

Laity Sunday
Nineteenth Sunday After Pentecost
October 19, 2025, 9:30 am
Little Prairie United Methodist Church



Persistent Love

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

*"What a Friend We Have in Jesus" by Charles C. Converse arr. Tom Fettke
Luann Alderks*

Welcome/Announcements
Centering Time

Pastor Penny Bonsell

Call to Worship:

How I love God's law! *Ps. 119:98, 103;*

God's commandments and teachings *Jer. 31:31-34;*

are always with me. *2 Tim. 3:15-16*

How sweet are God's words to my taste, sweeter than honey to my mouth!

God's new covenant is written on our hearts so that we may all know God, young and old, powerful and powerless alike.

How sweet are God's words to my taste, sweeter than honey to my mouth!

In the Word we hear the good news of the gospel: salvation is ours through faith in Christ Jesus.

How sweet are God's words to my taste, sweeter than honey to my mouth!

Long, Kim. Feasting on the Word Worship Companion, Year C - Two-Volume Set: Liturgies for Year C (pp. 571-572).

Hymn of Praise: *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling UMH #384*

All

Opening Prayer: Prayer for Laity Sunday

From the beginning, God entered into covenant with the human family: with Adam and Eve, Noah, Abraham and Sarah, Moses, Deborah, Ruth, and Jeremiah.

Through baptism, Jesus Christ calls us into the covenant and makes us ministers of Christ's righteousness.

All Christian ministry is Christ's work of outreaching love. It demonstrates a common life of gratitude and devotion, witness, and service, celebration and discipleship.

All Christians are called to Christ servant hood in the world, to the glory of God and for human fulfillment.

The Church, as the community of the new covenant, participates in Christ's ministry of grace.

It stretches out to human needs wherever service may convey God's love and ours.

In our ministry of servant hood is this ultimate concern:

that all may be renewed in the image of their Creator, and that all Christians are called to minister in deeds and words that heal and free. Amen. *Adapted from the Book of Discipline 1992, Paragraph 101.*

Sharing the Peace**Children's Moment****THE WORD**

Psalm 119:97

2 Timothy 4:4-5

Luke 18:1-8

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

Message:

Persistent Love

Pastor Penny Bonsell

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

Hymn:

Lord Speak to Me UMH #463

All

Joys/Concerns**Pastoral Prayer****Prayer of Confession/Prayers of the People**

Gracious God, we confess that we do not meditate on your commands and teachings all day long.

We do not keep your word before us always and in all things.

Instead, we turn away from your demanding truth and wander toward easier options. Forgive us we pray, for pursuing our own desires rather than yours. Forgive us for growing weary in following you; for failing to pray and work tirelessly for justice; for losing hope in your power to transform the powers of this world.

Tune our ears to the sound of your justice. Turn our hearts to your commandments

and word of grace. Do not remember our sin, but remember your mercy forever. We pray in Christ's name. Amen.

Declaration of Forgiveness

Friends, God promises to forgive us, to put our sins out of God's own mind and heart. In this way, God gives us not just a second chance but a new beginning.

Believe the good news of the gospel: our salvation is through faith in Christ Jesus. Thanks be to God!

Amen. *Feasting on the Word, Worship Companion, Liturgies for Year C, Vol. 2, Kimberly Bracken Long, ed. WJK Press, 2013, 218.*

Offering: *"Sweet Hour of Prayer" by William B. Bradbury arr. John W. Schaum*

Luann Alderks

Doxology

Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow

UMH #95

All

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Persistent and just God, you do not turn away when your people cry out. Receive these gifts as acts of our faith—faith that keeps moving, faith that keeps hoping, faith that keeps working for justice, even when the world says it's too late or too little. Make us a people who do not lose heart.

Shape our prayers into action and our generosity into grace, until your kingdom comes—on earth, as it is in heaven. In the name of Christ, who still stands and knocks. Amen. (Luke 18:1-8)

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:

We are the Church UMH # 558

All

SENDING

May you continually wrestle with prayer. May you beseech the door of heaven with shameless boldness.

May your prayers produce, in you, a countenance of joy, a gracious demeanor, and a peaceful heart and may the God of hope, fill you with all peace, that you may abound in hope, assured that your prayers are heard by a loving and gracious Father. *Written by Ryan, Pastor at Adamsville Presbyterian Church.*

May the Christ in you be fully present. May a stranger 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. **Amen.**

God Bless! Go in hope, peace, joy, and love. Shalom. Amen.

Postlude:

"I Must Tell Jesus" by Elisha A. Hoffman arr. Mark Hayes

Luann Alderks

INFORMATION

Pastor: Penny Bonsell, Administrator: Sara French, Music Director and pianist: Luann Alderks, Certified Lay Minister and Youth Director: Theresa Siemers, assistants Maddy Heinz-Kline and Kory Larson, Technology Administrator: Jesse Steed, Admin Council Chair: Kevin Larson, Admin Secretary: Sue Rollins, SPRC Chair: Deb Little, Treasurer: Lori Noreen, Finance Committee Co-Chairs: Kevin Larson and Mel Henrichs, Trustees Chair: Tom Stowe, Missions and Lay Servant: Karen Nelson, Soundboard Technician: Logan Crosby



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 at James Gang coffee shop

Thursdays, 5:30pm Fall Bible Book Group. "Beatitudes for Today" by James C. Howell

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

Fri. Oct. 24, 5:15-7:00 pm Youth Group at Dundas Trunk or Treat

Sat. Oct 25, 5-6 pm Little Prairie Trunk or Treat

Sat. Nov. 22, 4-8 pm Annual Ham Dinner, proceeds benefit CAC food shelves

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