



ORDER of SERVICE for Sunday, October 4, 2026

Believing in a community that unites all people

Pre-Service Quiet

Prelude

Music Director Matthew Johnsen

Chalice Lighting

Emily Miller Mičák, Ministerial Intern

Change for Change Collection

Teacher Dedication Ceremony

Robin Mitzcavitch,
Director of Religious Exploration

Sending Song

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

Welcome

Beth Posner-Waldron, GOtV Team &
Roberto Diaz, Exec. Dir., Worcester Interfaith

Opening Words

✧ Opening Hymn

Joy in the Morning

Reflection

Rolling Over and Remaining Present

Rev. Aaron Payson

Offertory

(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

Responsive Reading

On Teaching by Khalil Gibran

✧ Closing Hymn # 1051

We Are...

Benediction

Postlude

✧ 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:

Beth Posner-Waldron

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:

Vicky Biancolo & Andrew Wilkin

Fellowship Hour Sponsor:

Get Out the Vote 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*
aining Present

Sunday, October 11
Indigenous People's Day Sunday
Seeing is Being

Sunday, October 18
Hungry Ghosts
Ministerial Intern
Emily Miller Mičák

Sunday, October 25
Of Shadows, Light, and Love

Sunday, November 1
Marigolds & Memory

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 4 - 11

Sunday, October 4 - Multi-Format Worship and Rel. Exploration at 10 am
 11:30 am - 12:30 pm GoTV Ballot Discussion Meeting Room 3
 noon - 1:30 pm Meet The Intern Lounge
 1:30 - 5:30 pm MCAN Meeting Meeting Room 1

Tuesday, October 6
 6:30 - 8:30 pm GoTV/WI Phonebank Zoom Zoom

Sunday, October 4 - Multi-Format Worship and Rel. Exploration at 10 am

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



Religious Exploration Program News – Pop-Up Youth Group! POP-UP YOUTH GROUP! Highschool teens grades 9-12 and graduates from Coming of Age 25/26. PLEASE REGISTER (scan the QR Code for the link!) to be on the POP-UP email and text group to hear about a POP-UP Youth Group meeting or event. Our first event is on October 4th. Stay tuned for details! Most events will take place on Sunday later afternoon/early evenings and will occur with a minimum of 5 participants RSVP-ing. For more info, contact Robin uucwre@gmail.com



Get Out the Vote Events Today: Discussion about the Referendums. Let's talk about the questions that will be on the Massachusetts ballot. Bring your red booklet that came in the mail and get ready to vote. Meeting Room #3, 11:30-12:30
Tuesday, October 6th - Make calls to Worcester voters. Join with Worcester Interfaith to call underrepresented voters in Worcester to help make a plan to vote. Help reach the goal of 5,000 contacts for this election. Meet by zoom, receive training, make calls together and boost Worcester's voter turnout. By Zoom, 6:30-8:00 pm. RSVP to GOTV@uucworchester.org to receive the zoom link.

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 visit the church website at www.uucworchester.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@uucworchester.org) from 9 am - 3 pm on Tuesdays, unless she is handling family medical needs.

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, 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:

AI-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, SEPT. 27

Sunday, Sept. 27 pledges	= \$4,005
FY2027 Pledges to date	= \$42,589
Budgeted FY2027 Pledges	= \$211,753
% of way towards Budget Goal	20%

Sunday, Sept. 27 Plate	= \$238
FY2027 Plate to date	= \$1,039
Budgeted FY2027 offering	= \$12,900
% of way towards Budget Goal	8%

Sunday, Sept. 27 Change for Change	= \$48
Sunday, Sept. 27 Coffee Hour	= \$31

Unitarian Universalist Church of Worcester

140 Shore Drive, Worcester, MA 01605-3117

(508) 853-1942 · office@uucworchester.org · www.uucworchester.org

Teacher and RE Dedication for Kick-Off Sunday

Robin Today we kick off Religious Exploration classes with children from 18 months to 18 years and adult volunteer teachers who carry the sacred privilege and responsibility of journeying beside them on our behalf.

Aaron Unitarian Universalism is a faith that has the power to save lives, to shape lives, to sweeten and soften the lives of kids and teenagers who are living in a world that can sometimes be harsh, lonely, unjust, and unkind.

Emily Let their Religious Exploration classes be a constant, a comfort, a community for our kids, a place that holds them in love and gives them strength as they navigate their complicated lives.

Robin A time of rest, recreation, respite, and refueling. A scaffold that supports them as they grow into who they were meant to be.

Aaron Now we offer a moment of blessing for our kids and for our teachers. Children and youth, teachers, advisors, and mentors, please rise in body or in spirit.

Emily Adults of the congregation, will you recognize, affirm, and protect the light in each child's heart? If so, answer, "We will."

Robin Will you support their religious upbringing by making this a place of joyful welcome, a place where they feel known and loved? If so, answer, "We will."

Aaron Will you lift up and honor the adults in your midst who take on the responsibility of teaching and supporting our children? If so, answer, "We will."

Emily May it be so. Adults, please be seated. Children, you are invited to join your teachers as you head to your religious exploration classes.

Responsive Reading adapted from Kahlil Gibran's The Prophet (On Teaching)

Then said a teacher, Speak to us of Teaching. And the prophet said:

**No one can reveal to you anything except what already lies half asleep
in the dawning of your knowledge.**

The teacher who walks in the shadow of the temple, among their followers, gives not of their wisdom but rather of their faith and their lovingness.

**If they are indeed wise, they do not bid you enter the house of *their*
wisdom,**

but rather lead you to the threshold of your own mind.

The astronomer may speak to you of their understanding of space, but cannot give you that understanding.

**The musician may sing to you of the rhythm, which is in all space,
but cannot give you the ear which hears the rhythm nor the voice that
echoes it.**

And one who is versed in the science of numbers can tell of the regions of weight and measure, but cannot conduct you there.

For the vision of one person lends not its wings to another.

**All: And even as each one of us stands alone in God's knowledge,
so must each one of us be alone in our own knowledge of God
and in our understanding of the earth.**

Joy in the Morning

♩ = 110 Gospel feel, swing

We'll find joy _____ in the mor - nin' _____
 (We find) hope _____ in our chil - dren _____

Ab/Bb Bb Eb Fm/Eb Eb Ab Adim

Joy _____ in the mor - nin' _____ Joy _____ in the mor - nin' _____
 Hope _____ in our chil - dren _____ Hope _____ in our chil - dren _____

Bb Bb/D Eb Eb/Db Ab/C

in the mor - nin' we'll find joy. We find
 In our chil - dren we find hope

1.

Abm6/Cb Eb/Bb 3 Eb/Bb Fm/Bb Eb 3 Ab/Eb Eb7 Ab/Bb Ab/Bb

Words & Music: Adam Podd, b.1986
 © Adam Podd
 Sing Out Love expiration July 2028

Arrangement Permissions

- 👉 One-time Adaptation
 - 👍 New Arrangement OK
 - 👋 Seek permission to arrange
- Look at the *Sing Out Love* "Permissions" section for further explanation

Joy in the Morning - 2

20

We find strength in each-oth - er
(There is) love all a-round us

Chords: Eb, A/B, B, E, F#m/E, E, A, A#dim

26

Strength in each-oth - er
Love all a-round us

Strength in each-oth - er
Love all a-round us

Chords: B, B/D#, E, E/D, A/C#

33

Last time tag

In each oth - er we find strength
All a round us there is love. There is

Chords: Am6/C, E/B, E/B, F#m/B, E, A/E, E7, A/B, B