

**"Finding balance in the New Year" by Rev. Matt Aspin**

**Monthly theme:** Finding Our Center

**UU Principle:** 3rd - Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations

**Order Of Service - January 8th 2023**

**Prelude:** "The Swan" by Camille Saint-Saëns, performed by Luna Small

**Welcome and Announcements:** Barb Park (pronouns she/her)

**Chalice Lighting:** "Before the World Told Us Who It Wanted Us To Be " by Scott Taylor

May the light we now kindle  
and the time we now share,  
anchor us to that inner flame,  
that sacred center,  
which helps us remember who we were  
before the world told us who it wanted us to be.  
May our time together clear the way  
for those memories  
and voices,  
and friends  
that lead us back home.

**Opening Music:** #168 SLT "One More Step", accompanied by Amber

**Story For All Ages:** *Balancing Act* by Ellen Walsh, read by our Director of Religious Exploration, Alice Mandt (pronouns she/her)

**Children's Recessional:** by Joyce Poley

As you go on your way, may you be filled with gladness.

Go in joy, go in joy!

May fortune bless your day with peace and loving kindness.

Go in love, go in love.

**Silent Meditation**

**Presentation:** "Finding balance in the New Year" by Rev. Matt Aspin (pronouns he/him)

**Discussion**

**Offering and Offertory:** "Berceuse" by F. Schubert, performed by Luna Small

**Closing Words:** "As We Part Now From One Another" by Eileen B Karpeles

**Closing Music:** #1021 STJ "Lean On Me", accompanied by Amber

**Joys/Concerns & Welcoming Guests/Visitors**

**Greet Your Neighbor**





### **Announcements**

**For the first quarter of 2023, Prairie will share its offertory collection with JustDane**, which runs Healing House, a place where homeless families can stay while a family member recovers from surgery. JustDane also helps people returning to the community from prison with problems like finding housing, a difficult task for anyone with a record. And this is only part of what JustDane does. Thank you for supporting the important work of this agency!

**Soup Sunday today!** Please join us today for lunch and conversation after the service. Soup Sunday is a fundraiser for Prairie with a suggested donation of \$5 for adults. Visitors, newcomers, and kids eat free. *We'll need a few volunteers to help move chairs and set up tables right after the service. Thank you!*

#### **Visitor Orientation today!**

For visitors and those interested, please meet in the foyer by the welcoming table to gather for the visitors orientation and Soup Sunday.

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#### **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**

#### **Thursday, January 12th, Spanish Speakers' Potluck**

This group is meeting in the Annex on Thursday, January 12th at 2:30 p.m. The group is open to all who wish to practice their Spanish. Please bring a food item to share.

**Sunday, January 15 - Service, "A Small Town Rises"** by Eddie and Mary Sue Short. Mr. and Mrs. Short, joined forces in 1964 with a community of courageous black townspeople in Shaw, Mississippi who risked everything to dramatically change the status quo in the heart of the Mississippi Delta. In challenging segregation and its devastating effects, their lives were threatened, and they were jailed and harassed for helping people register to vote, fight poverty, improve schools, integrate public facilities, and more. Their weapons: conscience, courage, faith and solidarity.

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#### **Prairie Board Officers and Staff**

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