

Unitarian Universalist Church West -- Order of Service – December 24, 2021
“Opening to Joy” Rev. Denise Cawley & Rev. Suzelle Lynch

1. **Prelude** – "Little Drummer Boy" by K. Davis, arr. J. Brickman; Ruben Piirainen, Lead Director of Music
2. **Call to Celebration** – The Rev. Suzelle Lynch
3. **Chalice Lighting: Opening to Joy** – Stephanie Wahlen, Board of Trustees
In the midst of life’s blessings and struggles
We light this flame to remind ourselves
that joy is within us, waiting for our heart’s door to open so it may fly free.
May we have the courage to open to joy
May we have the curiosity to follow its flight
and prepare it room in our souls.
4. **Welcome** – Revs. Denise Cawley and Suzelle Lynch
5. **Responsive Carol** - “**The First Nowell**” English Carol (see reverse side)
6. **Special Music** - "**O Holy Night**" by Adolphe Adam – performed by Adlai Kim, bass baritone;
Ruben Piirainen, pianist
7. **A Story for Everyone** – “**The Two Lambs,**” an Arab folktale collected by Ruth Sawyer in the
book, “Joy to the World.” Read by Rev. Suzelle
8. **A Carol and Dance** - "**In the Darkness of the Winter**” by Piirainen/Lynch, Natalie Fleury, alto;
Michelle Guthrie, dancer; Ruben Piirainen, pianist
9. **Reading** – “**It Doesn’t Seem Like Much**” by the Rev. Theresa Ninán Soto – read by Rev. Denise
10. **Reflection** - “Christmas Miracles” The Rev. Denise Cawley
11. **Special Music** – "Gesù Bambino" by Pietro Yon (Adlai Kim & Ruben Piirainen)
12. **Offering Words** - Rev Denise
13. **Offertory** – "Away in the
Manger," 19th century
American carol, arr. Michael
Hassell performed by Ruben
Piirainen
14. **Dedication of the Offering**
We dedicate these generously given gifts to the spirit of Christmas:
the spirit of peace, hope, and joy.
With these gifts we send our peace, hope and love out into the world;
May we follow them into action with the work of our hearts and our hands.
15. **Gentle Reminders & Benediction** – Revs. Denise Cawley & Suzelle Lynch
16. **Recessional Music** -- Please follow Revs. Suzelle and Denise to the East Entrance to light candles
and sing “Silent Night.” An usher will provide songsheets.
17. **Outdoor Carol and Candle-Lighting** “**Silent Night**” by Mohr/Gruber (Please see song sheet)

Our offering this evening supports the UUCW Ministers’ Make a Difference Fund – this fund allows our ministers to help sponsor needed projects and support members or neighbors in need. **Thank you for your generosity!**

ONLINE: Text “UUCW” to 73256 - OR – go to uucw.org & click “Donate”

MAIL: Mail a Contribution to UU Church West – 13001 W North Ave,
Brookfield, WI 53005

RESPONSIVE CAROL - The First Nowell

BOLD = Leader

ITALIC = Congregation

The First Nowell, the Angels did say

Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay

In fields where they lay keeping their sheep

On a cold winter's night that was so deep –

Nowell;

Nowell!

Nowell...

Nowell!

Born is the King of Israel!

They looked up and saw a star

Shining in the East beyond them far

And to the earth it gave great light

And so it continued both day and night –

Nowell;

Nowell!

Nowell...

Nowell!

Born is the King of Israel!

And by the light of that same star,

Three Magi came from country far

To seek for a King was their intent

And to follow the Star wherever it went –

Nowell;

Nowell!

Nowell...

Nowell!

Born is the King of Israel!

Worship Service Guidelines in the COVID Era

The guidelines below allow us to be together in worship and religious education during the pandemic. Please read them carefully and follow them closely. THANK YOU!

1. **Online live service broadcasts will continue, accessed via our website,** uucw.org/livestream/
2. **If you feel ill, have a fever or cough, please stay home and enjoy the livestream worship.**
3. **Please plan to arrive at UUCW 15 -20 minutes early** (by 9:40 am) to sign in. Signing in is for COVID contact tracing, if necessary.
4. **Wear a mask at all times** that covers both your nose and mouth. (Note: Speakers at the pulpit will unmask at times; this does not mean you can remove your mask.)
5. **No hugging or handshakes** – Elbow bumping and waves are always welcome.
6. **Wear a coat or warm sweater!** We will have windows open and fans on for better air exchange and circulation.
7. **Cameras in sanctuary.** If you are present in the Sanctuary, you may appear on the livestream.
8. **Sanitize your hands regularly.** We will provide sanitizer at the East and West entrances. There is soap and paper towels in the restrooms as well.
9. **Limited seating in Sanctuary.** Overflow seating will be available in the Community Room, with a big-screen TV showing the service.

10. **No Eating or Drinking/Coffee Hour** — Our COVID guidelines do not allow indoor eating or drinking at this time. There will be no after-service Coffee Hour yet.
11. **Candle-Lighting Station provided for sharing Joys and Concerns** – You may silently light a candle for a Joy or Concern before or after the service and fill out a Sharing Card at the table on the North Ave side of the Sanctuary. COVID safety precautions mean no spoken joys & concerns.
12. **No congregational singing – but humming behind your mask is ok.** Singing in a large group indoors is still strongly discouraged by the Association of UU Music Ministries, the professional organization for congregational music leaders, and other professional musicians' groups. We will have music from soloists and small ensembles.
13. **Vaccination Required for Sunday Volunteers** – All Sunday Volunteers must be vaccinated; please contact Church Administrator Vicki Banville for details. (vickib@uucw.org)
14. **If you test positive for COVID after attending a service at UUCW** or having contact with UUCW members, please let Vicki Banville know as soon as possible. (vickib@uucw.org)