

Maundy, Holy Thursday
April 02, 2026, 7:00 pm
Little Prairie United Methodist Church



***Last Supper* by Margaret Ackland, Australia**

“Surprised by Love”

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

Invitation to Communion by Deborah Govenor
Guests at His Table by Lee Dengler

Nan Winsell

Welcome

Come, sit at Christ's Table.

Pastor Penny Bonsell

Call to Worship:

Followers of Jesus, our lives are filled with stress and distress, disquiet and fear.
In the unrest and the fear, we gather to worship God who delivers us.

Like the disciples gathered with Jesus, we feel the turmoil of rumors and conspiracies, the grasping for power and security that threatens the lives and livelihoods of our neighbors.

In the suffering and the tumult, we gather to call on God who delivers us.

Facing an unknown future, the disciples gathered as we do today, to be surprised by Love, to share a meal, to remember their story, to receive a new story and a new meal.

In the uncertainty of these days, we gather to share the story of God who delivers us.

Followers of Jesus, come. Come to the basin and be washed. Come to the meal and be fed. Come to the table and be strengthened for the journey.

We gather together to remember the story of God's deliverance, that we may go from this place to heal the hurting, to tend the suffering, to love one another as Jesus loves us.

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

Hymn: *Gather Us In (TFWS #2236)* *All*

Opening Prayer:

You knew your hour had come. You knew your enemies. You knew that the straw vote would not be in your favor. But you loved unto the end.

Teach us to love like you love. Teach us to love each other, to love even our enemies, like you loved us.

You took on the form of a servant, washing the feet of those whom you disciplined. You defined humility and servanthood. You are he who was surely sent from God.

Thank you for serving for us. Teach us to be servants; to make humility our constant companion.

You have established a "new commandment"; help us to live it out in every moment, in every aspect of our lives, in our families, in our churches, in our communities, and throughout the world.

On this Holy Day, we gather to remember again the miracle that you performed in our lives. At great cost to you, you have given us new life and life eternal. Amen.

THE WORD

Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19

Prayer Response *Jesus, Remember Me (UMH #488)* *All*

Gospel Drama Reading of John 13

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

Message: *"Surprised by Love"* *Pastor Penny Bonsell*

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

Hymn: *Jesu, Jesu* *NCH # 432* *All*

Invitation

Christ, our Lord invites us to his table and all who love him, to earnestly repent, to turn back to God, and to see to live in peace with one another.

Therefore, let us confess our sin before God, and another.

Confession and Forgiveness

Dear God, at times, we've lost all connection to you, we feel so distant from you and so drawn to places where we shouldn't be.

Stuck in routine, not seeking you, not making time when we should have.

We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone.

Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

Sharing of the Peace *Shalom to You* *UMH #666* *All*

Offering *Come Onto Me by Mary Kay Beall* *Nan Winsell*

Handwashing *Take and Eat, Gene Grier* *Nan Winsell*

Holy Communion

**Lord's Table
Communion Prayer**

Gracious God, as those who strive to follow Jesus in our living and to trust your power in our dying, we gather to reflect upon the life that ended on a cross.

We recognize in ourselves the strengths and weaknesses of Jesus' disciples: although they loved him, they disappointed and failed him.

And yet, gathering with these imperfect friends at this last meal, Jesus washed their feet in service, and then extended the bread and cup to each.

Jesus called them to love one another and invited them to share in his very life and in his acceptance of the road ahead.

We are humbled, honored, and inspired by the deep love Christ extended to the world, and we take seriously the calling to be the body of Christ today.

Forgive us when we disappoint and fail you, and guide us back to a place of trust and faithful living.

Grant us the vision to see the world as you see it, with love and compassion for each creature and all of your creation.

We ask this in the name of Jesus, who taught us to pray to you. . .

Written by Rev. Kelly Burd. Posted on the United Church of Christ website. <https://www.ucc.org/>

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 *In Remembrance arr. Buryl Red,*
In Remembrance arr. Jean Atkins & JW Snyder, I Am the Bread of Life *Arnold B. Sherman*
[Nan Winsell](#)

Hymn: *Eat This Bread* *UMH #628* *All*

SENDING

This is the night that Jesus gave himself up for us and the shadow of Good Friday began to fall. Go from this place carrying the love of Christ in your hearts that your life may be a witness to our Savior who was crucified because the world did not understand the depths of God's love. **Amen.**

Meditation
Instrumental Music
Stripping of the Table in Silence

Postlude *Bread of the World, Gary James* *and My Jesus, I Love Thee, Adoniram Gordon*

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

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)

Fri. April 3, 7:00 pm: Good Friday Service

Easter Sunday, April 5: 8:00 am Breakfast, 9:00 am Easter Egg Hunt, 9:30 Worship

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