

**Seveneth Sunday of Easter
Ascension Sunday
Little Prairie United Methodist Church
May 17, 2026, 9:30 a.m.**



Ascending Love
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

Nan Winsell

Welcome

Pastor Penny Bonsell

Centering Time

Call to Worship

Easter people, in this season of Eastertide, we remember the blessings God gives us—the blessings of Resurrection, salvation, and new life in Christ.

We come to praise God for the blessings of Easter!

We recall the blessings of creation—of clean air and water, of food and shelter, of beauty and awe.

We come to praise God for the blessings of creation!

We share in the blessings of community—of family and friends, of church and home, of help that is given and received.

We come to praise God for the blessings of community!

Easter people, we gather today to remember Christ's Ascension, when Jesus was taken up into heaven while blessing his disciples, marking not the end but the next chapter of God's salvific work among us.

We come to bless God with our praise as God continues to bless us with all that we need to live as God's Resurrection people. Thanks be to God! Amen.

Written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries, October 2025.

Hymn: *Thine Be the Glory* (UMH #308) *All*

Opening Prayer

O God of glory, sovereign of all nations, the risen and ascended Christ calls us to carry your message of life to all people. Led by the power of your Holy Spirit, may we witness always to the hope to which we are called as we share Christ's love to the ends of the earth. Amen.

Long, Kim. Feasting on the Word Worship Companion, Year A - Two-Volume Set: Liturgies for Year A (p. 223). (Function). Kindle Edition.

Sharing the Peace Children's Moment

THE WORD

Scriptures:

Psalm 47

Luke 24:44-53

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

Message

Ascending Love

Pastor Penny Bonsell

Hymn:

Christ is Risen (UMH # 307)

All

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

Joys and Concern/Prayers of the People

Today, Jesus, we are faced with a wonderful truth to proclaim, but also an awesome and uncomfortable responsibility. We praise you and celebrate you as Ascended Lord; we recognise that you have authority over all things, but we live in a world where greed and power and violence seem to be in control. And so, as you call us, we pray:

Come as Lord, Jesus, and set the world to rights.

We praise you and celebrate you as the Way, Truth, and Life; we recognise that in you our life is made whole and full; but we live in a world where death, brokenness, and need appear to be everywhere. And so, as you call us, we pray:

Come as Lord, Jesus, and set the world to rights.

We praise you and celebrate you as God among us; we receive your invitation to live God's dream; but we live in a world where dreams and hearts are broken daily, and hope seems all but lost. And so, as you call us, we pray:

Come as Lord, Jesus, and set the world to rights.

Written by John van de Laar and posted on his <http://sacredise.com/Sacredise> website.

Offering

Nan Winsell

Doxology

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

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Blessing God of Presence, even as Christ ascended, you did not leave us alone. While he was blessing them, you were preparing us to carry the story forward, to be your witnesses, to live in hope and power.

In this sacred act of giving, we return a portion of what you have entrusted to us.

May these gifts be a blessing to others, as Christ has been to us. Clothe us with courage. Remind us that your Spirit goes with us. And send us, renewed and ready, to be your church in the world. Amen. (Luke 24:44-53)

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

Christ the Lord is Risen Today (UMH #302)

All

Sending

May God bless you with the understanding, wisdom, and grace to follow the way of Christ, that in all things, your life may be a blessing of praise to God. May a stranger will see in you a friend and neighbor. 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

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: Pastor Penny at James Gang coffee shop

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

Wed. June 10, 6-8 pm, Music on the Prairie, Old Country Boys (Food available at 5:30)

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



Website



Online Giving