

## “Readying to Rise” by Rev. Matt Aspin

### Order of Service

April 17, 2022

**Prelude:** “Song Without Words,” by Mendelssohn, performed by Mary Frantz.

**Welcome and Announcements:** Mary Mullen

**Opening Music:** #61 (SLT) “Lo, the Earth Awakes Again”

**Chalice Lighting:** “For Holy Days on Which We Recall the Old Stories,” By Dillman Baker Sorrells.

For holy days on which we recall the old stories, we light the flame.

For Passover which reminds us of the courage and strength of those seeking freedom in the past, we light the flame.

For Easter which reminds us that love is our greatest challenge, we light the flame.

For gathering today in this sacred space, we light the flame.

For the opportunity to be together as a community, to remember the past, to plan for our future, to be alive in our present.

### **Silent Meditation**

**Reading:** #627 (SLT) “Seasons of the Self,” by Max A. Coots.

We need a celebration that speaks the Spring-inspired word about life and death,

*About us as we live and die,*

Through all the cycling seasons,

Days, and years.

*We need the sense of diety to crack our own hard, brown, December husks*

And push life out of inner tombs and outer pain.

*Unless we move the seasons of the self, the Spring can't come for us.*

The Winter will go on and on.

*And Easter will remain a myth,*

*And life will never come again,*

*Despite the fact of Spring.*

**Presentation:** “Readying to Rise,” by Rev. Matt Aspin.

### **Discussion**

**Offering and Offertory:** “Prelude,” by Pachelbel, performed by Mary Frantz.

**Closing Words:** #692 (SLT) by Lauralyn Bellamy

If, here, you have found freedom, take it with you into the world.

If you have found comfort,

Go and share it with others.

If you have dreamed dreams, help one another, that they may come true!

If you have known love, give some back to a bruised and hurting world.

Go in peace.

**Closing Music:** #38 (SLT) “Morning Has Broken”

**Joys and Concerns: Welcome Guests and Visitors**

**Greet Your Neighbor**

### **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.*

**Announcements**

**We are sharing our offering for this quarter** with The Catalyst Project, a small community of up to three single moms and their young kids who have experienced homelessness. Catalyst offers collaborative problem-solving, trauma-informed mentoring, and client-specific therapeutic intervention. The Catalyst Project was founded on the belief that the wisdom of those grossly mistreated by our society and its discriminatory systems is essential to creating a society that serves all of its people.

**Easter Egg Hunt!** Instead of regular RE classes, Prairie's kids will have an Easter Egg Hunt in the back yard.

**Register now** for our annual retreat April 29th-May 1st 2022 at Bethel Horizons in Dodgeville! Online registration is preferred, there are paper registration forms on the back hymnal cart.

**We raised \$9,509 in the Service Auction!** Thank you to all of you for making the service auction a success. We've begun to send letters to donors and winning bidders. There are still items left! A full list is available on Prairie's website in the For Current Members section.

**Spiritual Exploration Group** will meet every 2 weeks, on a drop-in basis, with rotating discussion leaders. No preparation or reading is required; it will be an opportunity to quiet our minds, share what's going on in our hearts, experience presence together, and deepen our sense of community. The next meeting will be on Thursday, April 21, at 1:00 p.m. Please join us!

**Prairie's Spring Parish Meeting** will be held on Sunday, May 22, at 10:00 a.m. We'll start the day with a short service, then move into meeting. We'll be electing Board and Nominating Committee members along with other business.

**Prairie Board Officers and Staff**

**Prairie Unitarian Universalist Society**  
2010 Whenona Dr. Madison, WI 53711  
608-271-8218 [www.uuprairie.org](http://www.uuprairie.org)

**Rev. Matt Aspin**, Minister

**Rachel Long**, President

**Lynn Currie**, Vice President

**Suzanne Gernandt**, Treasurer

**Dan Proud**, Secretary

**Dan Klock**, Congregational Administrator

**Alice Mandt**, Director of Religious Education

**John (Raju) Eliganti**, Custodian

**Upcoming Services**

**Sunday, April 24, 2022**

"Earth Day – Walking The Talk" by Gary Gates

Gary Gates talks about some of the ways he and Pam try to go lightly on the earth.

**Sunday, May 1, 2022**

*Retreat April 29 to May 1 at Bethel Horizons*  
Key Log Ceremony as part of the Prairie Retreat

**Sunday, May 8, 2022**

Service

**Sunday, May 15, 2022**

Service by Rev. Matt Aspin

**Sunday, May 22, 2022**

*Parish Meeting*

**Sunday, May 29, 2022**

Service

**Sunday, June 5, 2022**

Bridging Service

**Sunday, June 12, 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.