

“Unbecoming,” by Rev. Matt Aspin

Order of Service

January 9, 2022

Prelude: “Allegro,” by Sammartini, performed by Amber.

Welcome and Announcements: Barbara Park

Opening Song #55 (SLT): “Dark of Winter,” performed by Deesa Pence, Dan Proud, and Barb Park.

Chalice Lighting: “The Black Cat,” by Kenneth Collier.

We try to find a silent black cat in an empty, dark room.
We blindfold ourselves
Maybe blindness will help us see in the dark.
We grope madly this way and that and finally declare,
With conviction,
That there is no cat.
Then we sit, still and silent,
And the black cat crawls into our lap and purrs...

As we light this chalice to guide our way, let us soften our gaze to allow the messages of this service find their way into our hearts.

Silent Meditation

Reading: “Letting Go,” by Jay Wolin.

Presentation: “Unbecoming,” by Rev. Matt Aspin.

Discussion

Closing Words: “New Day Lyric,” by Amanda Gorman

Closing Music: “El Choclo by Villoldo,” performed by Amber.

Joys and Concerns; Welcome Guests and Visitors

This service is being recorded for those who are unable to attend today.



Announcements

We are sharing this quarter’s offering with “The Street Pulse,” a monthly newspaper sold on the streets of Madison by homeless vendors to provide them some income. Madison Urban Ministries was an early financial supporter. The newspaper publishes stories and poems by homeless individuals as well as the work of local activists. Sellers purchase their papers for 25 cents apiece and sell them for \$1.

The Study Group Continues in January! Prairie’s Study Group will meet via Zoom the 2nd Monday in January (Jan. 10) to discuss the book The Water Dancer by Ta-Nehisi Coates. Here are the upcoming selections:

February 2022: Behind the Kitchen Door by Saru Jayaraman, led by Katrina Thompson.

March 2022: Let the Record Show by Sarah Schulman

April 2022: Colonize This! Young Women of Color on Today’s Feminism edited by Daisy Hernandez and Bushra Rehman

Join Rev. Matt Wednesday, January 12 at 1:00pm or 7:30 pm, for Matt’s Chats! Matt’s Chats offer a space where Prairie Members can drop in to touch base, develop new connections, and potentially have some interesting discussions along the way. No long term commitment required, just a desire to connect, share a bit of your story, and maybe even learn a thing or two. Find the link to Rev. Matt’s Chats on Prairie’s website.

Prairie UU Society Bond of Union

We, the members of Prairie, wish to associate ourselves together in a religious community which affirms that we share a common humanity, that we need one another, and that our futures are inescapably bound together. Together we would expand our intellectual horizons, enrich our sensory experiences, and deepen our emotional sensitivities. We would sharpen our ethical awareness and broaden our sense of social responsibility. We would stand tall in our quest for integrity of life, yet not at others’ expense. As the prairie stretches out until it becomes one with the sky, let us reach out to touch and be one with the natural world, and with one another.

Calendar

Sunday, January 9, 2022

10:00 Service

Monday, January 10, 2022

7:00 Study Group

Wednesday, January 12, 2022

1:00 Rev. Matt's Chats

7:30 Rev. Matt's Chats

Friday, January 14, 2022

4:30 Dungeons&Dragons (advanced)

Sunday, January 16, 2022

10:00 Service

Thursday, January 20, 2022

5:30 Board

Friday, January 21, 2022

4:30 Dungeons&Dragons (advanced)

Saturday, January 22, 2022

10:00 Creativity and Connection

Sunday, January 23, 2022

10:00 Service

Wednesday, January 26, 2022

1:00 Rev. Matt's Chats

7:30 Rev. Matt's Chats

Friday, January 28, 2022

4:30 Dungeons&Dragons (advanced)

Sunday, January 30, 2022

10:00 Service

Tuesday, February 1, 2022

7:00 Tuesday Trivia

Friday, February 4, 2022

4:30 Dungeons&Dragons (advanced)

Prairie Board Officers and Staff

Prairie Unitarian Universalist Society

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Rev. Matt Aspin, Minister

Rachel Long, President

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Dan Klock, Congregational Administrator

Alice Mandt, Director of Religious Education

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Upcoming Services

Sunday, January 16, 2022

Service by Rev. Matt Aspin

Sunday, January 23, 2022

"Befriending Our Wounds: A Meditation," by Lisa Glueck.

Everyone suffers emotional pain. Collectively, we're hit with the pandemic, climate change, environmental degradation, and political chaos. Individually, we worry about our children, our parents, our friends, our financial security and our health. No wonder we're stressed! Sometimes we feel alone in our misery, but actually we're all in this boat together. Lisa Glueck (she/her) will speak about mindfulness and meditation, then lead a guided meditation designed to help us embrace and transform our internal wounds.

Sunday, January 30, 2022

"Caroline Healey Dall: Among the Transcendentalists" by Robin Proud.

Sunday, February 6, 2022

Service

Principles of the Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations

We, the member congregations of the Unitarian Universalist Association, covenant to affirm and promote:

1. The inherent worth and dignity of every person;
2. Justice, equity and compassion in human relations;
3. Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations;
4. A free and responsible search for truth and meaning;
5. The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large;
6. The goal of world community with peace, liberty and justice for all;
7. Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.