



## "A Small Town Rises" by Eddie and Mary Sue Short

Monthly theme: Finding Our Center

UU Principle: 2nd - Justice, equity and compassion in human relations

### Order Of Service - January 15th 2023

**Prelude:** performed by Lynn Currie

**Welcome and Announcements:** Randy Converse (he/him)

**Chalice Lighting:** Bold and Courageous Together by Erika A. Hewitt

Reader 1: The word courage comes from the Latin cor, which means heart. According to poet Mark Nepo, the original use of the word courage meant to stand by one's core: a "striking concept that reinforces the belief found in almost all traditions that living from the Center is what enables us to face whatever life has to offer."

Reader 2: To "encourage" means to hearten; to impart strength and confidence. This is our work, as a religious community: to encourage one another; to be bold in engaging the world around us, as well as what scares us internally; to give one another the confidence and heart to live as fully as possible.

**Congregation:** With full hearts,  
we affirm our relationships with one another;  
we recognize our agency and our connective power;  
and we accept our responsibility to be bold and courageous.  
We light this chalice,  
symbol of all that we are, all that we have done together,  
and all that we will be as our shared ministry encourages those within, and beyond, our walls.

**Opening Music:** #131 SLT "Love Will Guide Us", accompanied by Dan Proud

### Silent Meditation

**Presentation:** "A Small Town Rises" by Eddie Short (he/him) and Mary Sue Short (she/her)

### Discussion

**Offering and Offertory:** "Up to the Mountain (MLK Tribute Song)" by Patty Griffin, performed by Lynn Currie

**Closing Words:** Be About the Work by Andrea Hawkins-Kamper

May we see all as it is, and may it all be as we see it.  
May we be the ones to make it as it should be,  
For if not us, who? If not now, when?  
This is answering the cry of justice with the work of peace,  
This is redeeming the pain of history with the grace of wisdom,  
This is the work we are called to do, and this is the call we answer now:  
To be the barrier and the bridge,  
To be the living embodiment of our Principles,  
To be about the work of building the Beloved Community,  
To be a people of intention and a people of conscience.

### 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!

### **Parent/Caregiver Group Meeting After 1/29 Service**

Prairie Religious Exploration is looking for adults to provide childcare on January 29th (after the service until 1PM) for the second Parent/Caregiver Group gathering. If you are not currently parenting or caregiving for a child in RE, please consider donating your time! Please see Alice's email to sign up.

The whole group (children,



parents/caregivers, and childcare volunteers) will start out the afternoon together for lunch. Cheese pizza will be provided and everyone is encouraged to bring a salad/side or dessert to share. After lunch the parents and caregivers will remain in the Meeting Room for conversation and fellowship while the children and childcare volunteers will enjoy activities in the RE space or outside (if weather permits).

## Announcements

### **Interweave meets today!**

Interweave, Prairie's group for LGBTQ+ and questioning folks, as well as allies, meets today, in this room, after the service. All are welcome.

### **Sunday Service January 22nd:**

#### **Roe v. What's Next? by Rev. Matt Aspin**

January 22nd marks the 50th anniversary of the Supreme Court's decision that validated a woman's right to make her own healthcare decisions regarding pregnancy, which was overturned by the recent Dobbs decision. Where do we go from here?

### **Saturday, January 28th, 10:00 a.m. Creativity & Connection (Online)**

Creativity and Connection is a monthly get together to connect and work on creative projects. Pagen Small is leading this group which is open to any level of artistic ability, but best for ages 8 and up. The focus will be on the creative process rather than the outcome, and you will have a chance to optionally share your project at the end. Please join us on Google Meet at this link: <https://meet.google.com/kcf-jwjp-jbh>

