



"The Only Constant is Change" by Rev. Matt Aspin

Monthly theme: Resistance

UU Principle: 5th Principle - The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large

Order Of Service - April 16th 2023

Prelude: Andante with Variations by Mozart,
performed by Amber

Welcome and Announcements:

Chalice Lighting: "We Gather in a Sacred Space"
by Emily Richards

We gather this morning in a sacred space,
Kindling a fire that burns here in our chalice and in our hearts.

We gather to engage in a different kind of worship,
One that doesn't include sermons or hymns but is holy nonetheless.

We gather to honor our covenant and engage in congregational life,
Doing the necessary work to ensure that this community thrives.

We gather together, as a people of faith, guided by love,

A love that burns as bright as the flame in our chalice.
We light this chalice, as we have done so many times before,

For the warmth of love,
The light of truth,
And the energy of action.

Opening Music: #360 SLT "Here We Have Gathered"
accompanied by Amber

Story For All Ages: *The End Is Just the Beginning* by Mike Bender, Illustrated by Diana Mayo read by our Director of Religious Exploration, Alice Mandt (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: "The Only Constant is Change" by Rev. Matt Aspin (he/him), Kathy Converse (she/her), Ken Skog (He/Him), Molly Plunkett (she/hers), John Wunderlin (He/HIm)

Discussion

Offering and Offertory: The Storm by Burgmüller,
performed by Amber

Closing Words: "Communities of Memory and Promise"
by Kendyl L. R. Gibbons

Our communities of memory and promise are founded upon covenants because we all need a defense against the impulse of immediate feelings that challenge our best intentions. It is necessary to be reminded from time to time of what you said you were going to do, and what you really want, over and above the lure of momentary comfort.

"Covenant" is our word for the solemn promises that counteract the randomness of a future in which anything and everything is possible, by committing us in advance to certain relationships and values. We do [this] because what we build with intention, and even with difficulty, is more satisfying in the long run than the pleasures that we happen to encounter. We do it in time-consuming rituals, invoking powers that we scarcely know how to name, because we are seeking some way to give our lives the density, and dignity, and depth that we suspect, with longing, might yet be possible.

Closing Music: #300 SLT "With Heart and Mind"
accompanied by Amber

Joys/Concerns & Welcoming Guests/Visitors

Greet Your Neighbor



Announcements

2nd Quarter Offertory Sharing: Nehemiah Center for Urban Leadership Development

For the second quarter of 2023, Prairie is sharing its offertory collection with the Nehemiah Center for Urban Leadership Development, which provides peer support to men returning to the community from prison through its Reentry and Dignity Housing programs. Nehemiah also mentors kids who need help navigating school and life and offers an acclaimed course for the general public, "Black History for a New Day."

Spring Parish Meeting, moved up to May 7th

The new date for our Spring Parish Meeting is Sunday, May 7th. We'll have a brief service with the parish meeting starting at 10:15 am. Agenda and committee reports will be distributed prior to the meeting.

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

Service: Sunday, April 23, 10:00 am "Federal Funding Makes Clean Energy More Affordable for All" by Kathryn Kuntz

Kathy Kuntz, Director of Dane County Office of Energy & Climate Change will talk about the funding available to make climate action more affordable. This is the best of all possible times to think about solar, an electric vehicle and other clean energy technologies! Kathy will describe how homeowners, renters, landlords, businesses and nonprofits can leverage federal funding to be part of the clean energy future.

Service: Sunday, April 30, 10:00 am "A Walk on the Wild Side" by Prairie RE

During this intergenerational service, our youth are taking us to a magical land where people can hear what the animals say and vice versa. This Earth Day themed play will culminate in a song. After the service, we will **celebrate Mary Frantz's 100th birthday** with cake and also have our annual maypole ceremony outside.

Congregational Discussion Today and next Sunday

After the service please join Rev. Matt, the Board, and the Committee on Ministry where the Board will start an initial discussion with the congregation on options they are exploring due to Rev. Matt's departure. The discussion will continue after next week's service as well.