



# ORDER of SERVICE for Sunday December 19, 2021

*Believing in a community that unites all people*

## Pre-Service Quiet

**Prelude**      *In the Hall of the Mountain King* by Edward Grieg  
                    Music Director Matthew Johnsen

## Chalice Lighting & Calling The Directions #446

## Welcome

\* **Opening Hymn #235**    *Deck the Hall With Boughs of Holly*

## The Fox and the House Sprite - Part I

**Offertory**      *The Nightingale* by Deborah Henson-Conant  
                    Joe Ruivo, Baritone  
(Newcomers: please accept this service as our gift to you.  
Do not feel obligated to participate in the offering at this time.)

## Joys & Sorrows

## Pastoral Prayer

## The Fox and the House Sprite - Part II

\* **Closing Hymn #1068**    *Rising Green*

## \* Benediction

**Postlude**      *Sussex Carol* by Percy Grainger

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\* Please stand in body or in spirit



Text-to-Give - Without check or cash and want to participate in our weekly offering? From a smartphone text the amount of your contribution to 508-231-5335. First-time contributors will be asked for one-time registration information by Simplegive. Thank you for helping us continue to be a congregation of love, hope and justice!

## SERVICE NOTES

*Thanks to this morning's  
Volunteers:*

**In Person Audio Team:**  
Bruce Leshay & Frank Sweetser

**Facebook Moderator:**  
Rev. Cheryl Leshay

**Church Photographer:**  
Betty Jenewin

**Greeter & Connection Team:**  
Maya Desai & David Fields

Visit a Connections Team Member  
at the Welcome Table for more  
information about UUCW!

## UPCOMING SERVICES

Unless noted otherwise  
Preservice Quiet & Prelude at 9:50 am  
Worship Service and RE Classes at 10 am  
Fellowship at 11:15 am  
Rev. Aaron Payson, Preaching

\* **Minister's Emergency Fund**  
Collection at all Holiday Services

**December 19, 2021**

\* 4 pm - Annual Holiday Vespers  
Service  
*Be Ye Lamplights in the Darkness*

**Friday, December 24, 2021**

\* 7 pm - Annual Christmas Eve  
Service  
*The Promise of Peace*

**Sunday, December 26**

A Christmas Kahoot! - On Zoom  
Only!

## FELLOWSHIP INFO

**Please!** No food or drink in the  
sanctuary during the service.

11:15 AM: fully-hosted coffee hour  
with snacks provided by a group at  
the church.

Please consider making a small

## UUCW Activity Calendar ~ December 19 - 26

**Sunday, December 19 - Worship & RE at 10 am, Annual Holiday Vespers Service at 4 pm.**

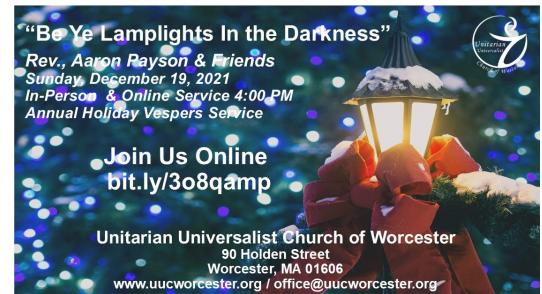
**Friday, December 24 - Christmas Eve Worship at 7 pm,  
see Worship Schedule on other side**

**Sunday, December 26 - Worship at 10 am,  
see Worship Schedule on other side**

All meetings of the church must be scheduled on a case-by-case basis following the guidelines of the Health & Safety Team. Please contact the office to schedule any meetings of the church.



**This Afternoon at 4 pm - Annual Holiday Vespers Service "Be Ye Lamplights In The Darkness"** Join us for our Annual Holiday Vespers Service featuring special music, our Children's Pageant and an opportunity to gather for refreshments and conversation following the service. We look forward to seeing many of you in person! Our usual post-service tea will not be able to be served this year due to the challenges of social distancing. We will provide take-home cookies at each door to send you on your way!



**2021 Minister's Emergency Fund Drive** In 2020 UUCW contributed \$9462.00 to assist families in need in our congregation and community. This money helped pay for homelessness outreach, food, medicine, temporary shelter, utilities, holiday gifts, and transportation. Funds were collected from members and friends of the congregation as well as other communities who partnered with us to provide this outreach. This fund is now empty and has been for the past 4 months due to very high demand this year. During the Winter Holiday season we strive to replenish this fund. There are two ways that we accomplish this. First, the children's "change for change" collection which had been a weekly ritual during Sunday morning worship gives those attending Sunday morning worship a weekly opportunity to contribute. Because of the pandemic we have foregone in-person collection by the children and have placed a basket on the joys & sorrows table for those who wish to contribute in this manner. Additionally, we invite a special offering during the Holiday services (Solstice – New Years) when we invite you to contribute directly to the fund with one of the envelopes provided. Please visit <https://www.uucworcester.org/2021-11-24-emergency-fund-drive/> for a link to give digitally, if you prefer. Your contribution makes a huge difference in the lives of the families we serve!

### OFFICE INFORMATION

**Office Hours :** In person: M, W: 9 am - 3 pm; Th: 9 am - 2 pm; by phone (508-853-1942 ext 102) and email ([office@uucworcester.org](mailto:office@uucworcester.org)) only on Tuesdays. Also, Jen will be on vacation from December 23 - January 2. Regular office hours will resume on January 3 (see above).

### CONGREGATIONAL MISSION STATEMENT

The members and friends of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Worcester covenant to be a congregation of love, hope and justice inspiring people to take on the challenges of a changing world.

### WELCOMING CHURCH MISSION STATEMENT

The Unitarian Universalist Church of Worcester strives to further the affirmation and celebration of LGBTQI individuals in all aspects of the church community. We also seek to increase the visibility of UUCW as a Welcoming Congregation within the greater community.

### Unitarian Universalist Church of Worcester

90 Holden Street, Worcester, MA 01606  
(508) 853-1942 · [office@uucworcester.org](mailto:office@uucworcester.org) ·  
[www.uucworcester.org](http://www.uucworcester.org)

### THE OFFERING - LAST WEEK

<i>Sunday, Dec. 12 pledges</i>	= \$4,820.00
<i>FY2022 Pledges to date</i>	= \$93,545.00
<i>Budgeted FY2022 Pledges to date</i>	= \$87,083.33

<i>Sunday, Dec. 12 offering</i>	= \$183.00
<i>FY2022 offering to date</i>	= \$4,520.53
<i>Budgeted FY2022 offering to date</i>	= \$2,288.80

### RELIGIOUS EXPLORATION & EDUCATION

*Religious Education:* 10 - 11:15 am, Youth Group: 6 - 8 pm, For information on UUCW RE programs, please email the RE program at [uucwre@gmail.com](mailto:uucwre@gmail.com)

### TEXT ALERTS FROM UUCW

TEXT ALERTS from UUCW are now being offered. In case of cancellation of Worship/RE or other events, you can receive alerts on your smartphone. To sign up, text UUCWORCESTER to 84483. Please note that carrier SMS fees may apply.