

Welcome to Worship!

Winchester Unitarian Society · Sunday, May 19, 2024

May's Theme is "Pluralism"

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

"Just one more tear to cry, one teardrop from my eye
You better save it for
The middle of the night when things aren't black and white
And when I'm back in Poughkeepsie, I feel it
Another version of me, I was in it
I wave goodbye to the end of beginning." - Djo

Gathering Music

John Kramer

Invitation to Greeting

Director of Youth

& Children's Ministries, Sam Wilson

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

Giorgio Cantoni

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

Invocation	By Katie Kandarian-Morris	Riley Simpson
Chalice Lighting	By Katie Sivani Gelfand	Tate Morreale
	Lit by Hannah McWhan & Rebecca Vernaglia	
*Hymn #360	<i>Here We Have Gathered</i>	Gray Hymnal

New Member Ceremony

NEW MEMBER AFFIRMATION: As new members, we accept the gifts and responsibilities associated with membership - to support this religious community with our time, talents and resources and to join the Winchester Unitarian Society in the common quest for spiritual growth and for the common purpose of building lives of meaning and a better world.

Affirmation: We welcome you with anticipation and joy. We hope you find here room to flourish, in mind, body, and spirit. We accept you into our community as companions in the spiritual journey. We pledge to rejoice with you in times of happiness, to grieve with you in times of sorrow, and to share with you all the blessings of our free faith.

First Reflection *The End Is Just the Beginning* by Mike Bender
Caroline Bronski, Milo Ippolito, Diana Jaquinta

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.

**Please rise in body or in spirit*

Poem

“Ready” by Rabbi Rachel Barenblat

Alison Luck, Sam Wilson

Kindling of the Light

Maiden Voyage, Herbie Hancock

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

Silence

Senior Statements

Larkin Gardiner, Isaac Kamikawa, Maddie Kolberg

Hymn #123

Spirit of Life

Gray Hymnal

Please remain seated

Senior Statements

Anya L’Esperance, Ryan McDowell, Hannah McWhan

Offering

Diana Jaquinta

This morning, we share our gifts with **Big Creek People in Action**, the organization that WUSYG worked with in West Virginia on their service trip. BCPIA has been serving the community of McDowell County in the realms of education and literacy, leadership development, volunteer service, service learning, arts and culture, housing, recreation, and collaborative partnerships. BCPIA's vision of McDowell County is one of empowered and self-sufficient people living in communities that are economically vibrant, democratic, and socially just.

Those in the sanctuary are also welcome to donate electronically. **Text GIVE to (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 Circle Game, Joni Mitchell

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.

Senior Statements

Celia Oslakovic, Riley Simpson, Rebecca Vernaglia

Bridging

Heather Janules, Alison Luck, Sam Wilson

Seniors: Some of us grew up in this congregation. All of us found a home here that welcomed us and loved us as we are. Thank you for nurturing us and for helping us to form and strengthen our identities. Thank you for creating the sacred space that gave us so many friendships, deep connections, and meaningful moments in our lives. Even as our bodies venture beyond this community, a part of our hearts will always remain here.

Congregation: We cherish the gifts that you have shared during your time here. We honor your dreams and your visions for who you will become. We encourage you to hold your roots close to your hearts as we set you free to spread your wings.

Young Adults: We welcome you with open arms into this next stage of your lives. We know it is simultaneously exciting and terrifying, but we are here to sway in these winds of change with you. We are with you as you reach the end of the beginning part of your lives, and, in turn, begin the next part of your lives. Welcome to young adulthood!

1. From the light of days remembered burns a beacon bright and clear Guiding hands and hearts and spirits into faith set free from fear.

CHORUS:

When the fire of commitment sets our mind and soul a blaze
When our hunger and our passion meet to call us on our way
When we live with deep assurance of the flame that burns within,
Then our promise finds fulfillment and our future can begin.

2. From the stories of our living rings a song both brave and free, Calling pilgrims still to witness to the life of liberty.

CHORUS

3. From the dreams of youthful vision comes a new, prophetic voice, Which demands a deeper justice built by our courageous choice.

CHORUS

Benediction

By Sam Wilson

Extinguishing the Chalice

Alison Luck

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 chancel flowers are dedicated to the light, laughter and love of our beloved former WUSYGer Brenda Martino, whose legacy reminds us to make our love like a circle;
no beginning and no end.

Serving Today

Ushers and Greeters: Zhahira Crawford, Caroline Bronski, Meera Boukari,
Terry Currier, Sophia Sid

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
or at the pew closest to the candle table
immediately after the service

John Kramer, *Director of Music* ♦ Sam Wilson, *Director of Youth & Children's
Ministries* ♦ Alison Luck, *Assistant Director of Youth Ministries* ♦ WUS Youth
Group (WUSYG), *Worship Associates* ♦ Jason Tran, *Livestream Coordinator*

WUS Standing Committee (Governing Board) Members

Vicky Coccoluto, Chuck Khuen, Liz Lintz (Clerk,) Gordy McIntosh (Co-Chair,)
Claire McNeill, Fritzie Nace, Martin Newhouse (Co-Chair,) 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.*