



ORDER of SERVICE for Sunday December 18, 2022

Believing in a community that unites all people

Pre-Service Quiet

Prelude

Seasonal Selections

Music Director Matthew Johnsen

Chalice Lighting & Calling The Directions #446

Welcome

* Opening Hymn #48 *Ring Out Wild Bells*

Who Loves the Dark? - Part I

Offertory

Seasonal Selections

(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

Who Loves the Dark? - Part II

* Closing Hymn #1011 *Return Again*

* Benediction

Postlude

Seasonal Selections

* Please stand in body or in spirit



SERVICE NOTES

Our thanks to these volunteers

Audio-Visual Team:

Betty Jenewin, Paul Marr,
Chris Ryan, & Frank Sweetser

Facebook Moderator:

Sue Neaz

Church Photographer:

Betty Jenewin

Greeter & Connection Team:

The Keyos & The Napoleones,
Maya Desai & David Fields

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

UPCOMING & HOLIDAY 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

Sunday, December 18

10 am: Annual Solstice Service
Who Loves the Dark?
4 pm: Annual Vespers Service
A Winter's Sojourn

Saturday, December 24

7 pm: Annual Christmas Eve Service

Sunday, December 25

Christmas Day Ecumenical Service,
Bethel Lutheran Church, Auburn

Sunday, January 1

Brave New Words
Guest Speaker Rev. Jennifer Innis

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.

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!

UUCW Activity Calendar ~ December 18 - January 1

Sunday, December 18 - Worship & RE at 10 am,
Annual Holiday Vespers Service at 4 pm.
 4 - 6 pm Holiday Vespers Service & Tea FH/Sanc.

Friday Dec 23 - Jan 1 - Office will be closed. Regular hours resume Jan. 2

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

Sunday, December 25 - Ecumenical Worship Service at Bethel Lutheran,
 see Worship Schedule on other side.

Sunday, January 1 - Worship at 10 am

Please visit the Church Calendar for more events by going to the website at www.uucworchester.org, or scan the QR box with your smartphone!



This Afternoon at 4 pm - Annual Holiday Vespers Service "A Winter's Sojourn" 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 with our ANNUAL VESPERS TEA. One special invitation this year is for everyone to come dressed in their favorite holiday digs. Solstice, Christmas, Kwanza, Diwali, Yule, Hannukah, Holiday Lights, Reindeer, and More! All are welcome to celebrate the season by wearing something festive (or simply come as you are!).



2022 Minister's Emergency Fund Drive In 2021 UUCW contributed \$4643.00 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. 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. 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. In addition, you may contribute to this effort electronically by visiting <https://my.simplegive.com/app/giving/unit90h215> and choosing "Emergency Fund (#4260)" from the Fund drop-down menu. 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@uucworchester.org) only on Tuesdays. Also, Jen will be on vacation from December 23 - January 1. Regular office hours will resume on January 2 (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.

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

THE OFFERING - LAST WEEK

<i>Sunday, December 11 pledges</i>	= \$2,369.00
<i>FY2022 Pledges to date</i>	= \$74,894.16
<i>Budgeted FY2022 Pledges to date</i>	= \$83,406.54
<i>Sunday, December 11 offering</i>	= \$284.00
<i>FY2022 offering to date</i>	= \$3,859.89
<i>Budgeted FY2022 offering to date</i>	= \$3,466.67

Unitarian Universalist Church of Worcester

90 Holden Street, Worcester, MA 01606
 (508) 853-1942 · office@uucworchester.org · www.uucworchester.org

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.