Fifth Sunday After Pentecost Little Prairie United Methodist Church June 23, 2024, 9:30 a.m.



"God's Grace Through the Storm"

2980 130th ST E, Dundas, MN 55019 507.663-6150

www.littleprairieumc.org

Our vision: Creating a welcoming community that worships well, disciples well, and serves well; transforming the world for Jesus Christ.

WELCOME AND GATHERING

Gathering Music "Be Still and Know" by Anonymous with "Be Still, My Soul" by Sibelius arr. Mark Hayes

Luann Alderks

Welcome

Theresa Siemers, Certified Lay Minister

Centering Time

Call to Worship:

Loving God, thank you for always being with us even when we face life's storms.

Help us to find peace and strength in you.

We face many storms in life. When we are fearful, help us to feel your presence.

Help us to find peace and strength in you.

We seek your words of truth, love, and deliverance and ask for strength for our journey.

Help us to find peace and strength in you.

As your faithful followers, we give you thanks and praise as we seek your face and ask for your strength and guidance.

Help us to find peace and strength in you.

Hymn: God of Grace and God of Glory UMH # 577 All

Opening Prayer:

Beloved, when sorrow and hardship abound, and events across an ocean and down the block shake our resolve and make us question what good the good news is even doing, God calls to us...

Open your heart.

When fear and misinformation infiltrate our relationships, and we don't know who to trust or how to do the next right thing, God calls to us...

Open your heart.

When joy overflows, and we witness the fruit of grace all around us, transforming our lives and communities into places of connection and flourishing, God calls to us...

Open your heart.

May this time of worship be for each of us, a time to listen to God's call to open our hearts and accept the divine invitation to say yes to the work of grace in us, among us, and all around us.

God, we open our hearts to receive your gift of grace, knowing you hold us securely in the palm of your hands so that we might have the courage to live in a vulnerable community with you and one another. Amen.

(Written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries, April 2024.)

Sharing the Peace

Children's Moment: Open our hearts, and God can see in!

THE WORD

Scripture Readings: 2 Corinthians 6: 1-13

Mark 4: 35-41

The Word of God for the People of God. Thanks be to God

Message: God's Grace Through the Storm Theresa Siemers, Certified Lay Minister

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

Hymn: Open My Eyes, That I May See UMH # 454 All (We will sing it two times or until all have had a chance to come forward with their open hearts.)

Joys and Concerns and Prayers of the People:

Most Holy God,

We are a people who need you in your fullness

— as Creative Father, Redeeming Son, and Sustaining Spirit.

Our lives have complications and pain,

our world has war and despair.

But we were made in your image, and

your Spirit was breathed into us

that we might experience hope in your goodness.

There are situations that make it hard to be aware of that goodness.

We pray now for those whose lives are affected

by the negativity in these circumstances:

For senseless attacks kill and injure innocent people around the world . . . (brief silence)

When storms and hurricanes are so strong they destroy even the homes designed to withstand them . . . (brief silence)

When political battles bring out pettiness over issues too important for bickering..

. (brief silence)

When our hearts ache, hurt by broken relationships and unmet expectations . . . (*brief silence*)

When we are exhausted emotionally from illnesses in ourselves or those we love . .

. (brief silence)

When we are overwhelmed by loneliness and isolation even though you are always with us . . . (brief silence)

Gracious and Merciful Lord,

our church is working to hear the words of your Spirit.

Our desire is to learn what and who you are calling us to be in your world.

We call out to you

that we might have the courage

to give to you whatever burdens we entered with today

so that our hearts and minds can be open to you,

to your Word,

and to your Spirit

(2004, Andrea Murdock.)

Offering: "Jesus, Lover of My Soul" by Charles Wesley & Simeon Marsh arr. Carol Tornquist

Luann Alderks

Doxology: Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow UMH #95 All

Prayer of Thanksgiving:

Almighty and most merciful God, from you comes every good and perfect gift. We give you praise and thanks for all your mercies.

Your goodness has created us, your bounty has sustained us, your discipline has chastened us, your patience has borne with us, your love has redeemed us.

Give us a heart to love and serve you,

and enable us to show our thankfulness for all your goodness and mercy

by giving up ourselves to your service, and cheerfully submitting in all things to your blessed will; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

(The Book of Worship, 1965, ALT.)

And the Prayer in which Christ unites us . . .

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

SENDING

The grace of Jesus Christ enfolds you this day. Go out into the world carrying the peace and knowledge that you are not alone in the storms of this world because God sends you, the Spirit fills you, and Christ goes with you and you with Christ from this day forward. God Bless! Go in love, joy, and peace. Shalom. Amen.

Postlude "How Can I Keep from Singing?" Tune: Endless Song arr. Mark Hayes Luann Alderks

INFORMATION

Pastor: Penny Bonsell, Administrator: Sara French, Music Director and pianist: Luann Alderks, Certified Lay Minister and Youth Director: Theresa Siemers, assistants Maddy Heinz-Kline and Kory Larson, Technology Administrator: Jesse Steed, Admin Council Chair: Kevin Larson, Admin Secretary: Sue Rollins, SPRC Chair: Deb Little, Treasurer: Lori Noreen, Finance Committee Co-Chairs: Kevin Larson and Mel Henrichs, Trustees Chair: Tom Stowe, Missions and Lay Servant: Karen Nelson, Outreach and Nurture Chair: Jeff Sartor

Upcoming Events

Tues. June 25, 8:30 am: Breakfast Club, L&M; (every Tuesday)

Sat. June 29, 9:00-11:00 am Soul Sisters (see Theresa for schedule and details)

Wed. July 3, 9:00-10:30 am Pastor Penny at James Gang Coffee Shop resumes

Thurs. July 4, 12:00-noon 4th of July Picnic at the School House if rain, inside church

Tues. July 9, 6:00-7:30 pm Bible Study begins

Come for a light supper and study

Wed. July 10, 5:30 pm-8:00 pm Wednesdays on the Prairie begin!

We will grill food, play games and offer family craft/activity devotions. All ages welcome!

Thurs. July 11, 7:00 pm: Finance Committee Meeting

Fri. July 12, 5:30 pm Youth Group

Sun-Thurs., July 28- Aug 1, 5:30 pm-8:00 pm, VBS Theater Camp Little Prairie's "*Holy*" wood Productions. Children and youth will be invited to create, direct, act, sing, and build the set and stage to tell Bible stories. We are hoping to create a short movie of our adventure.

See our website for more details at www.littleprairieumc.org.

Website



Online giving

