

Third Sunday of Easter
Little Prairie United Methodist Church
April 19, 2026, 9:30 a.m.



They Recognized Him

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
arr. Laura Wasson

Gathering - O Master, Let Me Walk with You -

Marcia Yernberg

Welcome
Centering Time

Pastor Penny Bonsell

Call to Worship

Easter people, we gather today as people who spent the week inundated with news reports, social media posts, and reels that inundated us with information, worry, and stress.

Like the disciples on the road to Emmaus, we carry the weight of being overwhelmed and anxious, wondering who we can believe.

We gather as people who long for peace, for God to break through and bring us clarity and hope once again.

Like the disciples on the road to Emmaus, we don't always recognize when the Risen One comes alongside us, showing us the way where there seems to be no way.

We gather as people hoping to catch a glimmer of Resurrection, ready for our hearts to burn with the truth of the resurrected Christ.

Like the disciples on the road to Emmaus, we open our hearts to the possibility that God's Resurrection life is closer than we think.

Easter people, God knows the burdens we carry, and God is faithful to meet us where we are with good news.

May the good news of the Resurrection astound us today as we come to worship God! Amen.

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

Hymn: *Open My Eyes, That I May See (UMH #454)*

All

Opening Prayer

O risen Christ, on the road to Emmaus, you were the disciples' companion. Be at our side on the journey of faith on life's pathways and at every encounter, engage our compassion, so that we may welcome others and listen to their stories.

Kindle anew the desire to proclaim your Word. May it illumine us, and may our hearts burn to bear witness to it.

May your Holy Spirit teach us the art of explaining scripture and open our hearts to recognize you.

Grant us the courage to become vulnerable so that our siblings may know you through us and that we may know you through them. Amen.

Adapted from Resources for The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity and Throughout the Year (2010),

Sharing the Peace Children's Moment

THE WORD

Scriptures:

Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19

Luke 24:13-35

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

Message

They Recognized Him

Pastor Penny Boonsell

Hymn:

Christ is Alive (UMH # 318)

All

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

Joy and Concern/Prayers of the People

Heavenly Stranger, our Companion on the Way, we yearn for your love and grace. We seek your wisdom and guidance.

We relish the joy which burns within our hearts when you are with us.

Yet, sometimes we would cling to you, hoard the blessings of relationship with you, and not share your love with others.

Forgive us, Dear One. Remind us that your love is to be carried throughout the world.

Press us to share the hope and joy of your love, so that someone who hungers for spiritual food may be filled by our witness to your grace.

Shine the light of your Spirit through us, so that we may show your Way to those who long for peace and help to revive those in whom hope has died. Amen.

Written by Rev. Renee C. Jackson and posted on the Worship Ways (United Church of Christ) website at https://www.ucc.org/worship-way/easter_3_april_26/.

Offering Yernberg

Prelude in C Major - J. S. Bach

Marcia

Doxology

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

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Astounding God of the road and the table, you walk with us even when we don't recognize you. You speak, and our hearts burn within us.

You break the bread, and our eyes are opened.

Today, we bring these offerings as signs of our gratitude and hope. May our giving reflect the joy of being found, the wonder of Resurrection, and the call to share good news.

Use these gifts to kindle faith, feed the hungry, and proclaim your presence in every Emmaus moment. We give because we've seen you—alive, loving, and leading us still. In Jesus' name, Amen.

(Luke 24:13-35)

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 *Leaning on the Everlasting Arms (UMH # 133)*

All

SENDING

Go now in the courage and blessing of the Risen Christ to live as bearers of the astounding good news to bring hope and peace in a world that so desperately needs Resurrection. 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 *Leaning on the Everlasting Arms - arr.Lloyd Larson*
Yernberg

Marcia

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)

Sat. May 2, 10 am -12, noon Tea on the Prairie

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