

***Hymn #108** *How Can I Keep From Singing* Gray Hymnal

Benediction by Rebecca Edmiston-Lange (Adapted)

Postlude *A New Thing*, Slide Hampton

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: We celebrate the New Year...Welcome 2023!

Serving Today

John Kramer, *Director of Music* ◦ Stephen Perepeluk and Harris Gibson, *Worship Associates* ◦ Brenna Mayer, *Religious Education Coordinator* ◦ Sean Yun, *Livestream Coordinator*

Ushers and Greeters: Sophia Sid and Liz Lintz

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

Today's PCA is Donna Reed @ 781-626-1785

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

WUS is a Welcoming Congregation, having voted to intentionally offer full inclusion and affirmation of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender people.☑

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, January 8, 2023

January's Theme is "Finding Our Center"

Centering Thought

"...May you stand calm in a wide moment
between sky that lifts you and gravity that grounds you.

May you let loving unfurl you
then give you away.

May you remember
you are nest,
harbor,
garden.

May you pass Life forward
so that which came from those before you,
and that which grows in those next to you,
go on to those who will follow you." – from "Blessing" by Dawna Markova

Gathering Music

John Kramer

Invitation to Greeting

Stephen Perepeluk

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

Stephen Perepeluk

You may also review weekly announcements at www.tinyurl.com/WUShappenings

**Please rise in body or in spirit*

Invocation "The Summer Day" by Mary Oliver Harris Gibson

Chalice Lighting By Leslie Takahashi (Adapted)

***Hymn #1** *May Nothing Evil Cross This Door* Gray Hymnal

First Reflection *Words Between Words* 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 "i am running into a new year" by Lucille Clifton
Stephen Perepeluk

Kindling of the Light *Dream*, John Cage
For those in the Sanctuary, if you would like a candle brought to you, please raise your hand.

Silence

Hymn #128 *For All That is Our Life* Gray Hymnal
Please remain seated

Reflection Riley Simpson

Sung Response *For All That is Our Life* (vs. 4)

Reflection Tyson Kamikawa

Sung Response *For All That is Our Life* (vs. 4)

Reflection Kim Foley

Sung Response *For All That is Our Life* (vs. 4)

Offering Harris Gibson

This morning, we share our gifts with the **Better Future Project - MA** whose mission is "to build a diverse, powerful, and democratic grassroots movement that will drive society to address climate change and its devastating effects, advancing a fair and fast transition beyond coal, oil, and gas toward an economy powered by renewable energy that equitably benefits all people."

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 *You Are the New Day*, John David WUS Adult Choir

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