

Welcome to Worship!

Winchester Unitarian Society · October 17, 2021 · October's Theme is "Cultivating Relationship"
An All Community Invocation Sunday

Centering Thought

"Theology is not only about understanding the world; it is about mending the world." – Miroslav Volf

Gathering Music

John Kramer

Invitation to Greeting

The Rev. Heather Janules

Ringing of the Bell *We are called back to worship by the ringing of the bell from our Partner Church in Marosvásárhely, Transylvania*

Opening Words

by Amy Bowden Freedman

Heather Janules

Hymn #346 *

Come, Sing a Song With Me

Come, sing a song with me,
come, sing a song with me,
come, sing a song with me,
that I might know your mind.

Come, dream a dream with me...

(Chorus)

Come, walk in rain with me...

(Chorus)

(Chorus)

And I'll bring you hope
when hope is hard to find,
and I'll bring a song of love
and a rose in the wintertime.

Come, share a rose with me...

(Chorus)

First Reflection and Chalice Lighting

"What's Inside?"

Heather Janules

Chalice lit by Jeremiah Fowler and Naomi Magnoni
Words of Dedication by Adrian Graham (Adapted)

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.

Community Welcome and Announcements

Marcy Tompson

Meditation

"Notes on Survival" by Nikita Gill

Heather Janules

Kindling of the Light

October (Autumn Song), Pyotr Tchaikovsky

John Kramer

For those in the Sanctuary, if you would like a candle brought to you, please raise your hand.

Silence

Anthem

Choose Something Like a Star, Randall Thompson

John Kramer

Second Reflection

"The Spirituality of Mending and Making Do"

Heather Janules

To learn more about the local Repair Café, visit: <https://www.repaircafewin.com/news>

*Please rise in body or in spirit

Offering

Marcy Tompson

This morning, we Share the Plate with **Mission of Deeds**, a local organization providing “beds, furniture, and household items, free of charge, to people in need.” Mission of Deeds receives no public funding so it is up to generous individuals and congregations to make their life-giving work possible.

Those in the sanctuary are also welcome to donate electronically. **Text (781) 230-6690** or visit <https://www.winchesteruu.org/giving/how-to-give/> 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.

Offertory*Reflections*, Thelonious Monk

John Kramer

Affirmation of Shared Ministry

Marcy Tompson

Those who wish to do so are invited to read together the Affirmation of Shared Ministry:

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 #10**Immortal Love***Benediction**

by Kendyl Gibbons

Postlude*Toccata*, John Kramer**Extinguishing the Chalice**

Marcy Tompson

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.

In-person attendees who have mobility challenges and wish to join Coffee Hour on the Bell Tower Terrace are invited to exit the building via the Main Street door, use the ramp and move to the Terrace via the connecting path. Livestreaming attendees are welcome to join Virtual Social Hour by logging on to www.tinyurl.com/WUSworship

The flowers are dedicated in memory of S. (Sam) Berliner III by his family and loved ones.

Serving Today

The Rev. Heather Janules, Minister · Marcy Tompson Worship Associate ·
John Kramer, Director of Music · Sean Yun and Alex Boskovic, Livestream Coordinators

Ushers and Greeters: Sophia Sid, Marilyn Mullane, Phil Coonley, and Kim Foley

The Sunday Pastoral Care Associate is available to those wanting to share a personal concern with an attentive listener. Today's Pastoral Care Associate is Donna Reed - 781-626-1785

Music Notes

The Russian composer Tchaikovsky wrote a set of pieces called *The Seasons*, with one gem for each month of the year. *October* captures the darkening spirit of the season as does its accompanying inscription penned by Tolstoy: “Autumn, our poor garden is all falling down, the yellowed leaves are flying in the wind.”

Our anthem this morning is the beautiful setting of the Robert Frost poem *Choose Something Like a Star*, published in 1947. It is part of a larger collection of Frost settings titled *Frostiana*.

O Star (the fairest one in sight),/ We grant your loftiness the right/ To some obscurity of cloud—/It will not do to say of night,/ Since dark is what brings out your light./ Some mystery becomes the proud./ But to be wholly taciturn/ In your reserve is not allowed./ Say something to us we can learn/ By heart and when alone repeat./ Say something! And it says, 'I burn.'/ But say with what degree of heat./ Talk Fahrenheit, talk Centigrade./ Use language we can comprehend./ Tell us what elements you blend./ It gives us strangely little aid,/ But does tell something in the end./And steadfast as Keats ' Eremite,/ Not even stooping from its sphere,/ It asks a little of us here./ It asks of us a certain height,/ So when at times the mob is swayed/ To carry praise or blame too far,/ We may choose something like a star/ To stay our minds on and be staid.

As part of our commitment to racial justice, each worship service includes wisdom or an artistic gift from people or communities-of-color.