



ORDER of SERVICE for Sunday December 17, 2023

Believing in a community that unites all people

Pre-Service Quiet

Prelude

Seasonal Selections

Music Director Matthew Johnsen

Chalice Lighting & Calling The Directions #446 Rev. Cheryl Leshay

Welcome

* Opening Hymn #1063 *Winter Solstice Chant*

The Pull Together Morning - Part I

Offertory

Greensleeves

*(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

The Pull Together Morning - Part II

* Closing Hymn #235 *Deck the Halls*

* Benediction

Postlude

Seasonal Selections

* Please stand in body or in spirit



SERVICE NOTES

Our thanks to these volunteers

Audio-Visual Team:

Betty Jenewin, Paul Marr,
Chris Ryan, & Frank Sweetser

Facebook Moderator:

Sue Neaz

Church Photographer:

Betty Jenewin

Greeter & Connection Team:

The Keyos & The Napoleones,
Maya Desai & David Fields

Visit a Connections Team
Member at the Welcome
Table 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 17

4 pm: Annual Vespers Service
A Christmas Carol Revisited
Followed by Annual Vespers Tea

Sunday, December 24

10 am: Ecumenical Christmas
Celebration at
Salem Covenant Church
7 pm: Annual Christmas Eve Service

Sunday, December 31

How to be a Good Ancestor
Guest Speaker Rev. Jennifer Innis

FELLOWSHIP INFO

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

11:15 AM: fully-hosted coffee hour
with snacks provided by a group at
the church.

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!

UUCW Activity Calendar ~ December 17 - January 2

Sunday, December 17 - Multi-Format Worship at 10 am,
Annual Holiday Vespers Service at 4 pm.

4 - 6 pm Holiday Vespers Service & Tea FH/Sanc.

Wednesday, December 20

6 - 8 pm Adult COA Class Lounge

Friday Dec 22 - Jan 1 - Office will be closed. Regular hours resume Jan. 2

Sunday, December 24 - Off-Site Worship at Salem Covenant Church at 10 am, Christmas Eve Worship at UUCW at 7 pm, see Worship Schedule on other side

Sunday, January 1 - 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



This Afternoon at 4 pm - Annual Holiday Vespers Service "A Christmas Carol Revisited" Our biggest service of the year to celebrate the Winter Holidays! Join members and friends as we sing carols, hear the wonderful music of our choir and soloists, and have a ruckus good time! Those attending are encouraged to dress to celebrate the season including holiday hats, and other attire. We will gather for our Annual Vespers Tea in Fellowship Hall following the service.



2023 Minister's Emergency Fund Drive In 2022 UUCW spent almost \$2400.00 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.simplerive.com/app/giving/unit90h215> 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 23 - January 1. Regular office hours will resume on January 2 (see above).

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

THE OFFERING - LAST WEEK

<i>Sunday, December 10 pledges</i>	= \$2,265.00
<i>FY2024 Pledges to date</i>	= \$73,350.00
<i>Budgeted FY2024 Pledges to date</i>	= \$86,400.00
<i>Sunday, December 10 offering</i>	= \$183.00
<i>FY2024 offering to date</i>	= \$3,771.00
<i>Budgeted FY2024 offering to date</i>	= \$3,393.00

Unitarian Universalist Church of Worcester

90 Holden Street, Worcester, MA 01606
 (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.