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Our vision: : Creating a welcoming community that worships well, disciples well, and serves well; transforming the world for Jesus Christ.

**Gathering Music** *"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" Tune: VENI EMMANUEL*  
arr. Mark Hayes Luann Alderks

**Welcome** *Pastor Penny Bonsell*

Beloved, we gather to remember who we are, not who the world tells us to be.

**We tell the story together of the day that all the earth awaits.**

We recall the story of God's people, how God has called us to live in peace and righteousness in a world full of conflict and twisted morality.

**We tell the story together of the day that all the earth awaits.**

We recount the story of our journey with God, the moments of God's provision, God's prodding, and God's prophetic guidance.

**We tell the story together of the day that all the earth awaits.**

We gather to repent and return anew to God's story that guides our lives to work for peace and flourishing for all God's creation.

**We gather to tell the story of the day that all the earth awaits. Thanks be to God!**

**Amen.** *Written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries, May 2025.*

*"Jesus, Name above All Names" by Naida Hearn*

*Sung by the Little Prairie Choir*

### **Opening Prayer:**

Let us pray for the Spirit of Wisdom to rest upon us. A spirit of understanding and knowledge

**Grant us to live in harmony. God's mercy prevail**

Let us pray for God's steadfastness to gird our spirit. May peace prevail like lamb and wolf

**Grant us to live in harmony. God's mercy prevail**

Let us pray, for voices crying out in the wilderness. Women living in fear, children hiding

**Grant all a place of harmony. God's mercy prevail**

Let us pray, repent of harm done to the innocent. Clear the chaff of abuse and hurt

**Bear the Spirit of harmony. God's mercy prevail**

Let us pray for the God of hope, joy and peace to fill all hearts, one voice glorify

**God, prepare the way. God's mercy prevail Amen.**

*Written by Terri and posted on RevGalPrayerPals*

### **Hymn:**

*I Come With Joy (UMH # 617)*

*All*

### **The Advent Wreath**

#### **Lighting of the Second Advent Candle**

*The Ostermann Family*

First Reader: Advent reminds us that we are people who share a story, the story of Jesus, who enacts peace by judging in favor of the poor and deciding with equity for the meek of the earth. We long for the day when "the wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion will feed together, and a little child shall lead them" (Isaiah 11:6).

**All: Today, we choose to live the story of peace, believing that true peace comes when we seek the flourishing of all God's creation.**

Second Reader: We light this candle of peace as a sign of our commitment to bring Light to the places the world seeks to hide until that day when all creation lives together in harmony and abundance.

**Sharing the Peace  
Children's Moment**

*Light One Candle (Peace)*

*by Natalie Sleethe*

**THE WORD**

**Scriptures:**

**Isaiah 11:1-10**

**Psalms 72:1-7, 18-19**

**Matthew 3:1-12**

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

**Message**

*Peaceable Kingdom*

*Pastor Penny Bonsell*

**Hymn**

*Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming (UMH # 216)*

*All*

**RESPONSE TO THE WORD**

**Joys and Concerns**

**Pastoral Prayer**

**Prayers of the People**

When our faith is rooted deeply in you, O God, our lives reflect your kingdom values of justice and righteousness,

**Merciful God, strip our hearts and minds of all that prevents our lives being firmly rooted in you.**

May our lives bear fruit worthy of our faith in you, as we watch and wait for your breaking into our world once more,

**in the person of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour.**

*Assurance of Forgiveness*

Blessed be the Lord our God, who does wondrous things (Psalm 72:8).

**The most wondrous of all being God's entry into our world in Jesus Christ, "not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him." "Those who believe in him are not condemned" (John 3:17,18). Thanks be to God! Amen.**

*Posted on Jane Stranz's Of Life, Laughter and Liturgy blog, <http://stranzdocs.blogspot.ca/2007/12/advent-liturgy-for-visit-of-archbishop.html>.*

**Offering**

*"I Wonder As I Wander" Traditional Appalachian Melody*

*arr. Mark Hayes*

*Luann Alderks*

**Doxology**

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

## **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**

*"A Communion Hymn for Christmas" by Margaret Clarkson & Tom Fettke*

*Sung by the Little Prairie Choir*

*"Sweet Little Jesus Boy" by Robert MacGimsey arr. Mark Hayes*

*Luann Alderks*

### **Hymn**

*Hail to the Anointed (UMH # 203)*

*All*

## **SENDING**

Advent people, go now in the blessing and inspiration of God to live God's story wherever you go, that your lives may be an invitation to others to join in the journey to the day that all the earth awaits. May the love of Christ be fully present in you, so that 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! **Amen.**

**Go in love, peace, joy. Shalom. Amen.**

### **Postlude**

*"Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus" Rowland H. Prichard arr. Mark Hayes*

*Luann Alderks*

Photo credit: Edward Hicks, <https://www.nga.gov/artworks/59908-peaceable-kingdom>

## **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

## **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

**\*Wed, Dec. 10, 5:30 pm** Bible Book Group. "Beatitudes for Today" by James C. Howell

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

**Fri. Dec.12, 5:30-8:00 pm:** Youth Group Christmas party

**Sat. Dec 13, 9-10:30 am:** Christmas Program dress rehearsal

**Sun. Dec.14, 9:30 am:** Children/Youth Christmas Program

**Sat. Dec. 20, 9-11am:** Christmas Bake Sale

**Wed. Dec. 24, 4:30 pm:** Christmas Eve Candlelight service



**Website**



**Online Giving**



Little Prairie  
United Methodist  
Church

We are providing an on-going donation bin for CAC in our entrance way.  
See our website for more details at [www.littleprairieumc.org](http://www.littleprairieumc.org).