ORDER of SERVICE
for Sunday, April 6, 2025

Believing in a community that unites all people

Pre-Service Quiet

Prelude *Requiem* by Eliza Gilkyson
Music Director Matthew Johnsen

Chalice Lighting *Into the Liberating Light* by Rev. Margo Rinehart

Introit *Daybreak* by Ola Gjeilo

Welcome

Opening Words Verse, Chapter 147 from *The Radiance Sutras*, Lorin Roche Translation

❋ **Opening Hymn #86** *Blessed Spirit of My Life*

Time for All Ages *The Answer is in Your Hands* from *Once Upon a Time: Storytelling to Teach Character and Prevent Bullying* by Elizabeth Davy Pearmain

Change for Change Collection

Sending Song

Go now in peace. Go now in peace.
May the Spirit of Love surround you
Everywhere, everywhere you may go.

Readings by Kierkegaard & Camus

Sermon *Liberating Love* Guest Minister Rev. Michael F. Hall

Words for the Offering Rev. Michael F. Hall

Offertory *Dancing Leaves* by Doug Harmon

(Newcomers: please accept this service as our gift to you. Do not feel obligated to participate in the offering at this time.)

Joys & Concerns

Pastoral Prayer *Beannact/Blessing* by John O'Donohue

Musical Meditation *Meditation from the Thin Space of St. Paul's* by Peter Ostruschko

Responsive Reading #607 *Beloved Presence* by Shams Ud-Dun Mohammad Hafiz

❋ **Closing Hymn #1014** *Answering the Call of Love*

Benediction from *Moments* by Mary Oliver

Postlude *Love Song* by Matthew Johnsen

❋ 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

Our thanks to these volunteers

Worship Associates:
Moira Rouse

Audio-Visual Team:
Betty Jenewin, Paul Marr, Chris Ryan, & Frank Sweetser

Online Hospitality:
Dawn Doud & Rev. Cheryl Leshay

Church Photographer:
Betty Jenewin

Greeter & Connection Team:
Mary Paradiso & Vickie Cox-Lanyon

Fellowship Hour Sponsor:
All of us!

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

Sunday, April 13
Guest Speaker
Chaplain Kye Flannery

HOLY WEEK SERVICES

Thursday, April 17
Maundy Thursday Universal Communion Service - 7 pm at UUCW

Friday, April 18
Good Friday Ecumenical Tenebrae Service - 7 pm at Salem Covenant Church. 215 Mountain Street East, Worcester

Easter Sunday, April 20
7 am - Ecumenical Easter Sunrise Service at Shore Park, 85 Shore Drive, Worcester (UUCW if weather requires)

10 am - Easter Sunday Service
The Being in Believing
Rev. Aaron Payson

UUCW Activity Calendar ~ April 6 - 13

Sunday, April 6 - Multi-Platform Worship & RE at 10 am
1 - 5 pm Social Threads Fellowship Hall

Sunday, April 13 - Multi-Platform Worship & RE at 10 am

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

Responsive Reading #607 *Beloved Presence*
by Shams Ud-Dun Mohammad Hafiz

Cloak yourself in a thousand ways; still shall I know you, my Beloved.

Veil yourself with every enchantment and yet I shall feel you, Presence most dear, close and intimate.

I shall salute you in the springing of cypresses and in the sheen of the lakes, the laughter of fountains.

I shall surely see you in tumbling clouds, in brightly embroidered meadows.

Oh, Beloved Presence, more beautiful than all the stars together,

I trace your face in ivy that climbs, in clusters of grapes, in morning flaming the mountains, in the clear arch of sky.

You gladden the whole earth and make every heart great.

You are the breathing of the world.

Fellowship Info

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

Please join us after the service today in Fellowship Hall for coffee and conversation!

Worship Archive

If you missed last week's service or want to revisit a service from this year or last? Visit the UUCW Worship Archive at https://www.uucworcester.org/sunday-morning-worship/service-archive/! Each week we post the service from the previous Sunday to grow our archive of service experiences. These services are also available on the UUCW YouTube Channel.

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
140 Shore Drive, Worcester, MA 01605-3117
(508) 853-1942 · office@uucworcester.org · www.uucworcester.org

Regularly Scheduled UUCW Events/ Community Groups

Addressing Racism Group
E/O Fri, 10 am - noon, Meeting Room 2
Bell Choir
Monday, 6:30 - 7:30 pm, Sanctuary
Choir Rehearsal
Sunday, 9 - 9:30 am, Sanctuary
COA-Adults Small Group
E/O Wed, 6 - 8 pm, Lounge
Choir Rehearsal
Sunday, 9 - 9:30 am & 12:15 - 12:45 pm
Evening Book Club
2nd Wed, 7 - 8:30 pm, Lounge
Fiber Arts Group
Wed, 7 - 8:30 pm, Fellowship Hall
Get Out The Vote Team
2nd Thurs, 6:15 - 7:15 pm, Zoom
Loaves & Fishes Food Pantry Setup
3rd Thursday, 4 - 10 pm, FH &
3rd Fri, 8 am - 10 pm, Fellowship Hall
Loaves & Fishes Food Pantry
3rd Sat, 9 am - noon, Fellowship Hall
Lunch With the Minister
1st Wed, Noon-1:15 pm, Fellowship Hall
Side With Love Task Force
1st & 3rd Tues, 6:30 - 7:30 pm, Zoom
Staff Meeting
Mon, 10 am - noon, Meeting Room 1
UUCW Game Night
1st Fri, 6 - 8:30 pm, Fellowship Hall
Women's Social Circle
2nd & 4th Sat, Fellowship Hall/Off-site

Community & Support Groups:
Al-Anon Adult Children (ACOA)
Thurs., 7:30 pm, Meeting Room 1
Alcoholics Anonymous (AA)
Fri., 8 pm, Lounge
"Betty Machete" Women's Ukulele Group
E/O Mon, 7 - 8:30 pm, Fellowship Hall
Co-dependents Anonymous (CODA)
Mon, 7 - 8:30, Meeting Room 3
Debtors Anonymous (DA)
Tues., 7 pm, Meeting Room 1
NAMI Support Group
1st & 3rd Tues., 6:30 pm, Lounge
ONE Worcester
3rd Wed, 6 - 8 pm, Mtg Rm 1
Overeaters Anonymous
Sat., 7:30 am, Meeting Room 1
Rainbow Explorers Group
Mon, noon - 4 pm, Fellowship Hall
WGLN/ESW Rainbow Lunch/Supper Group
2nd/4th Wed, 12-2 pm/1st Wed, 4:30-6, FH
Worcester Community Drum Circle
4th Sat, 7 - 9 pm, FH

Religious Exploration & Education

Religious Education: 10 - 11:15 am; *Youth Group*: 11:30 am - 12:30 pm & 6 - 8 pm, Fellowship Hall
For information on UUCW RE programs, please email the RE program at uucwre@gmail.com