



ORDER of SERVICE for Sunday, December 28, 2025

Believing in a community that unites all people

Pre-Service Quiet

Prelude *Es ist ein' Ros' entsprungen* by Johannes Brahms
Nelly Case, Pianist

Chalice Lighting Barry Brigham

Introit *The Lone, Wild Bird* by Arthur Frankenpohl

Welcome & Opening Words

✧ **Opening Hymn #232** *The Hills Are Bare at Bethlehem*

Reading Excerpt from *Noah's Flood: The New Scientific Discoveries About the Event that Changed History* by William Ryan & Walter Pitman

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

Offertory *Forest Green* by Austin Lovelace
(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

✧ **Closing Hymn #57** *All Beautiful the March of Days*

Benediction

Postlude *Raindrops Keep Fallin On My Head* by Burt Bacharach

✧ 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: Barry Brigham
Audio-Visual Team: Betty Jenewin, Paul Marr, & Frank Sweetser
Online Hospitality: Dawn Doud & Rev. Cheryl Leshay
Church Photographer: Betty Jenewin
Greeter & Connection Team: Vicky Biancolo & Mary Paradiso
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
Unless otherwise noted,
Rev. Aaron Payson, Preaching

Sunday, January 4
*That's A Great Question:
Annual Ask the Minister Sunday*

Sunday, January 11
Of Social Debts & Common Goods

Sunday, January 18
For Love of Justice & Humanity

Sunday, January 25
Guest Minister
Rev. Alice Anacheke-Naseman

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 ~ December 28 - January 4

Sunday, December 28 - Multi-Format Worship at 10 am

Saturday January 3

11 am - 2:30 pm Private Rental Sanctuary/Fellowship Hall

Sunday, January 4 - Multi-Format Worship at 10 am

1 - 5 pm Social Threads Fellowship Hall

Holiday Office Hours: The church office will be closed for the holidays from December 25 – January 4. For any pastoral or building related emergencies please call 508-853-1942 ext 108 (or press 6 during the initial voicemail message).

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



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: 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@uucworchester.org) from 9 am - 3 pm on Tuesdays, unless she is handling family medical needs.

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.uucworchester.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.

Regularly Scheduled UUCW Events/ Community Groups

Addressing Racism Group

E/O Tues., 10 am - noon, Meeting Room 2

UUCW Bell Ensemble

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, 6:15 - 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

UUCW Peace Vigil (on winter break)

2nd & 4th Wed, 6 - 7 pm, UUCW Peace Pole

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

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, 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



Unitarian Universalist Church of Worcester

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