

## Welcome to Worship!

Winchester Unitarian Society · Sunday, March 5, 2023

March's Theme is "Vulnerability"

### Centering Thought

"Take courage friends. The way is often hard, the path is never clear, and the stakes are very high. Take courage. For deep down, there is another truth: you are not alone." - Wayne B. Arnason

**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

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](mailto:checkingin@winchesteruu.org)*

**Ringing 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

Heather Janules

*You may also review weekly announcements at*

[www.tinyurl.com/WUShappenings](http://www.tinyurl.com/WUShappenings)

### Call to Worship

*The Ground* by Ola Gjeilo

Combined WUS and Reading UU Adult Choirs

### Chalice Lighting

By Fred Rogers

Gloria Legvold

*\*Please rise in body or in spirit*

### \*Hymn #360

*Here We Have Gathered*

Gray Hymnal

### First Reflection

*Colorful Friends: Krishna and Radha*

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

"Friendship" by Judy Bielicki

Stephen Perepeluk

### Kindling of the Light

*Moments*, Eliane Elias

*For those in the Sanctuary, if you would like a candle brought to you, please raise your hand.*

### Silence

### \*Hymn #1012

*When I Am Frightened*

Teal Hymnal

*Please remain seated*

### Reading

"My Best Friend" by Jana C. Souder

Heather Janules

### Anthem

*Be Still, My Soul* by John Kramer

WUS and Reading Combined Adult Choirs

**Second Reflection** “The Blessing of Friendship” Stephen Perpeluk

**Offering** Heather Janules

This morning, in response to the catastrophic earthquake in Turkey and Syria, we share our gifts with the **International Rescue Committee (IRC)** whose mission is to help people affected by humanitarian crises to survive, recover and rebuild their lives.

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** *Lento appassionato* Fanny Hensel Mendelssohn

**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** *You've Got a Friend* Carole King

When you're down and troubled  
And you need some lovin' care  
And nothin', nothin' is goin' right  
Close your eyes and think of me  
And soon I will be there  
To brighten up even your darkest night

CHORUS: You just call out my name  
And you know, wherever I am  
I'll come runnin'  
To see you again  
Winter, spring, summer or fall  
All you have to do is call  
And I'll be there  
You've got a friend

If the sky above you  
Grows dark and full of clouds  
And that old north wind begins to blow  
Keep your head together  
And call my name out loud  
Soon you'll hear me knockin' at your door

CHORUS

Now, ain't it good to know that you've got a friend  
When people can be so cold?  
They'll hurt you, yes, and desert you  
And take your soul if you let them  
Oh, but don't you let them

CHORUS

**Benediction** “Alone” by Maya Angelou

**Postlude** *Friends*, Chick Corea Tyson Kamikawa, Sax  
Maury Wood, Bass

**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:** *Today's flowers are dedicated by the Nominating & Leadership Development Committee and the Pledge Team: "We celebrate the WUS givers of time and treasure!"*

### **Serving Today**

Ushers and Greeters: Marilyn Mullane, Patty Cameron, Naomi Delairre and Gordy McIntosh

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

Today's PCA is Carol Delaney @ 781 507 3366

*John Kramer and Mary Cunningham, Directors of Music ·*

*The Rev. Heather Janules, Worship Associate · Stephen Perepeluk,*

*Worship Leader · Brenna Mayer, Children's Religious Education*

*Coordinator · Jay Kwan and Isaac Kamikawa, 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](mailto: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:**

We are thrilled to be joined by the Reading UU choir this morning. Many thanks to Mary Cunningham for helping to organize this. *The Ground* is from Ola Gjeilo's *Sunrise Mass*; the title refers to the grounded, centered feeling that the work projects. We are also pleased to sing my anthem *Be Still, My Soul* which I wrote as we were beginning to coming out of our COVID lock-down.

*Be still my soul, though all the world confounds you.*

*Be still my soul, when all is seeming strange.*

*Be still my soul, when all the world is worn and out of tune.*

*When we find turmoil and despair surrounds us all around.*

*When we are full of doubt that there is anything we can do.*

*Let peace, calm, rest, enrobe you.*

*Find strength to bear you on your way.*