ORDER of SERVICE for Sunday, October 25, 2026

Believing in a community that unites all people

Pre-Service Quiet

Prelude *Folk Tune* by Joseph P. Martin
Music Directer Matthew Johnsen

Chalice Lighting *A Chalice Lighting for the Dark and the Light* by Francis Koziar
Emily Miller Mlčák, Ministerial Intern

Welcome

Opening Words Debbie Merrill, Worship Associate

❋ **Opening Hymn #52** *In The Sweet Fields of Autumn*

Halloween Parade for UNICEF *Ghostbusters* by Ray Parker Jr. UUCW Choir

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

Reflection *Shadows of Light and Darkness* Rev. Aaron Payson

Offertory *Both Sides Now* by Joni Mitchell
(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

Choral Musical Meditation *I Am Sending You Light*

Responsive Reading #540 *The Peace of Autumn*

❋ **Closing Hymn** *Hold Fast to Love*

Benediction

Postlude *Holy Manna* by Joseph P. Martin

❋ Please stand in body or in spirit

Note About AI Use: The Minister sometimes uses AI to help shape elements of the liturgy for worship.The technology is used as a tool to assist in developing ideas and in refining word choice and phrasing, not as a substitute for crafting the material itself.

SERVICE NOTES

Our thanks to these volunteers

Worship Associates:
Debbie Merrill

Audio-Visual Team:
Ali Aslam, Kate Bejune, Betty Jenewin, Paul Marr, & Frank Sweetser

Online Hospitality:
Dawn Doud & Rev. Cheryl Leshay

Church Photographer:
Betty Jenewin

Greeter & Connection Team:
Vickie Cox-Lanyon & Maya Desai

Fellowship Hour Sponsor:
Garden On Team

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
Unless otherwise noted,
Rev. Aaron Payson, Preaching

Sunday, November 1
Marigolds & Memory

Sunday, November 8
One Lamp is Enough

Sunday, November 15
The Courage To Be

Sunday, November 22
Of Memory, Grace, and Gratitude

Sunday, November 22
On Being Lost
Ministerial Intern
Emily Miller Mlčák

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!

UUCW Activity Calendar ~ October 25 - November 1

Sunday, October 25 - Multi-Format Worship and Rel. Exploration at 10 am

11:45 am - 1:30 pm	OWL Class	Lounge
Monday, October 26		
7 - 8:30 pm	Connections Team Event	Lounge
Tuesday, October 27		
6 - 9 pm	Private Rental	Fellowship Hall
Friday, October 30		
4 - 7 pm	Garden-On Team	Fellowship Hall
Sunday, November 1 - Multi-Format Worship and Rel. Exploration at 10 am		
3 - 5:30 pm	Private Rental	Sanc./Lounge

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

UUCW Connections Team Meet & Greet – Monday, October 26 at 7pm

Join the Connections Team for a conversation about our UUCW community. All are welcome!

RSVP: https://bit.ly/4zuwQgK or scan the QR Code with your mobile device!

Direct questions to ConnectionsTeam@UUCWorcester.org.



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!

Religious Exploration & Education

10 - 11:15 am; Youth Group: 5:30 - 7 pm, Fellowship Hall, all meetings on Sunday. For information on UUCW RE programs, please email the RE program at uucwre@gmail.com

UUCW News & Announcements

For the most up to date UUCW News, please scan the QR Code with your phone to v church website at www.uucworcester.org!

Office Information

Office Hours: Office Hours are Monday and Wednesday 9 am – 3 pm; Thursday 9 am – 2 pm. Jen works from home on Tuesdays from 9 am – 3 pm.She is available by phone (508-853-1942 ext 102) and email (office@uucworcester.org) from 9 am - 3 pm on Tuesdays, unless she is handing family medical needs.

Upcoming Schedule Change: The church office will be closed and Jen will be unavailable from October 23 – November 1. Jen will be working from home on November 2 and 3, and regular in-person office hours will resume on November 4.

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 Tues., 10 am - noon, Mtg.Room 2
UUCW Bell Ensemble (begins Oct. 19, 2026)
Monday, 6:30 - 7:30 pm, Sanctuary
Board of Management Meeting
3rd Monday, 6:30 - 8:30 pm, Mtg. Room 1
Choir Rehearsal
Sunday, 9 - 9:30 am, Sanctuary
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 Zoom
2nd Thurs, 6:30 - 7:30 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 (Begins Oct. 9, 2026)
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 Uke Group
E/O Monday, 7 - 8:30 pm, FH
Debtors Anonymous (DA)
Tues., 7 pm, Meeting Room 1
NAMI Support Group
1st Tues., 6:30 pm, Lounge
Overeaters Anonymous
Sat., 7:30 am, Meeting Room 1
Rainbow Explorers Group
Mon, 4:15 - 6:30 pm, Fellowship Hall
WGLN/ESWA Rainbow Lunch Club
2nd, 3rd & 4th Wed, 12-1:30 pm

The Offering through Sunday, Oct. 18

Sunday, Oct. 18 pledges	= $1,748
FY2027 Pledges to date	= $52,907
Budgeted FY2027 Pledges	= $211,753
% of way towards Budget Goal	25%
Sunday, Oct. 18 Plate	= $143
FY2027 Plate to date	= $1,948
Budgeted FY2027 offering	= $12,900
% of way towards Budget Goal	15%
Sunday, Oct. 18 Change for Change	= $22
Sunday, Oct. 18 Coffee Hour	= $9