

**Maundy, Holy Thursday**  
**April 17, 2025, 7:00 pm**  
***Little Prairie United Methodist Church***



***Last Supper* by Margaret Ackland, Australia**

***“Just As I Have Loved You”***

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507.663-6150  
[www.littleprairieumc.org](http://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**

*"Lamb of God" by Twila Paris arr. Mark Hayes*

*Luann Alderks*

**Welcome**

*Come, sit at Christ's Table.*

*Pastor Penny Bonsell*

**Call to Worship:**

Just as the disciples gathered in a room with Jesus, so we gather in this place, ready to watch, listen, and pray on this Holy Thursday.

**We come to remember and encounter Love Incarnate, in human form, who sets us free.**

As Jesus kneels to wash the dirt from the disciples' feet, we join in their surprise; we've never seen a Savior who acts like a servant.

**We come to remember and encounter Love Incarnate, who sets us free.**

As Jesus calls the disciples to wash one another's feet, we receive with them a new commandment: to love one another as Jesus has loved us.

**We come to remember and encounter Love Incarnate, in human form who sets us free.**

Beloved, come. Come to kneel as a servant, come to the table with your fellow disciples, come to worship Love Incarnate, who sets you free.

**We come to remember and to worship God who has loosed our bonds and set us free to love one another as God has loved us.**

*Based on Writing by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries, September 2024.*

**Hymn:** *Gather Us In (TFWS #2236)* **All**

**Opening Prayer:**

You knew your hour had come. You knew your enemies. You knew that the straw vote would not be in your favor. But you loved unto the end.

**Teach us to love like you love. Teach us to love each other, to love even our enemies, like you loved us.**

You took on the form of a servant, washing the feet of those whom you disciplined. You defined humility and servanthood. You are he who was surely sent from God.

**Thank you for serving for us. Teach us to be servants; to make humility our constant companion.**

You have established a "new commandment"; help us to live it out in every moment, in every aspect of our lives, in our families, in our churches, in our communities, and throughout the world.

**On this Holy Day, we gather to remember again the miracle that you performed in our lives. At great cost to you, you have given us new life and life eternal. Amen.**

**THE WORD**

**Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19**

**Prayer Response** *Jesus, Remember Me (UMH #488)* **All**

**Gospel Drama Reading of John 13** *Rev. Jef Olson, May Jo Olson and Tom Hollenhorst*

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

**Message:** *"Just As I Have Loved You"* **Pastor Penny Bonsell**

**RESPONSE TO THE WORD**

**Hymn:** *Jesu, Jesu NCH # 432* **All**

**Invitation**

Christ, our Lord invites us to his table and all who love him, to earnestly repent, to turn back to God, and to see to live in peace with one another.

**Therefore, let us confess our sin before God, and another.**

**Confession and Forgiveness**

Friends in Christ, in this Lenten season we have heard our Lord's call to struggle against the evilness-all that keeps us from loving God and each other. This is the struggle to which we were called at baptism.

**Dear God, at times, we've lost all connection to you, we feel so distant from you and so drawn to places where we shouldn't be. Stuck in routine, not seeking you, not making time when we should have.**

We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone.

**Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

**Sharing of the Peace** *Shalom to You UMH #666*

*All*

**Offering** *"Jesus Paid It All" by John T. Grape arr. Mark Hayes*  
*baskets are available on the tables*

*Luann Alderks*

## **Holy Communion**

### **Lord's Table**

#### **Communion Prayer**

Merciful, Mighty, Matchless One, you have loved us to the end. There was betrayal in our heart, yet you loved us anyway. You knew we would deny you, yet you loved us anyway. In our selfishness, we balked, we objected, we disapproved, yet you loved us anyway. We sought to point the finger at anyone other than ourselves, yet you loved us anyway. Forgive us, we pray. Renew our healing convictions, restore our call to service, rekindle our flame for justice, that we may once again become your people of peace.

Receive the Good News. The One who created us has called us. There is now no condemnation, No shame at the table of God. Only the love that makes us whole again. Only the love we offer others. In God's name, we are forgiven. **In God's name, we have been set free. Amen.**

*Adapted from Michael Anthony Howard*

And the prayer which 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.**

*In Remembrance*  
*by Ragan Courtney & Beryl Red*

*Little Prairie Choir*

*Luann Alderks*

**Sharing of the Bread and Cup** *"Eat This Bread" by Jacques Berthier arr. Jeanne Cotter*

*Luann Alderks*

**Hymn:**

*Eat This Bread UMH #628*

*All*

## **SENDING**

This is the night that Jesus gave himself up for us and the shadow of Good Friday began to fall. Go from this place carrying the love of Christ in your hearts that your life may be a witness to our Savior who was crucified because the world did not understand the depths of God's love. **Amen.**

### ***Meditation***

*The Power of the Cross*                      *Worship and Song #3085*  
*"The Power of the Cross" by Keith Getty & Stuart Townend arr. Carol Tornquist*  
*Lyrics below*  
*Stripping of the Table in silence*

## **The Power of the Cross**

Oh, to see the dawn  
Of the darkest day:  
Christ on the road to Calvary.  
Tried by sinful men,  
Torn and beaten, then  
Nailed to a cross of wood.

This, the power of the cross:  
Christ became sin for us,  
Took the blame, bore the wrath:  
We stand forgiven at the cross.

Oh, to see the pain  
Written on Your face  
Bearing the awesome weight of sin;  
Every bitter thought,  
Every evil deed  
Crowning Your bloodstained brow.

Now the daylight flees,  
Now the ground beneath  
Quakes as its Maker bows His head.  
Curtain torn in two,  
Dead are raised to life;  
'Finished!' the victory cry.

Oh, to see my name  
Written in the wounds,  
For through Your suffering I am free.  
Death is crushed to death,  
Life is mine to live,  
Won through Your selfless love.

This, the power of the cross:  
Son of God, slain for us.  
What a love! What a cost!  
We stand forgiven at the cross

### **INFORMATION**

#### **UPCOMING EVENTS:**

**Fri. April 18, 7:00 pm** Good Friday Service

**Sun. April 20, Easter Sunday!**

**8:30 am** Continental Breakfast

**9:00 am** Easter Egg Hunt!

**9:30 am** Worship, Christ is Risen!

See our website for more details at [www.littleprairieumc.org](http://www.littleprairieumc.org).

### **Website**



### **Online giving**



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, Soundboard Technician: Tom Hollenhorst