

"Symbol Tree" by Prairie

1st Principle: The inherent worth and dignity of every person; **Value:** Equity

Order Of Service - Dec 22, 2024

Prelude: "Advent Meditation", based on Dona Nobis Pacem, arranged by Patrick Liebergen. Performed by the Prairie Choir, directed by Barb Park, accompanied by Carl Wacker, Heidi Hughes, Nancy Wunderlin, and Susanne Oliver

Welcome: Lynn Currie

Candlelight Procession of our Young People

Led by Zoe Tokarczyk. Please hum "Silent Night" as our young people enter.

Chalice Lighting by Margaret Starkey

There is a blessed madness in the human need to go against the grain of cold and scarcity. We make a holiday, the rituals varied as the hopes of humanity, the reasons as obscure as ancient solar festivals, as clear as joy on one small face.

Story For All Ages: *One Wild Christmas* by Nicholas Oldland

Children sit with their families after the story

Presentation: "Symbol Tree" by Prairie

Each of us is invited to help decorate our tree, sharing about our lives and listening to each other in celebration of our community.

Offering and Offertory: Selection from Eine Kleine Nachtmusik by Mozart, arranged by Faber and Jingle Bells, traditional, arranged by Faber. Performed by Aurora Creed

Closing Words by David Breeden

In this holiday season
May we find peace inside ourselves;
May we be peace for those around us,
And may we renew our commitment
To bring peace with justice
To our community and the world.
May we be peace.

Closing Music: "O Symbol Tree", accompanied by Carl Wacker. Lyrics shown on the back of the order of service

Announcements

Joys/Concerns & Welcoming Guests/Visitors

Greet Your Neighbor

Past Leaders of Candlelight Procession

(most recent first): Miles Andrae, Aurora Creed, Harlan Small, Luna Small, Aaron Liu, Gavin Richards, Amber Gordon, Cecylia Richards, Jesse Cooper-Whitehead, Rachel Hughes, Caitlyn Nicholson, Cheyenne Hale, Katherine Liu, Jesse Garst, Tatum Mueller, Xena Anderson, Valerie Anderson, Mei Lien Converse, Marie Nahlik, Toby Wacker, Madeline Arnold, Erica Skog, Lushana Peterson, Judy Wacker, Katrina Schroeder



Lyrics for "O, Symbol Tree" by Karen Deaton (sung to the tune of "O, Christmas Tree")

O Symbol Tree, O Symbol Tree,
You stand for our community.
O Symbol Tree, O Symbol Tree,
You stand for our community.
We gather round, both you and me.
We hang our symbols on the tree.
O Symbol Tree, O Symbol Tree,
You stand for our community.

O Symbol Tree, O Symbol Tree,
From sermons now we wriggle free
O Symbol Tree, O Symbol Tree,
From sermons now we wriggle free
Each year we come and take our turns,
About each other's lives we learn.
O Symbol Tree, O Symbol Tree,
From sermons now we wriggle free

O Symbol Tree, O Symbol Tree,
You have a long rich history.
O Symbol Tree, O Symbol Tree,
You have a long rich history.
The tree is pagan in origin
Then Christian - now, Unitarian.
O Symbol Tree, O Symbol Tree,
You have a long rich history.

O Symbol Tree, O Symbol Tree,
You stand for our community.
O Symbol Tree, O Symbol Tree,
You stand for our community.
We gather round, both you and me.
We hang our symbols on the tree.
O Symbol Tree, O Symbol Tree,
You stand for our community.

Announcements

Next Sunday "Toast, Boast, and Oath" by Rev. Ralph Tyksinski

We will, in ritual, gather around facing each other, and each person takes a turn offering a "toast." The "toast" is a moment of gratitude, sending words of blessing and thanks to someone.

The second round of the ritual is the "boast." This is an opportunity for each of us to reflect upon something we're proud of accomplishing in the past year—whether it's small or grand.

And the third round of the ritual is the "oath." This is a promise that we each make for the new year.

Next Sunday in RE: Children may share toasts, boasts, and oaths with the congregation in the Meeting Room, or go downstairs to play or make confetti poppers for our New Year's Celebration

Holiday Potluck Brunch - Wed, Dec 25, 10am

Celebrate the holiday at Prairie's meeting house with a potluck brunch on Christmas Day! Bring your favorite dish to share and enjoy warm company, and holiday cheer. After brunch, sing along to holiday songs or bring your instrument and join the jam. We've invited our friends from the Free Congregation of Sauk County to share in the festivities.

