

## Welcome to Worship!

Winchester Unitarian Society · Sunday, July 24, 2022

### Centering Thought

“Father Abraham  
Sittin’ beside the Holy Lamb ‘  
Way up on the mountain top;  
My Lord spoke and the chariot stop!”  
African-American Spiritual

**Gathering Music** Prelude, by Nathaniel Dett John Kramer

**Community Welcome and Announcements** Marcy Tompson

**Community Greeting** *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*

**Chalice Lighting** Open to Unexpected Answers, by Julianne Lepp

We seek our place in the world  
and the answers to our hearts’ deep questions.  
As we seek, may our hearts be open to unexpected answers.  
May the light of our chalice remind us that this is a community of warmth,  
of wisdom,  
and welcoming of multiple truths.

**Introduction to the 8 Bible Vignettes by Nathaniel Dett** John Kramer

**\*Hymn #215** Praise to the Living God

**8 Bible Vignettes, Part I** John Kramer  
**1. Father Abraham**  
**2. Desert Interlude**  
**3. As His Own Soul**

*\*Please rise in body or in spirit*

**Joys and Sorrows** *At this time, you are invited to come forward, light a candle and share a joy or sorrow you carry within. Please note that as this service is being livestreamed, it is available over the internet in the moment and as an archived recording.*

**Silence**

**Hymn #86**

*Blessed Spirit of my life*

*Please remain seated*

**Offering**

Marcy Thompson

The offering is a spiritual practice, a collective affirmation of our shared values and commitment to the mission of this liberal religious congregation. Here are the different ways you can donate to the Winchester Unitarian Society.

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**

#4. Barcarolle of Tears, by Nathaniel Dett

**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.

**8 Bible Vignettes, Part II**

**5. I Am the True Vine**

**6. Martha Complained**

**7. Other Sheep**

**Benediction/Postlude #8. Madrigal Divine**, including a reading of Psalm 23

**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.

**Join the Chat!** Please join us at **Noon**, in-person- in the parlor and remotely via Zoom at:

[www.tinyurl.com/wusworship](http://www.tinyurl.com/wusworship)

We are now able to have post-service meetings using the “OWL” camera that will allow remote participants to be present in the parlor and aware of and able to discuss as a group and visit.

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**Serving Today**

Peter McEntee, Worship Associate

John Kramer, Director of Music, Marcy Thompson, Worship Associate

Ava Hjorth, Livestream Coordinator

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