

ORDER OF SERVICE
for
Prairie Unitarian Society
April 12, 1992

"Prayer: to ask that the laws of the universe be annulled on behalf of a single petitioner, confessedly unworthy"
-- Ambrose Bierce

PRELUDE

CHALICE LIGHTING AND INVOCATION

words by Cynthia Ward

RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP

This fellowship is not a place of right convictions, a fortress of truth, or even a bastion of philosophy.

IT IS A COMMUNITY OF THOSE WHO HAVE SUFFERED LOSS, AND LIVING THROUGH IT, LEARNED TRUE COMPASSION.

We have a sense of awe and mystery about this world and the enterprise of living.

OUR FELLOWSHIP IS WHERE WE HEAR MUSIC AND SING IT OURSELVES, WHERE WE SERVE ONE ANOTHER.

It is where the strands of our beliefs, our lives and hopes form a cable strong enough to bear us across the valleys of pain, despair and disillusionment.

EACH HAS EXPERIENCED THESE, OR WILL, AND WE GAIN STRENGTH FROM ONE ANOTHER.

ALL: THIS IS WHY WE COME TOGETHER, IN THIS SPECIAL PLACE, INFUSING IT WITH HOPE.

GUIDED MEDITATION

OPENING SONG

108 "Spirit of Life"

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

"How Mink Stole Time" (A Salish legend)

A PRAYER OF GRATITUDE (Max Coats)

A PRAYER OF SUPPLICATION (Mark Twain)

OFFERTORY

REFLECTIONS

"UU's Haven't Got a Prayer" by Michael A. Schuler

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

(listeners are invited to ask questions or make brief comments)

JOYS & CONCERNS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

CLOSING SONG

"Prayer For This House"

PARTING THOUGHT

159

Prayer for This House

Louis Untermeyer, 1923

OLDBRIDGE 8.8.8.4.

Robert N. Quail, 1903

1. May noth - ing e - vil cross this dóor,
2. By faith made strong, the raft - ers will
3. Peace shall walk soft - ly through these rooms,
4. With laugh - ter drown the rau - cous shout

And may ill - for - tune nev - er pry A - bout these
With-stand the bat - tering of the storm. This hearth, though
Touch-ing our lips with ho - ly wine, Till ev - ery
And, though these shel - tering walls are thin, May they be

win - dows; may the roar And rain go by.
all the world grow chill Will keep you warm.
cas - ual cor - ner blooms In - to a shrine.
strong to keep hate out And hold love in.