ORDER of SERVICE *for* Sunday, February 22, 2026

Believing in a community that unites all people

Pre-Service Quiet

Prelude *Promise Made on Signal Mountain* by C. Lawson
Matthew Johnsen, Music Director

Chalice Lighting *Wishing for More, Wanting Less*
by A. Payson (AI Assisted)

Introit *Dancing Leaves* by Doug Hammer

Welcome Ana Gregory

Opening Words *For A Season of Clearing and Becoming*
by A Payson (AI Assisted) Andrew Wilkin

❋ **Opening Hymn #262** *Hosanna In The Highest*

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.

Reflection *Wishing for More, Wanting Less*
Rev. Aaron Payson

Offertory *Poeme* by Alexander Scriabin
(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

Musical Meditation *Musical Call and Response*

Responsive Reading *The Path Toward Enoughness*
by A Payson (AI Assisted)

❋ **Closing Hymn #1015** *I Wish I Knew How*

Benediction

Postlude *East Texas Waltz* by Peter Ostruschko

❋ 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:
Ana Gregory & Andrew Wilkin
Audio-Visual Team:
Betty Jenewin, Paul Marr, & Frank Sweetser
Online Hospitality:
Dawn Doud & Rev. Cheryl Leshay
Church Photographer:
Betty Jenewin
Greeter & Connection Team:
Vickie Cox-Lanyon & Mary Paradiso
Fellowship Hour Sponsor:
Religious Exploration Program

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, March 1
Stewardship Sunday
For Good, Be Good

Sunday, March 8
International Women's Day

Sunday, March 15
Blessed Are The Mistaken

Sunday, March 22
Youth Group Sunday

Sunday, March 29
Palm Sunday
What The Donkey Knows

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 ~ February 22 - March 1

Sunday, February 22 -Multi-Format Worship and Rel. Exploration at 10 am

Noon - 1:30 pm	Activist Reading Group	Lounge
Noon - 1:30 pm	Financial Info Session	Meeting Room 1

Monday, February 23

11:30 am - 4:30 pm	MCAN Clergy Mtg	Meeting Room 1

Wednesday, February 25

6:15 - 7 pm	Knit W Cheryl	Meeting Room 3

Friday, February 27

12:30 - 1:30 pm	Worc. Cnty Cons. Dst.	Fellowship Hall

Sunday, March 1 -Multi-Format Worship and Rel. Exploration at 10 am

11:45 am - 1:15 pm	COA Class	Lounge
1:30 - 5 pm	Social Threads	Fellowship Hall

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

Religious Exploration & Education

10 - 11:15 am; *Youth Group*: 5:30 - 7:30 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 visit the 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.

Office Hours Change: The church office will be closed on Wednesday, February 25 and Wednesday March 4 while Jen assists her father with medical needs.

Why does the Order of Service look different? As we get closer to the discontinuation of Publisher, the software we have used to put the Order of Service together for many years, we will be trying some new programs and fonts to see what works best. If you have trouble reading it, please let Jen know at office@uucworcester.org!

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.

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
2nd 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
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/ESWA Rainbow Lunch Club
2nd, 3rd & 4th Wed, 12-1:30 pm
Worcester Community Drum Circle
4th Sat, 7 - 9 pm, FH

The Offering through Sunday, February 15

Sunday, February 15 pledges	= $2,557
FY2026 Pledges to date	= $140,561
Budgeted FY2026 Pledges	= $211,570
% of way towards Budget Goal	66%
Sunday, February 15 offering	= $197
FY2026 offering to date	= $10,872
Budgeted FY2026 offering	= $10,000
% of way towards Budget Goal	109%
Sunday, February 15 Change for Change	= $24
Sunday, February 15 Coffee Hour	= $7

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

Responsive Reading *The Path Toward Enoughness* by A. Payson (AI Assisted)

In this season of turning inward, we pause to notice the longings that tug at our hearts.
We name our wishes with honesty, and our wants with care.

Some of our desires call us toward growth, courage, and compassion.
These we welcome, trusting they can widen our lives.

Other desires cling to us out of habit, fear, or scarcity.
These we release, making room for what is true.

May we learn the difference between hunger and hope, between grasping and choosing, between wanting more and needing less.
May we find enough—in our days, in our spirits, and in one another.

Let this be our practice for Lent: to listen deeply, to loosen gently, to live more freely.
Together, we walk the path toward enoughness and renewal.