

PRAIRIE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST SOCIETY

Sunday, March 20, 2005

Prelude

Welcome - Mike Briggs

Chalice Lighting - Marcia Johnson

Moment of Silent Meditation

Joys and Concerns

Hymn #21 - *For the Beauty of the Earth*

Introduction to Spring Equinox & Earth Day -

Galen Smith

Spring Goddess Skit -

Judy Wacker and Prairie Children

Children's Story - Rose Smith

Song - *The Fox Ran Out on a Chilly Night*

Presentation, Part I - Galen Smith,
with readings by children and adults

Children's Egg and Treasure Hunt

(indoors if weather is bad)

Presentation Part II - Galen Smith & Adults

Offering

Introduction of Guests and Visitors

Prairie Announcements

Closing Words - Pledge to the Earth

"I pledge allegiance to the Earth, including all life, one planet, irreplaceable, with liberty and justice for all"

Announcements

Humanist Group meets today after the service.

Midweek Meal @ Prairie meets every Wednesday at 6:30 at Prairie. Bring food to share.

Prairie Fire deadline is today. Send submissions to prairieu@execpc.com.

Calendar

Sunday, March 20, 11:45 a.m. Humanist group lunch and discussion

Tuesday, March 22, 2:00 p.m. Prairie Elders meet at Oakwood West.

Thursday, March 24, 6:00 p.m. Spanish Speakers potluck and meeting at Prairie.

Sunday, March 27, 10:00 a.m. "Celebrating Easter in Poetry and Prose" led by Rose Smith.

Sunday, April 10, 11:30 a.m. Potluck followed by Parish Meeting

The Fox (traditional, adapted by Burl Ives)

1. The fox went out on a chilly night
Prayed for the moon to give him light
For he'd many a mile to go that night
Before he reached the town-o

Town-o, town-o, He'd many a mile
To go that night before he reached the town-o

2. He ran til he came to a great big pen
The ducks and the geese were kept therein
Said, "A couple of you will grease my chin
Before I leave this town-o

Town-o, town-o, A couple of you
Will grease my chin before I leave this town-o

3. He grabbed the grey goose by the neck
Slung the little one over his back
He didn't mind their quack-quack-quack
And the legs all dangling down-o

Down-o, down-o, He didn't mind
Their quack-quack-quack & the legs all dangling down-o

4. Old mother Flipper Flopper jumped out of bed
Out of the window she cocked her head
Crying, "John, John, the grey goose is gone
And the fox is on the town-o!"

Town-o, town-o, John, John,
The grey goose is gone & the fox is on the town-o!

5. John, he went to the top of the hill
Blew his horn both loud and shrill
The fox, he said, "I'd better flee with my kill
He'll soon be on my trail-o."

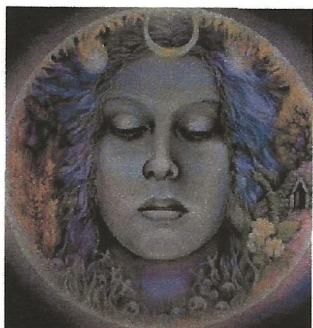
Trail-o, trail-o, The fox, he said,
I'd better flee with my kill, he'll soon be on my trail-o.

6. He ran 'til he came to his cozy den
There were the little ones: 8, 9, 10
They said, "Daddy, you better go back again
'Cause it must be a mighty fine town-o."

Town-o, town-o, They said, Daddy,
You better go back again, 'cause it must be a
mighty fine town-o.

7. Then the fox and his wife without any strife
Cut up the goose with a fork and knife.
They never had such a supper in their life
And the little ones chewed on the bones-o.

Bones-o, bones-o, They never had
Such a supper in their life and the little ones chewed
on the bones-o.



Ancient Mother

A chant that tends to be sung like a dirge. The lyrics are a Pagan's lament of sorts at the current state of Mother Earth, and the lack of respect for nature in general.

Ancient Mother, I hear you calling
Ancient Mother, I hear your song
Ancient Mother, I hear your laughter
Ancient Mother, I taste your tears

Illustration for "The Way of the Goddess", Artist: Linda Garland

Gaia is the name for the ancient earth goddess. "Goddess" Spirituality is the oldest known spirituality on the planet. It was a global experience regardless of the geographical barriers between peoples.

Though today many people link "Goddess" with women, "Goddess" spirituality throughout the centuries has also been experienced by millions of men. During the great stone age, men throughout the world recognized the spiritual powers of the Goddess, including powers of creation, healing and renewal. Since all comes from the Goddess, all men and women are equally connected to her.

Many women have already rediscovered Goddess-centered spirituality and it's importance for returning balance to modern civilization. However, modern men, like ancient men have much to gain in the discovery of the ancient mother. The world has everything to gain.

All spirit passes through the laws of the universe and into form. The same hold true for our beliefs and thoughts. How we view divinity eventually results in the characteristics of our world. Our world today reflects many of the beliefs and thoughts about divinity of generations past as well as that of the current generation.

The recognition and realization of the spirituality of the planet itself and Gaia, the earth Goddess, in our consciousness, results in our respect, honor and care of our planet.

All matter is part of the mother. In fact the term "matter" means "mother". When this is understood, matter is treated in a manner which is in balance and harmony with all. In other words, nothing can be taken from the divine mother without an effect upon the balance. When we consider the divinity of the planet itself, we care for it's people, air, water, ground, plants and animals.

A recognition of the spiritual essence of all is a great key to the transformation of the planet into a place for great living. Spirituality and technology will meet in harmony.

The rediscovery of Goddess is an ongoing process. For modern society, this rediscovery is still in a very early stage. Many future revelations and discoveries will occur as we explore anthropological and archeological data, and also as we open ourselves up to direct personal experience.

Blessed Be - Alan Bachman - Desert Wind.
<http://members.aol.com/deswind/bachman1.html>