

Welcome to Worship!

Winchester Unitarian Society · Sunday, Feb. 12, 2023

February's Theme is "Love"

Centering Thought

"I'm titillated by the implications of a future determined by those who willfully immerse themselves in joy and love for the self. I am obsessed with how love and joy are the actual tools we need to move against the culture of fear and scarcity. We're experts at deconstruction and tearing systems and each other apart. But if what we pay attention to grows, how can we be more mindful about growing our capacity for loving ourselves?" — adrienne maree brown

Hospitality Note: We may open the windows during worship to increase air circulation. You may wish to have your coat handy or choose a seat close to the center of the Sanctuary to remain warm.

Gathering Music

John Kramer

Invitation to Greeting

Tate Morreale

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

Ryan McDowell

You may also review weekly announcements at

www.tinyurl.com/WUShappenings

**Please rise in body or in spirit*

Invocation & Chalice Lighting

By Julica Hermann de la Fuente
Riley Simpson (lit by Rebecca

Vernaglia)

*Hymn #118

This Little Light of Mine

Gray Hymnal

First Reflection

Grow Through What You Go Through

By Riley Simpson and Rebecca Vernaglia
Ryan McDowell, Hannah McWhan, Isaac Kamikawa, Diana Jaquinta

Anthem

Brave by Sara Bareilles

Children's Chorus,
Youth Choir, WUSYG, JUSYG, Adult Choir

*At this point, children and teachers leave for Religious Education.
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

"QUEER MORNING BLESSINGS / birkot hashachar"
By Dori Midnight & Randy Furash-Stewart
Celia Oslakovic

Kindling of the Light

Barakaat (The Blessing) Abdullah Ibrahim
*For those in the Sanctuary, if you would like a candle brought to you,
please raise your hand.*

Silence

*Hymn #1053

How Could Anyone

Teal Hymnal

Please remain seated

Reading

"No One Has Ever Said" by Jekaren Olaoya

Hannah McWhan

Second Reflection

"Whole and Holy: Reflections on Loving a Queer Disabled Body"
Alison Luck, Assistant Director of Youth Ministries

Offering

Caroline Bronski

This morning, we share our gifts with the **UUA's Side with Love** campaign. In the words of their organizers, "we amplify the voices of the oppressed through online media; we show up in partnership at justice events across the country; we lobby national leaders on immigration reform, racial justice, equality for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer people, religious freedom, and more; and above all we work to make love real in the world."

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*Hope in View*, Eric Read

Youth Choir

Pledge Appeal

Brad Steele, WUS Treasurer

Affirmation of Shared Ministry

Tate Morreale

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 #1021Lean On Me*

Teal Hymnal

Benediction

By Adrian L. H. Graham

Sam Wilson

Postlude*Unconditional Love*, Geri Allen**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 flowers are dedicated to all those among us who may feel as if they are not enough. You, and your body, are whole and holy. You are everything!

Serving Today

Ushers and Greeters: Giorgio Cantoni, Naomi Magnoni, Jeremiah Fowler, Gus Brykman and Tate Morreale

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

John Kramer, *Director of Music* · Sam Wilson, *Director of Youth and Children's Ministries* · Alison Luck, *Assistant Director of Youth Ministries* · Brenna Mayer, *Children's Religious Education Coordinator* · Sean Yun and Griffin Correia, *Livestream Coordinators*

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.

Music Notes:

Brave was written by Sara Bareilles and bandmate Jack Antonoff and was released on their fourth studio album in 2013. It was inspired by a friend’s struggle coming out as gay. The *Kindling* music is written by South African pianist Abdullah Ibrahim; *Barakaat* is Arabic for Blessing. *Hope in View* is from Eric Reed’s 2017 album *A Light in Darkness*. And we close with Geri Allen’s wonderful piece from her 2004 album *The Life of a Song*.