

Welcome to Worship!

Winchester Unitarian Society · Sunday, June 5, 2022

June's Theme is "Celebrating Blessings"

Centering Thought

"A blessing is not something that one person gives another. A blessing is a moment of meeting, a certain kind of relationship in which both people involved remember and acknowledge their true nature and worth and strengthen what is whole in one another." - Rachel Naomi Remen

Gathering Music

John Kramer

Invitation to Greeting

The Rev. Heather Janules

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

Marcy Tompson

Invocation

by Maureen Killoran (Abridged)

Heather Janules

Chalice Lighting

by Robin Wall Kimmerer

Hymn #126

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

Meditation

"Invitation" by Mary Oliver

Heather Janules

Kindling of the Light

Elegy, John Kramer

John Kramer

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

Silence

Hymn # 123

Spirit of Life

Please remain seated

Reading

by Fr. Gregory Boyle, from *Tattoos on the Heart: The Power of Boundless Compassion*
Marcy Thompson

Anthem

A Gaelic Blessing, John Rutter

WUS Adult Choir

Reflection

"The Democracy of Blessings"

Heather Janules

**Please rise in body or in spirit*

Offering

Marcy Thompson

As we begin Pride Month, this morning's Share the Plate will benefit **SpeakOut Boston**, "a community of speakers working to create a world free of homo-bi-transphobia and other forms of prejudice by telling the truths of our lives."

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

His Blessing, McCoy Tyner

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.

Dedication

Congregation Affirmation: We give thanks for the gifts of this community - a donation in the name of inclusion and commitment of time and talent for the common good. As our building returns to its mission as a physical gathering space, blessed be this place, its leaders and benefactors and its people, within and beyond the congregation.

Blessed be the bathroom

Benediction

by Nadia Bolz-Weber (Abridged)

Postlude

Blessings of Life, John Kramer

WUS Adult Choir

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.

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

Serving Today

The Rev. Heather Janules, Minister · Marcy Thompson, Worship Associate
John Kramer, Director of Music · Alex Boscovic, Livestream Coordinator

Ushers and Greeters: Gordy McIntosh, Sophia Sid, Liz Lintz

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:

As we continue to mourn the victims of the tragedy in Uvaldi, Texas, I am reprising my *Elegy*, first written in response to the tragedy at the Sandy Hook elementary school. May we find our way out of this violence. ♦ The other service music explores blessings: English composer John Rutter sets the text from an old Gaelic rune for our anthem, and I have set an anonymous text for our postlude. ♦ *His Blessing* is from jazz legend McCoy Tyner's 1970 album *Extensions*.