

Welcome to Worship!
Winchester Unitarian Society · Sunday, February 27, 2022
February's Theme is Widening the Circle

Centering Thought

"The time for healing of the wounds has come. The time to build is upon us... We pledge ourselves to liberate all people from the continuing bondage of poverty, deprivation, suffering, gender and other discrimination... There is no easy road to freedom... None of us acting alone can achieve success. We must therefore act together as a united people, for reconciliation, for nation building, for the birth of a new world." -Nelson Mandela

Gathering Music John Kramer

Invitation to Greeting Marcy Tompson
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

Invocation from In Our Circle Again by Shari Woodbury Marcy Tompson

Chalice Lighting by Sara Eileen LaWall Marcy Tompson

***Hymn 128** For All That is Our Life

First Reflection There's No Such Thing as a Dragon, by Jack Kemp as told by CB Beal

Musical Interlude

Meditation With That Moon Language by Hafiz CB Beal

Kindling of the Light *African Flower*, Duke Ellington John Kramer
For those in the Sanctuary, if you would like a candle brought to you, please raise your hand.

Silence

Anthem *Go Down 'n the Valley and Pray!*, Arr. André Thomas

Reading "Bear Witness, Save Lives. Some Instruction." CB Beal

Second Reflection "Preemptive Radical Inclusion" CB Beal

Offering Marcy Tompson
This morning, we share our gifts with the **Mystic Valley Branch of the NAACP**, who since 1977 have fought for equality, civil rights, and community support within the Mystic Valley Area! Our vision is to ensure a society in which all individuals have equal rights and there is no racial hatred or racial discrimination.

**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 *Peace*, Horace Silver John Kramer

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 Manish Mishra-Marzetti Marcy Tompson

Postlude *Troubled Waters*, Margaret Bonds 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.

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

CB Beal, Guest 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

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

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

Music Notes

In this last Sunday of Black History Month, we feature some music by African American composers. For the Kindling music we witness the lovely *African Flower* by the master jazz composer and pianist Duke Ellington (1899-1974). The Anthem is an arrangement of the spiritual *Go Down 'n the Valley and Pray!* by André Thomas (b. 1952). Horace Silver (1928-2014) gives us the chance to pray for peace in this time of war. And we close with the profound setting of *Wade in the Water* by Margaret Bonds (1913-1972).