

First Sunday after Christmas

Little Prairie United Methodist Church

December 28, 2025, 9:30 a.m.



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

Welcome/Announcements

Centering Time

Rev. Jef Olson

Call to Worship

Theresa Siemers, Certified Lay Minister

On that not so silent night, you came to us, Loving God,
to gather us in your arms and swaddle us in your hope.
On that not so silent night, you came to us, Child of humanity,
to be cradled with the lost, to share a stable with outsiders.
On that not so silent night, you came to us, Spirit of joy,
**to lift us up and carry us to salvation, to help us persist in
praising God, to share our lives with us.**
Be with us in all the nights and days to come,
God in our midst, Holy Trinity. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Hymn

Star-Child (TFWS # 2095)

All

Opening Prayer

Today, we celebrate your coming, Jesus, into our world, into our experience, into our struggle, into our flesh.

**But, we need this to be not just something that happened long ago,
but that keeps happening now. So, come again, we pray,**

Come into every corridor where power struggles escalate, into every office where profit overshadows responsibility, into every room where relationships, minds and bodies break down, into every street where need is the only constant, into every terrain where human ignorance or sin has left a trail of decay and death.

**And bring your life-giving love and your light-shedding justice into our world and
into our lives. Amen.**

<https://sacredise.com/come-again/>

Sharing the Peace

Children's Moment

Theresa Siemers, CLM

THE WORD

Scriptures

Isaiah 63.7-9 MSG

I'll make a list of God's gracious dealings, all the things God has done that need praising, All the generous bounties of God, his great goodness to the family of Israel—Compassion lavished, love extravagant. He said, "Without question these are my people, children who would never betray me." So he became their Savior. In all their troubles, he was troubled, too. He didn't send someone else to help them. He did it himself, in person. Out of his own love and pity he redeemed them. He rescued them and carried them along for a long, long time.

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

Hymn	<i>What Child Is This? (UMH # 219)</i>	All
Message	<i>Remember the Manger</i>	<i>Rev. Jef Olson</i>

*Music Remember the Manger by Kimberly Rinehart and Elizabeth Hepler
sung by Pastor Penny Bonsell*

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

Prayers of the People

All

God of life, we pray to you this day for all people:

-for all women who have been excluded from a full-fledged life for the only reason that it has been always like that.

Empower us to take all iniquity away.

-for all people who are oppressed and abused, whose freedom and dignity are denied by systems and authorities.

Empower us to take all iniquity away.

-for all those who are driven away from their houses and their homes because of their conscience and their convictions,

Empower us to take all iniquity away.

-for those many desperate women and men who are at the mercy of the rich and the powerful, including those who have to labor too long and hard for too small a salary.

Empower us to take all iniquity away.

-for all those who are in search of the meaning of their life within their own culture and religion, for all those who suffer, we pray to you.

Empower us to take all iniquity away. Amen.

*Adapted from André Quintelier, *Prayers Encircling the World: An International Anthology*, 1998.*

Offering	<i>"Away in a Manger" by Mark Hayes</i>	<i>Luann Alderks</i>
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Doxology	<i>Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow (UMH # 95)</i>	All
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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

Hymn

Love Came Down at Christmas (#242)

All

SENDING

Praising God is good...but we are called to do more.

And so we will go to offer practical help to our sisters and brothers.

Joyful noises do not feed those around us.

**And so we will go with Jesus to the food pantries and shelters,
to care for those forgotten by our society.**

Songs of thanksgiving do not replace service.

**And so we will go to share the peace of the Spirit
with a broken, yet hopeful world. Amen...and Amen.**

Go in love, peace, joy. Shalom. Amen.

Postlude

"Infant Holy, Infant Lowly" Traditional Polish Carol arr. Tom Fettke

Luann Alderks

Remember the Manger

Story by Kimberly Rinehart, Illustrations by Georgia Rettmer

Remember the Manger began as a Christmas card created by the LeSueur MN based company, it takes two®, in 1990. It became a song in 1991 when the verse on the card was set to music by Elizabeth Hepler. Nine years later, with many pages of additional verse and graphics, it has unfolded into a beautiful, full, color book with song included.

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, Soundboard Technician: Tom Hollenhorst

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sundays, Worship at 9:30 am

Tuesdays, 8:30 am: Breakfast Club, at L&M

Wednesdays, 9-10:30 am: Meeting at James Gang coffee shop (Pastor Penny is off)

Saturdays 9-11 am Soul Sisters (see Theresa for details)



Website



Online Giving



Little Prairie
United Methodist
Church

We are providing an on-going donation bin for CAC and Wallflower House in our entrance way.

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