

## Welcome to Worship!

Winchester Unitarian Society · Sunday, January 26

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

"Better was a poor and wise youth than an old and foolish king who no longer knew how to take advice."

- Ecclesiastes 4:13

### Gathering Music

John Kramer

### Invitation to Greeting

Marcy Tompson

*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)*

**Ring 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

*You may also review weekly announcements at*

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

### Invocation

### Chalice Lighting

"Interdependence" from our UU Shared Values

Phil Conley

Lit by Ira Spencer

## **Presentation & Blessing to Neighboring Faiths Participants**

Brenna Mayer & Sam Wilson

Participants: Eva Grebe, Lua Spencer, May Darrieulat, Mirabelle Carrier-Ladd

Unison Blessing: We wish you well on your journey. May your exploration bring you greater insight, understanding, and grace.

**\*Hymn**                      *Love is at the Center*, John Kramer                      (see insert)

**First Reflection**                      “A Single Thing”                      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.

**Kindling of the Light**                      *Elegy for the Arctic*, Ludovico Einaudi  
*For those in the Sanctuary, if you would like a candle brought to you, please raise your hand.*

**Silence**

**Centering Hymn #86**                      *Blessed Spirit of my Life*                      Gray Hymnal  
*Please remain seated*

**Second Reflection**                      “Interdependence”                      Phil Coonley

*\*Please rise in body or in spirit*

- Reading** "Theological Reflection on Shared Values"  
by Rev. Dr. Sheri Prud'homme Sheila Puffer
- Anthem** *You Most Glorious Greenness*, John Kramer  
WUS Adult Choir
- Third Reflection** "GreenRoots" Barbara Espinosa Barrera

## Offering

Our share-the-plate offering this morning will go to **GreenRoots**, an organization that engages and empowers residents in the frontline communities of Chelsea and East Boston on a broad range of issues, from food justice to climate resiliency, waterfront access, and much more. To prepare for climate change it implements strategies to reduce the impacts of urban heat islands, enacts nature-based solutions to reduce flooding, and effectively engages with stakeholders.

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** *I Got Me Flowers*, Ralph Vaughan Williams  
Rob Woodin, solo

## 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.

**Benediction**

**Postlude**

*Sunrain*, Tan Dun

**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: Sally DeGan & Pete Baldwin

Greeters: Alison Kirchgasser & Joan Baldwin

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

Today's PCA is Karen Caputo 617-851-5947

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

Rev. Seth Carrier-Ladd, *Interim Minister* ♦ Brenna Mayer, *Children's Religious Education Coordinator* ♦ John Kramer, *Music Director* ♦ Marcy Tompson, *Worship Associate* ♦ Jason Tran, *Livestream Coordinator*

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

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

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

Ryan Levering, 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

The anthem's text is by the 12<sup>th</sup> century Benedictine abbess and polymath Hildegard of Bingen. She, like George Herbert, whose poem is set in the Offertory, draws on natural imagery in her portrayal of the divine, linking the earth's "glorious greenness" with the eternal. Both remind us that our world is sacred. ♦ The postlude, from the Chinese composer Tan Dun's *Eight Memories in Watercolor*, is both an invocation of the natural world and a celebration of the Lunar New Year, which begins on January 29<sup>th</sup>.