

**"Moving Towards Peace" by Rev. Matt Aspin**

Monthly theme: Creativity

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

**Order Of Service - May 28st 2023**

**Prelude:** "Amani Utupe" ( Grant US Peace, Give US Courage) by Patsy Ford Simms. Performed by the Prairie Choir, directed by Barb Park, accompanied by Carl Wacker

**Welcome:** Rev. Matt (he/him)

**Chalice Lighting:** We Gather to Remember by Nicole McKay

Wreaths of red poppies lying at the World War One British memorial to the missing of the Somme (in Thiepval, France).

We gather to remember  
Those who could not grow old  
And those forced to grow old long before their time

We gather to mourn and grieve with one another  
All of our losses: the people, the stories, the loved ones,  
And the futures that could have been.

We gather to do the hard work  
Of facing the difficult realities of our present and our past:  
Where there is conflict, violence, war, and hatred.

We gather to hold space for silence  
As we try to make meaning of our history  
To help us work for peace and justice today.

We gather to rekindle our source of hope for our future  
By recognizing in one another our shared humanity  
As we join in a concerted commitment for a better tomorrow.

We gather because we need community to do all of this holy work.

**Opening Music:** #399 SLT "Vine and Fig Tree" accompanied by Carl

**Story For All Ages:** *Circles All Around Us* by Brad and Kristi Montague. 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:** "Moving Towards Peace" by Rev. Matt Aspin (he/him)

**Discussion**

**Offering and Offertory:** Arrangement of a Bach chorale, performed by Mary Frantz

**Closing Words:** Gathered Community by Gordon B McKeeman

The worship of the gathered community is now ended.  
Go in peace. Go in joy. Go in love to share in the ongoing worship of the community in dispersion.  
Carry with you what is precious to us all:  
reverence for all life, beauty that displays itself in love, deep, abiding peace.

**Closing Music:** #168 SLT "One More Step" Performed by the Prairie Choir, directed by Barb Park, accompanied by Carl Wacker

**Announcements**

**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."

#### **Service: Sunday, May 28, 10:00 am "Moving Towards Peace" by Rev. Matt Aspin**

Memorial Day is dedicated to remembering those that gave their lives in war. In addition to honoring the losses, what will it take to create a future where fewer lives need to be lost in the first place?

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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

#### **Service: Sunday, June 4, 10:00 am "Celebrating our Children" by Prairie RE**

During this intergenerational service, we celebrate our Prairie children! We'll also have our annual maypole ceremony outside after the service.

#### **Sunday June 4th - Maypole & Soup Sunday**

After the service on June 4th we'll try one more time to have our Maypole Ceremony! If the weather cooperates, we'll have music and maypole dancing in our front yard.

We'll need a few volunteers to stay inside to set up tables, move chairs, and prep service for Soup Sunday. Please start thinking about what you'd like to bring to share. A signup link was sent to Prairie News. Suggested donation \$5 for adults. Visitors, newcomers, and kids always eat for free.

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#### **Prairie Board Officers**

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Allice Mandt, Director of Religious Exploration  
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