

Winchester Unitarian Society
Order of Service
Christmas Eve – 7:00 pm

Prelude *Prelude in G major, J.S. Bach* John Kramer

***Processional Carol** *O, Come All Ye Faithful*

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
Come and behold him, born the king of angels;

Chorus: O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

Lo, humble shepherds, hasting to his cradle,
Leaving their flocks in the fields, draw near.
We, too, with gladness, thither bend our footsteps; (Chorus)

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above:
"Glory to God in the highest": (Chorus)

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning.
Jesus, to thee be all glory given
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing, (Chorus)

Welcome Rev. Seth Carrier-Ladd

Invocation "Relentless Presence of Love" by Gretchen Haley

Chalice Lighting "Sojourners" by Dan Lambert Ivan Correia

Prayer "Moment of Magic" by Victoria Safford

*Please rise in body or spirit

Offering

Martin Newhouse

All gifts placed in our offering plates tonight will benefit the Minister's Discretionary Fund, used primarily to help those in need in the Winchester Community. Thank you for your generosity.

Offertory*The Salutation*, Gerald Finzi

Cailin Smith, solo

Reading

"Christmas in the Bathroom" by Robert Fulghum

Rev. Seth Carrier-Ladd

***Carol**

Hark the Herald Angels Sing

Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King:
Peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!"
Joyful, all ye nations, rise, join the triumph of the skies;
With th'angelic hosts proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"

Chorus: Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King"

Christ, by highest heaven adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord,
Late in time behold him come, offspring of the Virgin's womb:
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; hail th'incarnate Deity,
Pleased with us in flesh to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel. (Chorus)

Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings, risen with healing in his wings.
Mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die,
Born to raise us from the earth, born to give us second birth. (Chorus)

Reading

Luke 2:1, 3-16

Liz Lintz

Anthem*Glory to God in the Highest*, G.B. Pergolesi**Reading**

"A Complicated Christmas" by Bruce Marshall

Martin Newhouse

***Carol**

The First Nowell

The first Nowell the angels did say was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay, in fields as they lay keeping their sheep, on a cold winter's night that was so deep.

Chorus: Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, born is the king of Israel.

2 They looked up and saw a star, shining in the east beyond them far,
and to the earth it gave great light, and so it continued both day and night.
(Chorus)

3 And by the light of that same star, three magi came from country far;
to seek a king was their intent, and to follow the star wherever it went. (Chorus)

Reading

Matthew 1:18-23 & 2:1-12

Ivan Correia

Anthem

I Wonder as I Wander, Appalachian Carol, arr. J. Kramer

Reading

“A Gift” by Nancy L. Dahlberg

Sarah Milt

***Carol**

In the Bleak Midwinter

In the bleak midwinter frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone, snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter long ago.

Christ a homeless stranger, so the gospels say, cradled in a manger and a bed of hay; in the bleak midwinter, stable-place sufficed Mary and her baby, Jesus Christ.

Once more child and mother weave their magic spell, touching hearts with wonder words can never tell;
in the bleak midwinter, in this world of pain, where our hearts are open love is born again.

Homily

“The Messiah Is Among Us”

Rev. Seth Carrier-Ladd

*Please rise in body or spirit

Carol *Silent Night*

Silent night, holy night, all is calm, all is bright
Round yon virgin mother and child, holy infant so tender and mild;
Sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night, shepherds quake at the sight.
Glories stream from heaven afar, heavenly hosts sing "Alleluia,
Christ, the Savior, is born! Christ, the savior, is born!"

Silent night, holy night, son of God, love's pure light
Radiant beams from thy holy face, with the dawn of redeeming grace.
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth; Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.

***Carol** *Joy to the World*

Joy to the world! The Lord is come: let earth receive her king;
Let every heart prepare him room, and heaven and nature sing,
And heaven and nature sing, and heaven and nature sing.

Joy to the world! The Savior reigns: let us our songs employ,
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy.

He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove,
The glories of his righteousness and wonders of his love,
And wonders of his love, and wonders of his love.

Benediction

Postlude *Joy Fantasy*

John Kramer

*Please rise in body or spirit

Thank you for your presence tonight...and Merry Christmas!

Serving This Evening

Rev. Seth Carrier-Ladd, Interim Minister · Martin Newhouse and Ivan Correia, *Worship Associates* · John Kramer, *Director of Music* · Jason Tran, *Livestream Coordinator*

Ushers: WUSYG Alums Evan Forcucci, Isabelle Kamikawa, Isaac Kamikawa, Alex Milt

This is a Welcoming Congregation, intentionally welcoming and affirming of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender people.