

Fourth Sunday of Easter
Little Prairie United Methodist Church
April 21, 2024, 9:30 a.m.



“Abide in Him”

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 *“Open the Eyes of My Heart” Music by Paul Baloche*
Arranged by Carol Tornquist *April Ostermann*

Welcome
Centering Time

Pastor Penny Bonsell

Call to Worship

We gather here today to be guided to restore our souls.

Let the Spirit of love fill us.

May we breathe in the gentle breeze of green pastures of spring.

Let us not fear. May we breathe Your soothing breath of life into our souls.

Hymn: *O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing* *UMH #57* *All*

Opening Prayer:

Good Shepherd, Noble Shepherd, you call us by name, and we know your voice.

Lead us to green pastures and still waters. Open the gate for us, that we may go freely, and have life abundantly.

Forgive us when we have gone astray. Bring us back safely into your fold.

May the Holy Spirit strengthen us to hear your Word. Blessed are you, through Jesus Christ, give us goodness, lead us down right paths, and restore our souls.

Amen.

Sharing the Peace

Children's Moment

THE WORD

Psalm 4

John 10:11-18

1 John 3:16-24

Message *"Abide in Him"*

Pastor Penny Bonsell

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

Hymn *The King of Love My Shepherd Is* *UMH #138*

All

Joys and Concerns and Prayers of the People

Shepherding God, in a dangerous world, let us hear your voice and come and go through your gate and follow you.

We pray for the whole church, that we may be devoted to your Word and to universal fellowship, being generous to all who have need.

We pray for the earth, for green pastures and still waters, that we may restore them to the goodness and purity that they had at the time that you created them.

We pray for the people of the world, their nations, and leaders, that your wisdom and peace may govern all, so that no one will fear.

We pray for all those in need, for those in want, those who are ill and suffer. Guide us to feed them, and comfort them in your name.

We pray for ourselves, our families, and those we love.

May no one live in fear; may all dwell in your presence.

Blessed are you, Great Shepherd, who, through Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit, gives us goodness and mercy, leads us down right paths, and restores our souls.

Amen.

Offering *“Breathe” Music by Marie Barnett, Arranged by Carol Tornquist
April Ostermann*

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

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Gracious Provider, we gather with hearts filled with gratitude for the love and light you've shown us. Your Word reminds us that true love is seen in the self-sacrifice of Christ.

As we offer our tithes and offerings, we are reminded of the importance of generosity and stewardship in every aspect of our lives.

May these gifts be a reflection of the love we have experienced in Christ and our commitment to steward them faithfully for the work of your kingdom.

Use these offerings to bring justice, mercy, and hope to a world in need. In your holy 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 *Precious Lord, Take My Hand UMH #474* *All*

