

Fifteenth Sunday After Pentecost
Little Prairie United Methodist Church
September 6, 2026, 9:30 a.m.



Arm Wrestling?

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

O Let Me Feel You Near Me

Janet Harris

Nan Winsell

Welcome

Pastor Penny Bonsell

Centering Time

The Peace of Christ

Peter Bernhardt

Nan Winsell

Call to Worship

Family of God, we live in a world full of conflict and division.

God calls us to be a people of reconciliation.

We live in a world full of misinformation and confusion.

God calls us to be a people of truth and clarity.

We live in a world that wants to settle disputes with harmful words and actions.

God calls us to be a people who make peace through compassion and honesty.

We live in a world that does not understand the ways of Jesus.

Yet Jesus teaches us to be a people of reconciliation and peace for the good of the whole world. Thanks be to God! Amen.

Written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries, May 2026.

Hymn: *I Come With Joy (UMH #617)*

All

Opening Prayer

Lord of the church, you call a broken people around your table: in times of disagreement,
teach us to listen,

loose us from prejudice

and bind us to your way of forgiving grace; through Jesus Christ, who stands at the heart of our gathering. Amen.

Sharing the Peace

Children's Moment *Kum Ba Yah (UMH# 494)*

THE WORD

Scriptures:

Psalms 149

Praise for God's Goodness to Israel

Praise the LORD!

Sing to the LORD a new song,

his praise in the assembly of the faithful.

Let Israel be glad in its Maker;

let the children of Zion rejoice in their King.

Let them praise his name with dancing,

making melody to him with tambourine and lyre.

For the LORD takes pleasure in his people;

he adorns the humble with victory.

Let the faithful exult in glory;
let them sing for joy on their couches.
Let the high praises of God be in their throats
and two-edged swords in their hands,
to execute vengeance on the nations
and punishment on the peoples,
to bind their kings with fetters
and their nobles with chains of iron,
to execute on them the judgment decreed.
This is glory for all his faithful ones.
Praise the LORD!

Matthew 18:15-20

If your brother or sister sins against you,^[a] go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If you are listened to, you have regained that one. But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. If that person refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church, and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a gentile and a tax collector. Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.

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

Message

Arm Wrestling?

Pastor Penny Bonsell

Hymn

Blest Be the Tie that Binds (UMH #557)

All

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

Joys and Concerns/Prayers of the People

When we offer God our confession, we join the beautiful work of reconciliation, which begins with our reconciling with God. Trusting in our Partner in grace, let us make our confession, first in silent prayer.

Silent confession.

Gracious and loving God, open our hearts so that we are able to admit to you the fullness of our lives –

that which is beautiful and good, and that which is hurtful and hateful.

We confess that we do not follow Jesus in all that we do.

We love with condition. We judge and condemn.

We cast the first stone and keep the logs in our own eyes.

We do not turn to You as the source of our healing. Forgive us, we pray. Forgive our sin and empower us to be imitators of Christ in love and service. Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness

Friends in Christ, know this: the mercy of God is from everlasting to everlasting, and I remind you of this surpassing grace – in the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

Alleluia! Amen.

Adapted from Beth Merrill Neel on her blog, “Hold Fast to What Is Good,” <https://holdfasttowhatisgood.com/liturgy/prayer-of-confession>. Used with permission.

Offering

Nan Winsell

Doxology

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

Holy Communion

Lord’s Table

May the God of all be with you!

And also with you!

Lift up your hearts!

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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.

Sharing of the Bread and Cup

Nan Winsell

Blessed Savior of Us All Franklin Ritter

Fill Me Now Lani Smith

Hymn *We Are the Church* (UMH #558) *All*

Sending

Family of God, the lessons of reconciliation and peace-making are not easy. As you move into the week ahead, may God bless you with the desire to restore community when it is broken, to hold boundaries with firmness and grace, to listen with curiosity, and to speak with gentleness, that all may know we are disciples of Jesus Christ. God sends you. The Spirit fills you. Christ goes with you and you with Christ, always and everywhere. God Bless!

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

Postlude *Mighty Maker of Us All* *Rachel Sawyer* *Nan Winsell*

Little Prairie UMC UPCOMING EVENTS

Sundays, Worship at 9:30 am

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

Wednesdays, 9-10:30 am: James Gang coffee shop with Pastor Penny

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

Sat. Sept. 19, 12pm-6:30pm Dundas Oktoberfest

Sun. Sept. 27, 9:30am: Cowboy Church

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

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