerpt of *My Thousand Closest Friends* by Naomi Pardue

Chalice Lighting

Excerpt of *Hearthfire* by Ada Palmer

Liz Lintz

*Opening Song

Take It Back, by Kathleen Sloan

Gary McGath, Naomi Hinchén, Jesse Weinstein

Please join on the Chorus:

Take it back! Take it back!

Take back the right to sing and play

It will fill your heart, it will feed your soul

When you take back the right to sing and play!

**Please rise in body or in spirit*

First Reflection

The Kaiju Connection

Jesse Weinstein
& Gary McGath

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.

Joys and Sorrows *At this time, you are invited to come forward, light a candle, and share a joy or sorrow you carry within. Please note that, as this service is being livestreamed, it is available over the internet in the moment and as an archived recording. If anyone wishes to have a candle brought to them, please raise your hand.*

Silence

Hymn #1064

Blue Boat Home

Teal Hymnal

Please remain seated

Song

Ship of Stone, by Don Simpson
Gary McGath, Naomi Hinchey, Jesse Weinstein

Second Reflection

“Filk Music as an Expression of UU Values”
Jesse Weinstein

Offering

Liz Lintz

The offering is a spiritual practice, a collective affirmation of our shared values and commitment to the mission of this liberal religious congregation.

Whether attending in person or via livestream, you are welcome to donate electronically. **Text (781) 230-6690** or visit www.tinyurl.com/wusgiveonline. Please write or type the date of your offering in the memo line or comment field.



Offertory

Theme from Jurassic Park,
John Williams

Andrew Goodridge

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.

***Closing Song**

Acts of Creation, by Cat Faber

Please join on the Chorus:

You can tell it on the mountain, in the valley far below,
But you needn't tell the craftsmen what they already know,
From the author at her keyboard, to the woodwright at his lathe
Every act of creation is an act of faith!

Closing Words

Jesse Weinstein

Postlude

Puck, Edvard Grieg

Andrew Goodridge

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.

All are welcome to join an in-person conversation about today's service in the
Parlor at 11:30 a.m.

Serving Today

Jesse Weinstein, *Worship Leader* ♦ Gary McGath & Naomi Hinchey, *Guest Musicians* ♦ Andrew Goodridge, *Guest Pianist* ♦
Liz Lintz, *Worship Associate* ♦ Ava Hjorth, *Livestream Coordinator*

WUS Standing Committee (Governing Board) Members

Kim Foley, Chair (2028), Lee Barton, Vice-Chair (2029),
John Keller (2027), Gordon McIntosh (2027), Marcy Tompson (2027), Liz Scott
(2028), Matt Wilson (2028), Ryan Levering (2029),
Becky McVey (2029), Ginger Hanson (Clerk),
Judy Murray & Chris Weigand (Co-Treasurers).
Contact your Standing Committee via SC@winchesteruu.org