

Little Prairie United Methodist Church

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September 5, 2026 at 3:00 p.m.

A Tribute to Dave Papp Honoring A Life Well Lived



“Life should not be a journey to the grave... but rather to skid in broadside in a cloud of smoke, thoroughly used up, totally worn out, and loudly proclaiming ‘Wow! What a Ride!’”

-HUNTER S THOMPSON

PRELUDE

Laurie Williams, Pianist
Laurie Melting Stegner, Violinist

GREETING

Pastor Penny Bonsell

Welcome, family and friends. We are gathered today not just to say goodbye, but to give thanks to God for the precious gift of Dave's life. We acknowledge the heaviness in this room today, but we also celebrate the love, the joy, and the light Dave brought into the world. In the words of scripture, 'Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord.' Let us open our hearts to the Holy Spirit, finding strength in our community and comfort in the assurance of eternal life. The Lord be with you.

(Response) **And also with you.**

HYMN

Amazing Grace, verses 1, 3, 6

ALL

- 1) Amazing grace! How sweet the sound,
That saved a wretch; like me!
I once was lost, but now am found
Was blind, but now I see.
- 3) Through many dangers, toils, and snares
I have already come:
'Tis grace that has brought me safe thus far,
And grace will lead me home.
- 6) The earth shall soon dissolve like snow,
The sun forbear to shine;
But God, who called me here below,
Will be forever mine.

OPENING PRAYER

Pastor Penny Bonsell

Gracious and loving God, we gather today not just to mourn a loss, but to celebrate a life well-lived. We thank you for Dave's love, laughter, and the unique light he brought into this world. As we share memories and support one another, help us to feel your comforting presence. Remind us that your love endures forever, and give us courage and peace for the days ahead. In your holy name, we pray. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Pastor Penny Bonsell

Let us Pray.

Eternal God, we praise you for the great company of those who have finished their course in faith. We thank you for the life of Dave. We thank you for the memories we hold dear, the love shared, and the ways we saw your grace in his life.

(Response) **We give you thanks, O God.**

Lord, we lift up all who are hurting and grieving today. Pour out your Holy Spirit on Dave's family and all who loved Dave. Comfort them in their sorrow and give them strength for the days ahead. Remind them that they are not alone, but surrounded by your love and the support of this community.

(Response) **Hear our prayer, O Lord.**

Help us to fix our eyes on the promise of the resurrection. We know that nothing in life or in death can separate us from your great love in Christ Jesus. Give us grace to put our whole trust in your mercy, so that we may live with hope and peace.

(Response) **Amen.**

READINGS

Pam Williams, Cousin

2 Timothy 4:7-8

I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day – and not only to me, but also to all who have longed for his appearing.

Ecclesiastes 3:1-4

There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens:

A time to be born and a time to die,

A time to plant and a time to uproot,

A time to kill and a time to heal,

A time to tear down and a time to build,

A time to weep and a time to laugh,

A time to mourn and a time to dance.

HYMN

It Is Well With My Soul

ALL

1) When peace like a river attendeth my way
When sorrows like sea billows roll
Whatever my lot Thou hast taught me to say
“It is well, it is well with my soul!”

Chorus

It is well with my soul!
It is well, it is well with my soul!

2) Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come
Let this blest assurance control
That Christ has regarded my helpless estate
And hath shed His own blood for my soul.

Chorus

It is well (it is well)
With my soul (with my soul)
It is well, it is well with my soul

3) My sin—oh, the bliss of this glorious thought!
My sin, not in part but the whole
Is nailed to the cross, and I bear it no more
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!

Chorus

It is well (it is well)
With my soul (with my soul)
It is well, it is well with my soul

PSALM 23 (*in unison*)

**The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.
He makes me to lie down in green pastures:
He leads me beside the still waters.
He restores my soul:
He leads me in the right paths for his name's sake.
Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil: for you are with me;
Your rod and your staff they comfort me.
You prepare a table before me
In the presence of my enemies:
You anoint my head with oil;
My cup overflows.
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
All the days of my life:
And I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.**

WORDS OF LOVE AND REMEMBRANCE

Casey O'Brien, 'Bonus' Daughter
Derek Little, Nephew
Tricia Streitz, Niece
Elena Norman, Niece

FAMILY REFLECTIONS

Kirimi Flitter, Daughter
Emily Loper, Daughter
Charlotte Flitter, Granddaughter

MESSAGE

Pastor Penny Bonsell

SPECIAL MUSIC

You Raise Me Up

Pastor Penny Bonsell &
Tom Hollenhorst

PASTORAL PRAYER

LORD'S PRAYER

ALL

HYMN

Shine Jesus Shine

ALL

1) Lord, the light of Your love is shining
In the midst of the darkness, shining
Jesus, light of the world, shine upon us
Set us free by the truth You now bring us
Shine on me, shine on me

[Chorus]

Shine, Jesus, shine, fill this land with the Father's glory
Blaze, Spirit, blaze, set our hearts on fire
Flow, river, flow, flood the nations with grace and mercy
Send forth Your word, Lord, and let there be light

2) Lord, I come to Your awesome presence
From the shadows into Your radiance
By the blood, I may enter Your brightness
Search me, try me, consume all my darkness
Shine on me, shine on me

[Chorus]

Shine, Jesus, shine, fill this land with the Father's glory
Blaze, Spirit, blaze, set our hearts on fire
Flow, river, flow, flood the nations with grace and mercy
Send forth Your word, Lord, and let there be light

3) As we gaze on Your kingly brightness
So our faces display Your likeness
Ever changing from glory to glory
Mirrored here, may our lives tell Your story
Shine on me, shine on me

[Chorus]

Shine, Jesus, shine, fill this land with the Father's glory
Blaze, Spirit, blaze, set our hearts on fire
Flow, river, flow, flood the nations with grace and mercy
Send forth Your word, Lord, and let there be light
Shine, Jesus, shine, fill this land with the Father's glory
Blaze, Spirit, blaze, set our hearts, set them on fire
Flow, river, flow, flood the nations with grace and mercy
Send forth Your word, Lord, and let there be light!

BLESSING

Pastor Penny Bonsell

Go forth into the world in peace. Be of good courage. Hold fast to that which is good. Render to no one evil for evil. Strengthen the faint-hearted, support the weak, help the afflicted, and honor everyone. And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. Amen.

CLOSING SONG

Amen Chorus

ALL