

Fifth Sunday in Lent
Little Prairie United Methodist Church
March 17, 2024, 9:30 a.m.



Peace of Christ

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 *"Lord, Be Glorified"* by Bob Kilpatrick arr. Mark Hayes

Words for meditation FWS #2150

Luann Alderks

Welcome
Centering Time

Pastor Penny Bonsell

Call to Worship

Lenten travelers, how long have you traveled this road with your gaze pointed down at the dust and gravel and asphalt as you walk or limp or roll down the path?

Sometimes it is easier to look at the road than at the people who share the journey with us.

Lift up your heads! Look, listen, reach out a hand. Who are your neighbors on this road?

We lift our heads and look to our Savior who journeys with us and helps us notice our neighbors all around us.

This is the Lenten journey—to learn to love God and love our neighbors just as Jesus showed us.

Our journey teaches us to lose our lives to God as we find and follow Christ in our service to others.

Come, let us worship God who caravans with us on this road to the cross.

Come, let us worship! Amen.

Hymn of Praise *Near to the Heart of God UMH #472*

All

Opening Prayer

Lord, we know Easter is coming soon and while we anxiously wait to celebrate your triumphant victory over sin and death, there are still difficult days between now and then.

And try as we might, we cannot comprehend love and mercy so great as this.

There is nothing perfect about us, yet you beckon us with hands that soon will be scarred by betrayal, greed, selfishness, pettiness, pride, and apathy.

You see us and our imperfections with compassionate and patient eyes as we struggle to rid our lives of all the worldly things that distort, distract, and entangle us.

As the cross looms ahead, our eyes and our focus are on you.

You alone for our redemption and salvation. Amen.

Sharing the Peace
Children's Moment

THE WORD

Psalm 51:1-12

Colossians 3:12-17

Message

“Peace of Christ”

Pastor Penny Bonsell

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

Hymn *Change My Heart, O God TFWS # 2152*

All

Welcome New Members:

Mary Jo Olson, Ruthi Henrichs and Tom Hollenhorst

Joys and Concerns and Prayers of the People

Love that knows no boundaries: sometimes we crowd our lives with so much activity that it is hard to find time for you.

Forgive us. Open our eyes, that we may see your new covenant written in plain sight on our hearts.

Help us see all God's children, and in Gaza and Ukraine. Be with those caught and helpless in war; those who are starving.

Open our hearts, that we may join you in serving the broken of the world.

We give thanks for your beautiful creation, planet earth. Help us be the best stewards we can possibly be.

Open our love, so we may pour it out as abundantly and graciously as your love is given to us in Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Amen.

Offering *"Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross" by Fanny J. Crosby and William H. Doane
Sung by Jeff & Mary Jo Olson*

Doxology *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow (UMH # 95) All*

Prayer of Thanksgiving

God of the ages, we share our tithes and offerings this day with, but we acknowledge that most of the time, we are clinging tightly to what we have, afraid we might lose something we need and afraid somehow there won't be enough to live our lives.

The scarcity mindset overtakes us, and it robs us of the joy of our days. Remind us that Jesus has called us to be ready to let go of this life so that we might claim the abundance of life eternal. In our redeemer's name, we pray. Amen.

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.

Hymn

Jesus Calls Us UMH #398

All

SENDING

Beloved, go from this place to seek and find the glory of Christ wherever you go. And may you be blessed to recognize Christ as you notice, meet, and serve your neighbors today and every day. May a stranger find in you a friend.

God Bless! Go in love, joy, and peace. Shalom. Amen.

Postlude *"I Have Decided to Follow Jesus" Tune: ASSAM arr. Mark Hayes*

Words for meditation FWS #2129

Luann Alderks

INFORMATION

Pastor: Penny Bonsell, Administrator: Sara French

Music Director and pianist: Luann Alderks

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 Chair: Larry Alderks, Trustees Chair: Tom Stowe, Missions: Karen

Nelson, Outreach and Nurture Chair: Jeff Sartor

Website



Online giving



UPCOMING EVENTS:

Mon. March 18, 8:30 am: Breakfast Club, L& M (every Monday)

Mon. March 18, 7:00 pm: Administrative Council meeting

Tues. March 19, 7:00 pm: Choir rehearsal

Wed March 20, 9-10:30 am Pastor Penny is at James Gang coffee shop

Wed March 20, 5:30 pm: Lenten Soup Supper and the Art of Lent

Fri March 22, 3-8:00 pm: Fish Dinner **tickets required.**

If you would like to help, talk to Christina Keilen, Emily Burt, or Lori Larson.

Sat. March 23, 9:00am Soul Sisters (see Theresa Siemers for details)

Sun March 24, 9:30 am Palm Sunday

Thurs March 28, 7 pm: Holy (Maunday) Thursday Service

Friday, March 29, 7 pm Good Friday Service

Sunday, March 31, 8 am breakfast

9 am Easter egg hunt

9:30 am Easter worship

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