

Welcome to Worship!

Winchester Unitarian Society · Sunday, September 20, 2026

September's Theme is "Beginnings"

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

"Most people do not really want freedom, because freedom involves responsibility, and most people are frightened of responsibility."
— Sigmund Freud

Gathering Music

John Kramer

Invitation to Greeting

Rev. Seth Carrier-Ladd

*In person attendees: Note that the congregation is periodically visible in the livestream. If you do not want to be seen, please sit in the marked section of pews that do not appear on camera. **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

Marcy Tompson

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

Invocation

"The Right to Choose" by Elizabeth Barish Browne

Chalice Lighting

Ira

*Hymn #217

O Sing Hallelujah

Gray Hymnal

**Please rise in body or in spirit*

Time for All Ages

Stinky Potato

Brenna Mayer

Religious Education Teacher Blessing

Brenna Mayer & Sam Wilson

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.

Teacher Testimonial

Lisa Spencer

Meditation "I Want to Be Better" by Howard Thurman

Kindling of the Light *Stand a Little Taller on Yom Kippur*, Ben Winkelstein
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 #1037 *We Begin Again in Love*
Please remain seated

Teal Hymnal

Anthem *Elohim Hashivenu*, Salamone Rossi WUS Adult Choir
"O God, restore us, and cause Your face to shine,
and we shall be saved."

Sermon "Beginning to Take Responsibility" Rev. Seth Carrier-Ladd

Offering

This week's share-the-plate recipient is **Beyond Bond & Legal Defense Fund (Bond Fund)**. The Bond Fund raises money to pay immigration bonds to free people in ICE prisons in Massachusetts and Rhode Island, or those detained elsewhere who are from or returning to MA. It is a project of the Boston Immigration Justice Accompaniment Network, or BIJAN. BIJAN trains volunteers to accompany immigrants to court hearings, in order to provide witness to the justice system and support to immigrants who are often left to navigate the legal process alone. The fund has been depleted over the summer with the continued ICE raids in Mass. Let's help free more of our neighbors and immigrants so they can see their families, return to their jobs and the safety of their homes while their legal process is pending.

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 *Kol Nidre*, Louis Lewandowski
(The ancient *Kol Nidre* opens the Yom Kippur evening service)

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 #1011**

Return Again

Teal Hymnal

Benediction

Postlude

Return Again

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: Sue Doubler, Phil Coonley & Marilyn Mullane

Greeters: Lindy Brown & Sheila Puffer

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. Seth Carrier-Ladd, *Interim Minister* ♦ John Kramer, *Director of Music* ♦
Marcy Tompson, *Worship Associate* ♦ 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

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

Music Notes:

We honor the Jewish High Holy days with music from two notable figures in Jewish liturgical music: the Renaissance composer Salamone Rossi (1570-1630) and the Romantic composer Louis Lewandowski (1821-1894).