

Flower Dedication: Today's altar flowers celebrate December 4th, National Cookie Day! Let's continue the celebration with the Greening Party after worship...

Serving Today

Ushers and Greeters: Susan Woodward, Marilyn Mullane, and Vicky Coccoluto

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

Today's PCA is Dennis Brett @ 781-729-7787

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

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.

Welcome to Worship!

Winchester Unitarian Society · Sunday, December 4, 2022

December's Theme is "Wonder"

Centering Thought

"There are only two ways to live your life.

One is as though nothing is a miracle.

The other is as though everything is a miracle."

- Albert Einstein

Gathering Music

John Kramer

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

Marcy Tompson

You may also review weekly announcements at

www.tinyurl.com/WUShappenings

Invocation by Daniel Chesney Kanter (Abridged) Heather Janules

Chalice Lighting From the song "Holy Now" (Adapted) by Peter Mayer

The Advent Wreath is lit this Sunday in Affirmation of Hope

***Hymn #226**

People, Look East

Gray Hymnal

**Please rise in body or in spirit*

First Reflection *The O in Hope* Brenna Mayer

Blessing *The Light Within* John Kramer
As children and teachers leave for Religious Education, the community is invited to sing them on their way!

May the light within you shine before you, everyday, everyday.
May the light within you shine before you, guide your way, guide your way.
May the love we share surround you and chase your fears away.
May the light within you shine before you, this we pray, this we pray.

At this point, those remaining in the Sanctuary may gather "mask optional." Those wishing to sit among people wearing masks may join the Choir in the first few rows.

Meditation "Wild Geese" by Wendell Berry Heather Janules

Kindling of the Light *Prelude #13* Dmitri Shostakovich
For those in the Sanctuary, if you would like a candle brought to you, please raise your hand.

Silence

Hymn #241 *In the Bleak Midwinter* Gray Hymnal
Please remain seated

Reading "By Robin Wall Kimmerer" from Jack Kornfield

Anthem *Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming* by Michael Praetorius

Second Reflection "Magic Everywhere" Heather Janules

Offering Marcy Tompson

This morning, we share our offering gifts with **Brio Integrated Theatre**, a local organization providing arts internships to interns of all abilities, free community workshops, ASL classes and "creative projects that educate and empower."

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 *Es ist ein Ros' entsprungen*, Johannes Brahms

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* Gray Hymnal

Benediction by Valarie Kaur (Adapted)

Postlude *The Magician in You*, Keith Jarrett

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.