

Welcome to Worship!

Winchester Unitarian Society · Sunday, October 22, 2023

October's Theme is Heritage

Livestream Attendees: To notify our Tech Deck of a broadcast issue, email checkingin@winchesteruu.org or call the WUS Office - 781.729.0949

Centering Thought

"We must move beyond the mentality of appearing to be concerned but not having the courage needed to produce substantial changes."
– Pope Francis, Laudate Deum (2023)

Gathering Music

John Kramer

Invitation to Greeting

Peter McEntee

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

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

Peter McEntee

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

Invocation *The Sacred Place*, Stephen Shick The Rev. Cindy Davidson

Chalice Lighting

By Lois van Leer

Peter McEntee

**Please rise in body or in spirit*

*Hymn

Do It Now / Sing for the Climate

1. We need to wake up, we need to wise up,
We need to open our eyes and do it now, now, now!
We need to build a better future.
And we need to start right now.
2. We're on a planet that has a problem.
We've got to solve it, get involved, and do it now, now, now!
We need to build a better future.
And we need to start right now.
3. Make it greener, make it cleaner,
Make it last, make it fast and do it now, now, now!
We need to build a better future.
And we need to start right now.
4. No point in waiting, or hesitating,
We must get wise, take no more lies, and do it now, now,
now!
We need to build a better future.
And we need to start right now.

First Reflection *Tending Earth* Brenna Mayer and Cindy Davidson

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.

Responsive Reading adapted from “Remember” by Joy Harjo
When invited to do so, please respond with “We are earth”

Kindling of the Light Woodland Peace by Edvard Grieg
For those in the Sanctuary, if you would like a candle brought to you,
please raise your hand.

Silence

Hymn #173 In the Branches of the Forest Gray Hymnal
Please remain seated

Reading Peter McEntee
Under a White Sky: The Nature of the Future by Elizabeth Kolbert
(Excerpt)

Anthem IPCC Report on Climate Change by John Kramer
WUS Adult Choir

Second Reflection Being Faithful Stewards Cindy Davidson

Offering Peter McEntee

This morning, we share our gifts with **Massachusetts Interfaith Power & Light** which “works with faith communities and people of faith to pray, act and mobilize for climate and environmental justice, through education, providing technical expertise on lowering energy use and carbon emissions, and policy advocacy.” Those in the sanctuary are also welcome to donate electronically. **Text (781) 230-6690** or visit www.tinyurl.com/wusgiveonline
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 The Ash Grove by Benjamin Britten
Brendan Buckley, Tenor

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 #163** For the Earth Forever Turning Gray Hymnal

Benediction Each of us Ministers to a Weary World, by Darcy Roake
Cindy Davidson

Postlude Weeping Willow Rag by Scott Joplin

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.

Serving Today

Ushers and Greeters: Joan Baldwin, Pete Baldwin,
Lee Barton and Robbie Brown

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 and available at: 339-227-0216

John Kramer, *Director of Music* · The Rev. Cynthia Davidson, *WUS Affiliated Community Minister* · Peter McEntee, *Worship Associate* · Brenna Mayer, *Children's Religious Education Coordinator* · Jason Tran and Jay Kwan, *Livestream Coordinators*

WUS Standing Committee (Governing Board) Members

Dennis Brett, Vicky Coccoluto, Chuck Khuen, Liz Lintz (Clerk,) Gordy McIntosh, Claire McNeill, Fritzie Nace, Martin Newhouse, Stephen Perepeluk, Brad Steele (Treasurer) and Marcy Tompson

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:

The Anthem is from my 2019 Jazz Cantata for the Earth. It sets the 2018 Summary for Policymakers from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. It is good to sit with these words in a friendly setting but there is so much more we need to do. ♦ The other music reflects our relationship with the Earth; the peace found in the woods as described by Norwegian composer Edvard Grieg; or the feeling of a graceful willow tree as described by Ragtime great Scott Joplin. ♦ In the Ash Grove, the singer's relationship with a lost beloved is framed by the beauty of nature.