

Welcome to Worship!
Winchester Unitarian Society · Sunday, March 27, 2022
March's Theme is "Renewing Faith"

Centering Thought

"We are part of a great quilt, *arpillera*, bound together by love. Our beautiful patterns, colors, and textures are made strong by visible stitches: The work we do together on the Side of Love."

Gathering Music

John Kramer

Invitation to Greeting

Rev. Maria Cristina Vlassidis

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

Stephen Perepeluk

Invocation

By Rev. Richard Gilbert

Rev. Maria Cristina Vlassidis

Chalice Lighting

words by Elizabeth Tarbox, Adapted.

Rev. Maria Cristina Vlassidis

***Hymn #131**

Love Will Guide Us

Meditation

Rev. Maria Cristina Vlassidis

Kindling of the Light

O God of Love - John Corigliano

John Kramer

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

Silence

**Please rise in body or in spirit*

***Hymn**

There Is A Love

*There is a Love holding me, There is a Love holding all that I love.
There is a Love holding all. I rest in this Love.*

*There is a Love holding us. There is a Love holding all that we love.
There is a Love holding all. We rest in this Love.*

-Elizabeth Norton/Rebecca Parker

Second Reflection

Love Is My Religion

Rev. Maria Cristina Vlassidis

Offering

Stephen Perepeluk

This morning, we share our gifts with **The Trevor Project**.

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

Ubi Caritas

Maurice Duruflé WUS Adult Choir

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

Rev. Maria Cristina Vlassidis

**Please rise in body or in spirit*

Postlude

Exultation No. 1

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.

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

Serving Today

Rev. Maria Cristina Vlassidis, Minister or Preacher · Stephen Perepeluk, 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: Sophia Sid, Vicky Coccoluto

The Sunday Pastoral Care Associate is available to those wanting to share a personal concern with an attentive listener. Today's PCA is Carol Delaney– (781) 507-3366

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:

American composer John Corigliano (b. 1938) gives us the wonderfully warm *O God of Love* from his opera *The Ghosts of Versailles*. It is arranged for organ by Richard Dirksen. French composer Maurice Duruflé (1902-1986) sets the ancient Latin prayer *Ubi Caritas* as part of a collection of four motets. “Where charity and love are, God is there...” And we close with a bit of joy and hope for more love in the world through my *Exultation No. 1*.