

Welcome to Worship!

Winchester Unitarian Society · Sunday, September 4, 2022

Centering Thought

“Don’t cling to a mistake just because you spent a lot of time making it.” – Anonymous

Gathering Music

Aria (from the Goldberg Variations)

J.S. Bach

Community Welcome and Announcements

Martin Newhouse

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

“When Prophecy Fails”

by Leon Festinger, Henry W. Riecken,
and Stanley Schachter

Chalice Lighting

*Hymn #298

Wake, now, my senses

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 rise in body or in spirit*

Reading

Testimony of Gabriel Sterling before the U.S. House Committee to Investigate the January 6th attack on the Capitol

Martin Newhouse

Reflection

The Open Mind and its Enemies

Lee Barton

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

Variation No. 25

J.S. Bach

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 #142**

Let There Be Light

**Please rise in body or in spirit*

Closing Words

“Cargo Cult” by Richard P. Feynman

Postlude

Variation No. 1

J.S. Bach

Note: WUS’s Parish Minister, Heather Janules, is listed in the choir credits. She planned to sing with the choir but some other events conflicted with rehearsal times. But she was in the congregation, singing with enthusiasm!

Extinguishing the Chalice

Martin Newhouse

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.

Serving Today

Lee Barton, Worship Leader · Martin Newhouse, Worship Associate
John Kramer, Music Director · Sean Yun & Jay Kwan, Livestream Coordinators

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