



ORDER of SERVICE for Sunday December 21, 2025

Believing in a community that unites all people

Pre-Service Quiet

Prelude

Seasonal Selections

Music Director Matthew Johnsen

Chalice Lighting & Calling The Directions

Rev. Cheryl Leshay

Welcome

Barry Brigham

✳ Opening Hymn #1063 *Winter Solstice Chant*

The Goddess and the Red Bird - 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

Sung Response #15

The Lone Wild Bird

The Goddess and the Red Bird - Part II

✳ Closing Hymn #13

Songs of Spirit

✳ Closing Words

Opening The Circle

Postlude

Seasonal Selections

✳ 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:*

Worship Associates:

Barry Brigham

In Person Audio Team:

Betty Jenewin, Paul Marr,
& Frank Sweetser

Online Hospitality:

Dawn Doud & Rev. Cheryl Leshay

Church Photographer:

Betty Jenewin

Greeter & Connection Team:

Fellowship Hour Sponsor:

No Fellowship Hour this morning,
please see other side for Vespers
Service & Tea info!

Visit a Connections Team Member
at the Welcome Table during
fellowship hour 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 21

10 am Annual Winter Solstice
Service:

The Goddess and the Red Bird
4 pm - Annual Holiday Vespers
Service: *Reveling in the Light*

Wednesday, December 24

7 PM - Annual Christmas Eve
Service
A Holy Presence

Sunday, December 28

Guest Speaker Stephen Ledoux
*Can a Science Flood Story Inspire
Us as Much as the One by Noah?
OR How Long Can You Tread
Water?*

UUCW Activity Calendar ~ December 21 - 28

Sunday, December 21 - Multi-Format Worship at 10 am,
Annual Holiday Vespers Service at 4 pm.

4 - 7 pm Holiday Vespers Service & Tea FH/Sanc.

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

Thursday, Dec 25 - Jan 4 - Office will be closed.
Regular hours resume Jan. 5

Sunday, December 28 - Multi-Format 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 "Ring In The Spirit Of Love" Join us for the biggest, grandest service of the year! We'll celebrate the season revels-style! With a story for everyone, choirs, bells, soloists, our annual carol sing, and of course candlelight and silent night. Then we will retire to Fellowship Hall for a grand gathering with refreshments and season's greetings for all!



UUCW Holiday Emergency Fund Drive

In 2025 UUCW spent over \$2500.00 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> (scan the QR code) 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 25 - January 4. Regular office hours will resume on January 5.

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

Unitarian Universalist Church of Worcester

140 Shore Drive, Worcester, MA 01605-3117
(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.