

Fourth Sunday in Lent
UMCOR Sunday
Little Prairie United Methodist Church
March 15, 2026, 9:30 a.m.



Restores My Soul

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

Our Evenings

by Leon Janacek

Peter Webb

Welcome

Centering Time

Pastor Penny Bonsell

Call to Worship

Beloved, the journey of grace takes us to still waters, the valley of the shadow of death, even to tables surrounded by our enemies.

We gather to worship God, our Shepherd, who guides us on the journey.

The journey of grace points us toward the Light so that we may bear the fruit of the Light in all that we do.

We gather to be formed by grace so that our lives may bear the fruit of all that is good and right and true.

The journey of grace calls us to pay attention, to discern what is pleasing to God.

We gather to listen to the Spirit, who empowers us to go from this place to work together to do what is pleasing to God.

Come, let us worship God who provides, inspires, and empowers us on the journey of grace.

Come, let us worship God as we journey in grace together! Amen.

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

Hymn: *Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us* (UMH# 381) *All*

Opening Prayer:

Loving Shepherd, you know our names; you care for us.

When we face darkness and death, journey alongside us.

When we hunger for your love, fill us with your presence.

When we are fearful, feed us at your table. May we dwell in the house of goodness and mercy all the days of our lives. Amen.

Written by Mary Petrina Boyd and posted on Ministry Matters. <http://www.ministrymatters.com/>. Re-posted on the re:Worship blog at <https://re-worship.blogspot.com/2015/04/opening-prayer-psalm-23.html>.

Sharing the Peace

Children's Moment

THE WORD

Scriptures:

Psalm 23

Ephesians 5:8-14

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

Message *Restores My Soul* *Pastor Penny Bonsell*

Hymn: *The King of Love My Shepherd Is* (# 138 UMH) *All*

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

Prayers of the People

O Lord, you are our shepherd,

And yet we want.

We lie down when we could act,

We stir the pot when we could offer peace,

We wander tempting paths instead of following you.

We seek courage and comfort in earthly things rather than in you.

We hate our enemies and refuse to break bread with them,

We see scarcity even when you offer us abundance.

We pray for forgiveness, for your goodness and mercy,

So that we might dwell in You, in your grace, forever. Amen.

Written by Beth Merrill Neel on her blog, "Hold Fast to What Is Good," <https://holdfasttowhatisgood.com/>. Used with permission.

Offering *I Want to Walk to Walk as a Child of the Light* (# 206 UMH) *Peter Webb*

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

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Radiant Shepherd, you walk beside us through valleys and over mountaintops, guiding us with grace and guarding us with love.

In your presence, we lack nothing that truly matters. Even in a world clouded by shadows, your light shines through—inviting us to live as children of the day.

Receive these gifts, O God, as signs of our desire to walk in your ways, to live as your people, and to shine with the goodness, justice, and truth that reflect your image.

Let our giving be more than ritual; let it be an act of trust, a response to your faithfulness, and a testimony of your light at work in us. In Christ's holy name, we pray, Amen. (Psalm 23, Ephesians 5:8-14)

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

Precious Lord, Take My Hand (UMH #474)

All

SENDING

Beloved, may the blessing of God's mercy go before you, behind you, and all around you as we journey in grace, reflecting the Light of new life wherever we go. 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. God Bless!

Go in hope, peace, joy and love. Shalom. Amen.

Postlude
Webb

A Blown-Away Leaf by Leon Janacek

Peter

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, 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, 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

Wednesdays during lent, 5:30pm: Soup Suppers

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

Friday, Mar 27, 3-8pm: Fish dinner

Sun. March 29, 9:30am: Palm Sunday

Thurs. April 2, 7:00 pm: Holy, Maundy Service

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

Sunday, April 5: Easter Sunday

8:00 am breakfast

9:00 am Easter Egg Hunt

9:30 am Worship