

**Thirteenth Sunday After Pentecost
August 23, 2026, 9:30 am**



Imperfect Discipleship

Little Prairie United Methodist Church
2980 130th ST E, P.O. Box 276, 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 - *Dearest Jesus, My All* by Virginia Moody Van Horn

Words of Welcome -

Centering Time - *Be Still and Know I am God* by Jill Norell

*Nan Winsell
Lay leader
Nan Winsell*

Call to Worship – Written by Beth Merrill Neel on her blog “Hold Fast to What is Good.” Used with permission

One: We gather today to worship the One who created us,

All: The One who calls us,

One: The One who equips us,

All: The One who loves us without end.

One: With joyful hearts, let us worship God.

Opening Hymn – Here I Am, Lord UMH 593

Opening Prayer

One: God’s mercy is deeper than the depths of the sea, and God’s grace is wider than the whole of the earth. Trusting in that mercy and that grace, let us make our confession, before God and each other, first in silent prayer.

Silent Prayer

All: Holy God, we open our hearts to you this day, and offer the truth of our lives:

The fear that stifles us,

The prejudice that blinds us,

The ignorance that hobbles us,

The doubt that plagues us.

Help us, we pray, that we will

Find courage in unlikely place,

See the world with new and gracious eyes,

Move to those places where love is needed,

Have faith that you are with us.

This we pray in Jesus’ name. Amen.

One: Hear the Good News: we are forgiven! We are set free to go out into the world and be the loving, gracious, hopeful people of God!

All: Alleluia! Amen.

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Passing the Peace
Children’s Moment

THE WORD

Scripture

Matthew 14:22-33 - Jesus walking on the sea

14:22 Immediately he made the disciples get into a boat and go on ahead to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds.

14:23 And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone,

14:24 but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them.

14:25 And early in the morning he came walking toward them on the sea.

14:26 But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out in fear.

14:27 But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid."

14:28 Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water."

14:29 He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus.

14:30 But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and, beginning to sink, he cried out, "Lord, save me!"

14:31 Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, "You of little faith, why did you doubt?"

14:32 When they got into the boat, the wind ceased.

14:33 And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

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

Message

- *Imperfect Discipleship,*

Rev. Claire Klein

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

Hymn - (Rev. Claire will lead a cappella) *Adapted from words of Leonard Cohen, music composer unknown*

Forget Your Perfect Offering
Ring the bells that you can ring
There is a crack in everything
That's how / the light
That's how the light gets in

Prayers of the People

One: Holy One is with us. God's hand remains with us.

Many: God's love is steadfast. God's strength is enough. We can rest in God's presence.

One: Holy Love keeps their covenant from generation to generation and establishes our future.

Many: God's love is steadfast. God's strength is enough. We can rest in God's presence.

One: Wonderful Creator, you come to us with power and gentleness, strength and compassion, peace and joy. We come to you with hope and hopelessness, love and heartbreak, thanksgiving and lament. You fortify us as we go on our journey, assured of your presence and renewed by your love. Give us rest in our coming and our going. Give us joy in ministering in your name. May our worship restore our soul as we dwell in your presence.

Many: God's love is steadfast. God's strength is enough. We can rest in God's presence. -

written by Rev. Dr. Cheryl A. Lindsay, Minister for Worship and Theology for the United Church of Christ

Offering Invitation

Offertory - *Rest in His Love and Abide by Bob Krgstad*

Nan Winsell

Doxology - *Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow UMH 95*

Prayer of Thanksgiving -

Creator, all we have emanates from you and your creation. Receive these gifts we give with thanksgiving
and hope for a shared future without lack, disparities, and unmet needs.
Amen.

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.

Closing Hymn – *Sent Forth by God's Blessing, UMH 664*

All

Sending -

God sends you. The Spirit fills you. Christ goes with you and you with Christ, always and everywhere. God Bless! **Amen.**
God Bless! Go in hope, love, joy, and peace. Shalom. Amen.

Postlude - *Joy Unceasing by Tom Birchwood*

Nan Winsell

Artwork: <https://www.lettersjournal.com/hanna-cheriyan-varghese/>

INFORMATION

Pastor: Penny Bonsell, Administrator: Sara French, Certified Lay Minister and Youth Director: Theresa Siemers, assistants Maddy Heinz-Kline and Kory Larson, Technology Administrator: Jesse Steed, Admin Council Chair: Kevin Larson, SPRC Chair: Deb Little, Treasurer: Lori Noreen, Finance Committee Co-Chairs: Kevin Larson and Mel Henrichs, Trustees Chair: Tom Stowe, Missions, Nurture and Outreach: Barb Liebenstein, Lay Servant: Karen Nelson, Soundboard Technician: Tom Hollenhorst and Karen Matthies



Website



Online Giving

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sundays, Worship at 9:30 am

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

Wednesdays, 9-10:30 am: Pastor Penny is on vacation, not at James Gang coffee shop

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