

"A Winter Solstice Celebration" by Karen Smith

7th Principle: Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part. **Value:** Interdependence

Order Of Service - Dec 15, 2024

Prelude: "People, Look East", performed by the Prairie Choir, directed by Barb Park, accompanied by Carl Wacker

Welcome: Karen Smith

Creating Sacred Time

- Locating ourselves in the outer flow of the outer flow of the seasons - Karen Smith
- Locating season flows in our inner lives and chalice lighting - Johanna Hatch

Opening Music: "Silent Night", words by Ellen Reed, accompanied by Karleen Tyksinski, lyrics are on the back of this page

Creating Sacred Space; Calling the Circle - led by Susanne Oliver

Hail festal darkness of the North earth's life and light will soon be reborn
 Hail the gentle breath of East
 Hail the passionate creative spark of South
 Hail the trickling water of the West
 Hail the Spirits of the center the threads that unite all things
 Hail to those who lived before us
 Hail to those who follow us
 All see the turning of the Wheel
 The endless cycle that connects us all
 Inside the circle we are one!
 Guide us to the returning light

Celebrating the Darkness

- The Singing Darkness - Karen Smith, Nancy Wunderlin, Susanne Oliver
- Holy Darkness Prayer - Margit Moses
- Preparing our hearts and minds for the new year - Avalon Haykus

Welcoming the Returning Sun

Narrator, Barbara Chatterton, Leader, Margit Moses

Leader: As we kindle the new fire,
All: We have hope for many blessings in the New Year.

Leader: The turning wheel, disperses the gloom,
All: Call forth the sun from the rich earth's womb!

Leader: The turning wheel of death and birth.
All: Changes the seasons of the earth!

Leader: The turning wheel beckons the light.
All: And summons the sun from the womb of night!

Special Music: "Solstice Carol" by Kim Baryluk, performed by Karen Smith, Johanna Hatch, and Ron Frye

Opening the Circle - Johanna Hatch

Closing Music: "Joy to the World" accompanied by Karleen Tyksinski, lyrics are on the back of this page

Offering & Announcements (offering collected while announcements are read)

Joys/Concerns & Welcoming Guests/Visitors

The Sending Forth



PrairieUU

Prairie Unitarian Universalist Society

Sung to "Silent Night", words by Ellen Reed

Silent night, Solstice night
All is calm, all is bright
Nature slumbers in forest and glen
Till the springtime she awakens again
Sleeping spirits grow strong , sleeping spirits grow strong

Silent night, Solstice night
Silver moon, shining bright
Snowflakes blanket the slumbering earth
Yule fires welcome the Sun's rebirth
Hark the light is reborn, hark the light is reborn!

Silent night, Solstice night
Quiet rest till the Light
Turning ever the rolling wheel
Brings the Winter to comfort and heal
Rest your spirit in peace, rest your spirit in peace!

Sung to "Joy to the World", author unknown

Night ruled the Earth, and darkness reigned.
But on the wheel does spin!
From out the womb of night, is birthed the Infant Light.
The Sun has come again, The Sun has come again
The Sun, the Sun, has come again.

Joy to the world! The Light returns!
And sunlight fills the air!
The tide has turned, the Sun has been reborn.
And hope is everywhere, And hope is everywhere
And hope, and hope, is everywhere.

Holiday Potluck Brunch - Wed, Dec 25, 10am

Bring your favorite dish to share and enjoy warm company, and holiday cheer. After brunch, sing along to holiday songs or bring your instrument and join the jam.

Announcements

Today - Interweave

Prairie's group for LGBTQ+ and questioning folks, as well as allies, are meeting in Prairie's annex after the Sunday service from 11:30-1pm. Childcare provided.

Next Sunday "Symbol Tree" by Prairie

The Symbol Tree all ages service is a Prairie tradition of love and light in the darkest days of the year. We see the light of hope in the children's candlelight procession (battery candles for safety), then we strengthen our relationships by sharing about our lives. Everyone is invited to bring something that symbolizes an important personal joy or sorrow from 2024. Each person has an opportunity to describe their symbol and hang it on our tree. The symbol does not need to be fancy - perhaps it is a photo or a slip of paper with a few words on it.

Next Sunday in RE: Children will participate in the intergenerational Symbol Tree service.

Events at Prairie on Saturday, Dec 21

Game Group - All ages are invited to play tabletop games together at Prairie's Meeting House, 1-4:30pm.

Book Discussion Group

Meeting in Prairie's Annex from 2-3:30pm to continue our discussion of Supercommunicators by Charles Duhigg.

Solstice Bonfire

Bonfire in Prairie's backyard near the annex from 4-5:30pm. S'mores, cocoa, and campfire songs. All are welcome. Bring camp chairs. Contact DRE@uuprairie.org with questions