ORDER of SERVICE
for Sunday, December 14, 2025

Believing in a community that unites all people

Pre-Service Quiet

Prelude *Prelude* by Ernst Bloch
Matthew Johnsen, Music Director & Pianist

Chalice Lighting words by Emma Lazarus

Introit *Rise Through the Rubble* by Sigma Vibe & Richard Jeffries

Welcome

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.

Opening Words words from The Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society Andrew Wilkin

✵ **Opening Hymn #223** *Rock of Ages, Let Our Song*

8th Principle Moment David Schowalter, 8th Principle Task Force

Reflection *Wading Through the Rubble* Rev. Aaron Payson

50/50 Collection to benefit Mass. Interfaith Power & Light
Micheal Reed, Mass. Interfaith Power & Light

Offertory *You've Got A Friend* by Carole King
(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 *Improvisation* by Matthew Johnsen

Responsive Reading #629 *Hannukah Lights*

✵ **Closing Hymn #221** *Light One Candle*

Benediction *A Jewish Prayer*

Choral Postlude *I Smile* by Kirk Franklin Shah Salmi, Soloist

✵ 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:
Andrew Wilkin & David Schowalter

Audio-Visual Team:
Betty Jenewin, Paul Marr, & Frank Sweetser

Online Hospitality:
Dawn Doud & Rev. Cheryl Leshay

Church Photographer:
Betty Jenewin

Greeter & Connection Team:
Maya Desai & Mary Paradiso

Fellowship Hour Sponsor:
Soup Sunday with Kristen Payson & Catherine Roberts

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, December 21
10 am Annual Winter Solstice Service:
The Goddess & The Redbird
4 pm - Annual Holiday Vespers Service & Tea: *Reveling in the Light*

Please scan the QR code to see the most recent Nugget "Tidings of Comfort and Joy" for the full Holiday Services Schedule!

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 14 - 21

Sunday, December 14 - Multi-Platform Worship and RE at 10 am

1 - 5 pm	Social Threads	Fellowship Hall

Tuesday, December 16

6 - 7:30 pm	Worcester Indivisible	Fellowship Hall

Saturday, December 20

1 - 4 pm	Worcester Indivisible	Fellowship Hall

Sunday, December 21 - Multi-Platform Worship and RE at 10 am, Annual Holiday Vespers Service & Tea at 4 pm

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

2025 Holiday Vespers Tea Teams - Sign Up Today!! We are looking for help with Vespers Tea Teams! We will be setting up 2 hours prior to the start of service. Can you come early and set up tables and/or help with plating? Are you available to help set out food after the service? Who wants to serve tea water, coffee, or festival punch? Lastly, we need all to help clean up so no one has to stay late. Thank you for your time and consideration in helping us make this "The Best Vespers Ever!" For all information and to sign up to help, scan the QR code with your phone, or visit the church website at https://www.uucworcester.org/2025-12-21-vespers-team-sign-up/

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!

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

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.

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
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

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