

**Winchester Unitarian Society**  
Order of Service  
**September 20, 2020**

**Centering Thought**

“The term ‘liminal’ comes from the Latin word *limen*, meaning *threshold*. We all need to consciously spend time at the thresholds of our lives...Liminality is a form of holding the tension between one space and another. It is in these transitional moments of our lives that authentic transformation can happen.” –

Richard Rohr

**Community Announcements**

The Rev. Heather Janules

- **An Order-of-Service Experiment Coming.** As many congregations have integrated order-of-service information into their virtual services, they have eliminated paper printouts. So, for the month of September, we will have an order-of-service available as usual but will structure the service so you may not need it. Try attending worship without using the order-of-service and tell us what works well and what does not work well. Thank you!
- **Chalice Images and Short Videos Needed:** Thank you for the flower images...We will be set for the season! But we wish to refresh our images for "Kindling of the Light" in on-line worship. Please send your images and short videos of you kindling your chalice at home to Director of Music John Kramer at [john.kramer@winchesteruu.org](mailto:john.kramer@winchesteruu.org)
- **Outdoor Open Office Hours:** As of September 3<sup>rd</sup>, Rev. Heather is offering outdoor open office hours from noon until 2pm (weather permitting) in the Meditation Garden on Thursdays. Come to say hello, to share something on your heart and mind or to greet other members and friends of WUS. Masks required; distance protocols will be followed. If the weather doesn't look great, call the office first to confirm that the outdoor office is open for business – 781.729.0949. We will offer outdoor office hours until winter temperatures begin.
- **What We Owe To Each Other: Discussions on "The Good Place"** ANOTHER Six Session Series: Every Friday Night from 7-9pm As of September 18<sup>th</sup> Not every television show touches on human morality, philosophy and the afterlife. Nor does every program include unforgettable and sometimes irreverent characters. But The Good Place offers all these things, exploring ancient spiritual questions with a light heart...This past Spring, a number of WUS community members and friends watched and discussed Season 1 together. We had so much fun, we did an "independent study" of Season 2 over the summer and will soon watch Season 3 again as a class. If you watch the first two seasons first, you are welcome to join us for Season 3! Through an on-line format, we will watch two short episodes in real time and then share our thoughts, reactions and ideas with one another. Let Rev. Heather know if you wish to participate: [heather.janules@winchesteruu.org](mailto:heather.janules@winchesteruu.org)
- **WUS Writing Group** Please feel free to come to the WUS Writing Group on every Wednesday from now until September 30<sup>th</sup>. Meetings will take place over Zoom starting at 9 AM. The exact format and focus of the group will be discussed and determined each week based on how the attendee writers wish to spend the time. No writing experience is necessary – just a desire to write. We look forward to “seeing” you! For more information and the link for the meeting contact Dan [[HERE](#)].
- **A PRESENTATION from the YES ON 2 CAMPAIGN - MONDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2020 - 7 PM on Zoom.** [REGISTER HERE](#) - HOSTED BY: [Social Action and Outreach Committee of the Winchester Unitarian Society](#) with the following Co-Sponsors: [Mystic Valley Area Branch](#), [NAACP](#), [League of Women Voters of Winchester](#), [Network for Social Justice](#), and others TBA. - Learn More And Help To Bring Ranked Choice Voting to Massachusetts!
- **Covenant Groups, Affinity Groups, Connections to be made and deepened?** . We would like to hear from you, if you are interested in joining a **covenant group or an affinity group**. Covenant groups usually meet monthly and engage with spiritual reflection materials. Affinity groups are organized

around a shared interest or circumstance. Let us know **a)** if you would like to join or move to another covenant group or **b)** if you are interested in affiliating with like minded people. Questions or? Please reach out to Rebecca at [Rebecca@winchesteruu.org](mailto:Rebecca@winchesteruu.org) and let us know what your interests are.

