

Welcome to Worship!

Winchester Unitarian Society · Sunday, August 7th, 2022

Centering Thought

“I come to church—and would whether I was a preacher or not—because I fall below my own standards and need to be constantly brought back to them...We meet each other as friends and neighbors anywhere and everywhere, but we seldom do so in the consciousness of our souls’ deepest yearnings. But in church we do—in a way that protects us from all that is intrusive, yet leaves us knowing that we all have the same yearning, the same spiritual loneliness, the same need of assurance and faith and hope. We are brought together at the highest level possible.

We are not merely an audience, we are a congregation.” – The Rev. A. Powell Davies

Gathering in Song

Led by Alison with Melissa Sky-Eagle, piano and the General Assembly Band: Michael Backus, guitar; John Wulcott, bass; Casey Anderson, drums

We Give Thanks

Please be seated

Wake Now My Senses

Siyahamba

Please rise in body or in spirit!

Rivers of Grace

Come and Go With Me

Community Welcome and Announcements

Stephen Perepeluk

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*

Opening Words

The Revs. Gretchen Haley, Shari Halliday-Quan, and Sean Neil-Barron

Anthem

The Storm is Passing Over Charles Albert Tindley/arr. Barbara W. Baker
Choral Direction by Alison King, with Melissa Sky-Eagle on piano

Testimonial and Chalice Lighting

Aimee, Mikyka'ela, Iyara and Rev. Joseph Santos-Lyons

First Reflection

“Partners” by Rabbi Marc Gellman

Original artwork by Steve Sedam; Narration by Michael Cruz;

Video animation by Elliot Cennamo

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.*

Spoken Word and Visual Reflection “Because Church”

The Rev. Sean Neil-Barron

Second Reflection

“The Deal on Those Days”

The Rev. Gretchen Haley

Offering

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

With a Little Help from My Friends

Lennon and McCartney

Adam Podd, piano and the GA Band

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

There is More Love Somewhere

Traditional,
Arrangement by Adam Podd

Benediction

The Rev. Gretchen Haley

Postlude

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

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.

Serving Today

Stephen Perepeluk, 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.