

Welcome to Worship!

Winchester Unitarian Society · Sunday, Date February 13, 2022

February's Theme is Widening the Circle

Centering Thought

"The Dead Sea in the Middle East receives fresh water, but it has no outlet, so it doesn't pass the water out. It receives beautiful water from the rivers, and the water goes dank. I mean, it just goes bad. And that's why it is the Dead Sea. It receives and does not give. In the end generosity is the best way of becoming more, more, and more joyful." — Desmond Tutu

Gathering Music *Meditation No. 9* John Kramer

Invitation to Greeting Rev. Hank Peirce
Note that during this time, 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.

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

Community Welcome and Announcements Marcy Tompson
General Intro of choice by worship associate

Invocation By Rev. Tom Schade Rev. Hank Peirce

First Reflection and Chalice Lighting by Edna St. Vincent Millay Rev. Hank Peirce

Prayer by Nancee Campbell Rev. Hank Peirce

Kindling of the Light *Intermezzo in A Major, Johannes Brahms*
For those in the Sanctuary, if you would like a candle brought to you, please raise your hand.

Silence

***Hymn #86** Blessed Spirit of My Life

Message Member of the 2022 Pledge Team

Second Reflection A Sermon on the Amount Rev. Hank Peirce

Offering Marcy Tompson
This morning, we share our gifts with The **UU Urban Ministry** which has continued its work in Boston for nearly 200 years by facing the moment we are in, summoning the resources to address it, and convening people to work together to make change. We work across race and place to dismantle racism and white supremacy culture and to advance racial, social, and economic justice. Because we envision a Greater Boston where all people live with freedom and dignity, and have equitable access to resources and opportunity to shape the present and the future.

**Please rise in body or in spirit*

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.

If you are visiting for the first time, we invite you to be our guest. The most valuable thing you can offer is your completed visitor information card so we can stay connected beyond this Sunday. Those in the Sanctuary may find blank cards in the pew rack in front of you and put your completed card in the plate. Online visitors can fill out the virtual visitor card here: <https://tinyurl.com/WUSVirVisCard>

Offertory *i carry your heart*, John Duke Brendan Buckley, Tenor

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.

Benediction by W. E. B. Du Bois

Postlude *Draw the Circle Wide*, Mark Miller WUS Adult Choir

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.

This service has ended but our life of service continues.

Livestreaming attendees are welcome to join Virtual Social Hour
by logging on to www.tinyurl.com/WUSworship

Serving Today

Rev. Hank Peirce, Minister or Preacher · Marcy Tompson, Worship Associate
John Kramer, Director of Music · Sean Yun, Livestream Coordinator

If you experience any technical issues with the livestream, please contact the livestream coordinator at wusstreaming@gmail.com

Ushers and Greeters: Susan Woodward, Barbara Keyes

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

Music Notes

We have a few songs about love on this Sunday before Valentine's Day. Much has been written about the love triangle between the composers Johannes Brahms, Robert Schumann and Schumann's wife, the famous pianist Clara Schumann. Brahms dedicated his Op. 118 collection of piano pieces, of which the Intermezzo is the 2nd of 6 works, to Clara as a token of his love.

● For the Offertory, we hear the lovely setting by American composer John Duke of the e.e. cummings poem *i carry your heart*. ● This month's worship theme is "Widening the Circle" so it only makes sense to close with the uplifting anthem *Draw the Circle Wide*.

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