- **The Soul Matters Covenant Group Seeks More Participants:** This covenant group, meeting the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday evening of the month, is part of the WUS small group ministry program. It explores the monthly themes and utilizes a packet of materials that invites participants into related spiritual practices, personal reflection and engagement with quotes, films and music to further enhance our experience. Group meetings - now on-line - are led through rotating facilitators. Our seven-person group has room for more and Fall is the perfect time to join! If newcomers are willing to commit, the on-line format allows us to welcome people from beyond the local area. Contact Rev. Heather to learn more: [heather.janules@winchesteruu.org](mailto:heather.janules@winchesteruu.org)

### Gathering Music

John Kramer

### Community Welcome

James Pidacks, Standing Committee Co-Chair

**Whole Community Greeting and Good News Roundup** Use the “chat” function to greet others in worship and, if you have especially good news, to share it!. Our Chat Covenant: we only write things we would say in person in the sanctuary.

**Ringing of the Bell Ringing of the Bell** *Today we are called back to worship by the ringing of the bells at our Partner Church in Marosvásárhely, Transylvania on Easter morning.*

### Gratitude and Community Poll/Pulse Check

Heather Janules

### Invocation

by George Kimmich Beach

Heather Janules

### Chalice Lighting

by Amy Carol Webb

Stephen Perepeluk

*If you wish to do so, please read together the words for our chalice lighting and light a chalice at home as we light the chalice.*

We light this flame  
For the art of sacred unknowing.  
Humbled by all that we cannot fathom in this time,  
We come into the presence of what we do know,  
Perhaps the only thing we can ever know:  
That Love is now and forever  
The only answer to everything  
And everyone  
In every moment.

### Hymn # 118

*This Little Light of Mine*

### First Reflection

*Blessing of the Screens*

Rebecca Kelley-Morgan

### Blessing

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** Including words by the Rev. Dr. Jacqui Lewis Heather Janules

**Kindling of the Light** *Liminal Spaces* Simon Legault  
*You are invited to now light a candle of joy, sorrow or concern.*

### Silence

**Hymn # 123** *Spirit of Life*

**Second Reflection** *Sacred Liminality* Heather Janules

### Offering

This morning, we share our gifts with the **Council for Social Concern** our local food pantry, responding to the increased demand for food related to altered school schedules and lost wages during the pandemic.

You may donate through the smartphone app Give+, through PayPal (<https://www.paypal.com/paypalme/winchesteruu>) or by mailing a check to WUS, 478 Main Street, Winchester, MA 01890. Please write or type the date of your offering in the memo line or comment field. Note that contributing soon in lieu of one lump sum for a period of time is easier to process and empowers us to send our collective gift as soon as possible.

Our practice is to invite first-time worship attendees to be our guests. In lieu of a contribution, please complete the Virtual Visitor Card: <https://tinyurl.com/WUSVirVisCard> so we can stay connected beyond this Sunday.

**Offertory** *Autumn Song* Alexander Gretchaninoff

**Affirmation of Shared Ministry** *Those who wish to do so are invited to join in reading together the community 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 # 295** *Sing Out Praises For the Journey*

**Benediction** by Margaret Renkl

**Postlude** *Lullaby of the Leaves* Bernice Petkere

**Extinguishing the Chalice** *Please join us in reading together the words for extinguishing our 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.

**Join the Chat!**

### **Questions for Reflection**

What has been a time in your life that you would call “liminal?”

How did you grow or change in that chapter?

How do you lead when you don’t know where you are going?

How might you approach this pandemic time as a time of potential personal transformation?

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### **Serving Today**

Pastoral Care Associate: Kim Foley - 339-227-0216

Special thanks to Tyson Kamikawa for serving as Video Coordinator

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*This is a Welcoming Congregation, intentionally welcoming  
and affirming of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender people.*

*Each worship service includes wisdom or an artistic  
gift from people or communities-of-color.*

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