

Welcome to Worship!

Winchester Unitarian Society · Sunday, December 18, 2022

December's Theme is "Wonder"

WUS Standing Committee (Governing Board) Members

Vicky Coccoluto, Ivan Correia, Terry Currier, Terrill Levering (Clerk,
Gordy McIntosh (Co-Chair,) Claire McNeill, Fritzie Nace (Co-Chair,
Martin Newhouse, Brad Steele (Treasurer,) Marcy Tompson and
George "Woody" Wood

Contact your Standing Committee via SC@winchesteruu.org

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

Centering Thought

"For outlandish creatures like us... Bethlehem is not the end of our
journey but only the beginning—not home but the place through
which we must pass if ever we are to reach home at last."

- Frederick Buechner

John Kramer

Gathering Music

Invitation to Greeting

The Rev. Heather Janules

*In person attendees: Note that 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. Livestreamers: Please let us know who
you are and what's on your mind by sending an email to
checkingin@winchesteruu.org*

Ring 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

Martin Newhouse

You may also review weekly announcements at

www.tinyurl.com/WUShappenings

Invocation

By Shari Woodbury (Adapted)

Heather Janules

Chalice Lighting

By Lorenzo Bassman (Abridged)

*We kindle the Advent Candle this Sunday in celebration of Joy and
recognize tonight as the first night of Hanukkah.*

*Hymn

Go Tell it On the Mountain

See Insert

**Please rise in body or in spirit*

Offering

Martin Newhouse

This Sunday, we Share the Plate with the **Lexington Refugee Assistance Program (LexRAP)**, whose mission is “to support and to assist refugees and asylum seekers into American society. This assistance includes a support network for housing, food, clothing, transportation, health care, education (especially English), employment, legal aid, and socialization.”

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*Ocho Kandelikas, Flory Jagoda*

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.

The Paper Bag Pageant*See the insert for the carol lyrics*

***Hymn** *Away in a Manger*

***Hymn** *The First Noël*

***Hymn** *Angels We Have Heard on High*

HymnWe Three Kings****Hymn***O, Little Town of Bethlehem***Benediction**

By Maureen Killoran (Adapted)

Postlude*Linus and Lucy, Vince Guaraldi***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.

Flower Dedication: *This Sunday’s altar flowers are dedicated to the courage of all refugee families, as reflected in the story we retell today.*

Serving Today

Ushers and Greeters: Susan Woodward and Sophia Sid

The Sunday Pastoral Care Associate is available to those wanting to share a personal concern with an attentive listener.

Today’s PCA is Kim Foley @ 339-227-0216

John Kramer, *Director of Music* · Martin Newhouse, *Worship Associate* · Heather Janules, *Parish Minister* · Brenna Mayer, *Coordinator of Children’s Religious Education* · Jay Kwan, *Livestream Coordinator*

Go Tell It on the Mountain

(Chorus) Go tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere;
go tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born!

1 While shepherds kept their watching o'er silent flocks by night,
behold throughout the heavens there shone a holy light. (Chorus)

2 The shepherds feared and trembled when lo! above the earth
rang out the angel chorus that hailed the baby's birth. (Chorus)

3 Down in a lowly manger the humble babe was born,
and God sent us salvation that blessed Christmas morn. (Chorus)

Away in a Manger

Away in a manger no crib for a bed,
The little dear Jesus laid down His sweet head.
The stars in the bright sky looked down where He lay
The little dear Jesus asleep on the hay

The cattle are lowing the baby awakes
But little dear Jesus no crying he makes
I love You, dear Jesus look down from the sky
And stay by my side until morning is nigh

The First Nowell

1 The first Nowell the angel did say
was to certain poor shepherds, in fields as they lay,
in fields where they lay keeping their sheep,
on a cold winter's night that was so deep.

(Chorus) Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, born is the king of Israel.

2 They looked up and saw a star,
shining in the east beyond them far,
and to the earth it gave great light,
and so it continued both day and night. (Chorus)

Angels We Have Heard on High

1 Angels we have heard on high sweetly singing o'er the plains
and the mountains in reply echoing their joyous strains.

(Chorus) Gloria, in excelsis Deo. Gloria, in excelsis Deo.

2 Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why these songs of happy cheer?
What great brightness did you see? What glad tidings did you hear?
(Chorus)

We Three Kings of Orient Are

We three kings of Orient are; bearing gifts we traverse afar,
field and fountain, moor and mountain, following yonder star.

(Chorus) O Star of wonder, star of light, star, with royal beauty bright,
westward leading, still proceeding, guide us through this perfect night.

Born a babe on Bethlehem's plain, gifts we bring to crown him again,
love forever, ceasing never, in our hearts to reign. (Chorus)

O Little Town of Bethlehem

1 O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by;
yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light;
the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

2 For Christ is born of Mary, and gathered all above,
while mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of wondering love.
O morning stars, together proclaim the holy birth.
Let praises ring: from God they bring goodwill to all on earth.

3 How silently, how silently the wonder is made known,
when God imparts to human hearts the gift that is our own.
No ear may hear that coming, but in this worldly din,
when souls are truly humble, then the dear babe rests within.