

## Welcome to Worship!

Winchester Unitarian Society · Sunday, March 13, 2022

### March's Theme is "Renewing Faith"

#### Centering Thought

*The faith of a church or of a nation is an adequate faith only when it inspires and enables people to give of their time and energy to shape the various institutions -- social, economic, and political -- of the common life. - Rev. James Luther Adams*

#### Gathering Music

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*

**Ringing 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

#### Invocation

by Rumi

Phil Coonley

#### Chalice Lighting

by Robert Kennedy

Rev. Hank Peirce

#### First Reflection

#### \*Hymn #188

Come, Come, Whoever you Are

#### Prayer

Rev. Hank Peirce

#### Kindling of the Light

Peace Piece, Bill Evans

John Kramer

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

#### Silence

#### Anthem

Amazing Gratitude, Hal Walker

WUS Choir

#### Words from the Nominating Committee

#### Committee Reflections

Music Committee, Youth Advisory Committee, Social Action & Outreach Committee, Membership Committee, and Standing Committee

#### Personal Reflections

George Wood, Susan Woodward, John Russell

#### Reading

Long-Haul People by Rev. Rudy Nemser

Marilyn Mullane

*\*Please rise in body or in spirit*

## Offering

Rev. Hank Peirce

This morning, we share our gifts with **International Women's Convocation and the Partner Church Program** - Romania is opening its doors and hearts for those fleeing from Ukraine. As of February 28, 2022, more than 67,000 Ukrainians have found refuge in Romania. In Transylvania, refugees enter through two border points about 110 miles from the headquarters of the Hungarian Unitarian Church. We are joining the appeal for humanitarian aid issued by the Providence Charity Organization of the Hungarian Unitarian Church. Your donation will help provide women and families immediate aid, such as transportation from the border, emergency shelter, food, water, hygiene kits, infant supplies, clothing, pet care, and psychological support.

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

Mazurka in A minor, Frédéric Chopin

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.

## \*Hymn #360

Here We Have Gathered

## Benediction

## Postlude

Walk to School, Philip Glass & Paul Leonard-Morgan

John Kramer

## 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.

This service has ended but our life of service continues.

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*\*Please rise in body or in spirit*

Livestreaming attendees are welcome to join Virtual Social Hour  
by logging on to [www.tinyurl.com/WUSworship](http://www.tinyurl.com/WUSworship)

**Serving Today**

Marilyn Mullane, Phil Coonley, Fritzie Nace, Nominating Committee

Rev. Hank Peirce, Worship Associate

John Kramer, Director of Music · Alex Boskovic, Livestream Coordinator

If you experience any technical issues with the livestream, please contact the livestream  
coordinator at [wusstreaming@gmail.com](mailto:wusstreaming@gmail.com)

Ushers and Greeters: Sophia Sid, Claire McNeill, Kathy Richardson

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

*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:**

The music this morning is offered as a prayer for the people in Ukraine and all those affected by war. The very elegant and moving *Peace Piece* perhaps needs no explanation. I offer the Chopin *Mazurka* in honor of all the refugees moving out of Ukraine, many into Poland, where Chopin was born. We should also remember that Chopin was a refugee himself, unable to return to his home country after the failed Polish uprising of 1830-31 because he refused to take a Russian passport. The Tsar would later ban Chopin's music in Poland. As the Russian forces advanced on Kharkiv, a reporter captured a young pianist playing the hauntingly beautiful *Walk to School* in a hotel lobby there. In solidarity, I present this piece as the postlude.

The Anthem is a delightful piece describing the many ways church "builds the path of love", "picks up the fallen," and "holds the lost and found." For that, we have *Amazing Gratitude*. Hal Walker is the Music Director of the UU church in Kent, Ohio.