

## Welcome to Worship!

Winchester Unitarian Society · Sunday, January 19

### January's Theme is "Story"

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

### Centering Thought

"Stories have to be told or they die, and when they die, we can't remember who we are or why we're here."

- Sue Monk Kidd

### Gathering Music

John Kramer

### Invitation to Greeting

Rev. Seth Carrier-Ladd

*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

Martin Newhouse

*You may also review weekly announcements at [www.tinyurl.com/WUShappenings](http://www.tinyurl.com/WUShappenings)*

### Sung Invocation

*Hymn to Freedom, Oscar Peterson*

WUS Children's Choir and Youth Chorale

### Chalice Lighting

"Letting Go" by Jay Wolin

Lit by Alex Kent

### \*Hymn #95

*There is More Love Somewhere*

Gray Hymnal

*\*Please rise in body or in spirit*

**First Reflection**            “Walking with the Wind,” story by John Lewis,  
   adapted by Beryl Aschenberg            Sam Wilson

**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.

**Prayer**            “Prayer of Storytelling” by Mandie McGlynn

**Kindling of the Light**            *African Flower*, Duke Ellington  
*For those in the Sanctuary, if you would like a candle brought to you, please raise your hand.*

**Silence**

**Centering Hymn #199**            *Precious Lord, Take My Hand*            Gray Hymnal  
*Please remain seated*

**Reading**            “Why We Tell Stories” by Lisel Mueller

**Anthem**            *Freedom Train*, Rollo Dilworth            WUS Adult Choir

**Second Reflection**            “The Power of Story”            Rev. Seth Carrier-Ladd

**Offering**

The mission of **Volunteer Ventures MA (VVMA)** is to harness the energy and spirit of volunteers to create a more just, compassionate and equitable society through volunteerism and service. Today’s offering will help fund VVMA’s SOUP JAR project with WUS on March 2, 2025. Members of all ages will come

together to make jars of soup ingredients to help feed the hungry in our communities. All Soup Jars will be donated to the Woburn Council for Social Concern and the ENKA Food Pantries.

Those in the sanctuary are also welcome to donate electronically.

**Text GIVE to (781) 230-6690** or visit [www.tinyurl.com/wusgiveonline](http://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**

*Forever*, Florence Price

Kirsten Hart

**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 #323**

*Break Not the Circle*

Gray Hymnal

**Benediction**

**Postlude**

*Madrigal Divine*, Nathaniel Dett

**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.

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## Serving Today

Ushers: Fritzie Nace & Vicky Coccoluto

Greeters: Donna Reed & Steve Forcucci

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

Today's PCA is Terry Carrier 781-690-6112

Your PCA will be sitting at the pew closest to the candle table immediately after the service.

Rev. Seth Carrier-Ladd, *Interim Minister* ♦

Sam Wilson, *Director of Youth & Children's Ministries* ♦

John Kramer, *Music Director* ♦ Martin Newhouse, *Worship Associate* ♦

Jay Kwan, *Livestream Coordinator*

### **WUS Standing Committee (Governing Board) Members**

John Keller, Chuck Khuen, Ginger Hanson (Clerk),

Gordy McIntosh (Chair), Claire McNeill, Fritzie Nace,

Martin Newhouse (Vice Chair), Sheila Puffer, Brad Steele (Treasurer),

Joan Baldwin (Assistant Treasurer), and Marcy Tompson.

Contact your Standing Committee via [SC@winchesteruu.org](mailto:SC@winchesteruu.org).

### **Music Notes**

Our music today celebrates Martin Luther King day with music from the African Diaspora. The legendary jazz composer Duke Ellington first recorded *African Flower* in 1962. ♦ You may remember Florence Price from the choral piece *Hope* we sang last December. Here we witness her song *Forever*, with a text by Paul Lawrence Dunbar. ♦ Both Nathaniel Dett and Oscar Peterson hail from Canada. The *Madrigal Divine* comes from Dett's 8 Bible Vignettes, finished in 1943 and it is an instrumental setting of the 42nd psalm. *Hymn to Freedom* was dedicated to Martin Luther King and the words were written by Harriette Hamilton. ♦ Rollo Dilworth (b. 1970) incorporates several well known protest songs, including *We Shall Overcome* in his spirited anthem *Freedom Train*.