

Twelfth Sunday After Pentecost
August 16, 2026, 9:30 am



Rooted in God's 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

To Be God's People, Charles F. Brown

Nan Winsell

Welcome

Lay Servant, Karen Nelson

Centering Time

People Need the Lord, Greg Nelson & Phil McHugh

Nan Winsell

Call to Worship

God is the True Vine,

And we are the branches.

Connected to God.

Connected to bear fruit!

Connected to God.

Or we wither away.

Connected to God.

Or useless!

We come to worship God, who is the True Vine.

God, teach us how to remain connected so that we might bear good fruit!

Safiyah Fosua, <https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/resources/god-is-the-true-vine-21st-century-worship-resources-for-the-fifth-sunday-of>

Hymn

How Great Thou Art

UMH #77

All

Opening Prayer

Lord, we would grow with you

New shoots reaching out

Hands stretched upward

Like leaves newly formed

Soaking up your light and warmth

Lord, we would grow with you

Lord, we would grow with you

In sunshine and rain

In darkness and light

In cold days and summer days

From Springtime to Winter

Lord, we would grow with you

Lord, we would grow with you

And bring forth fruit

That is pleasing to you

Fed by your living water

Giving sustenance to others

Lord, we would grow with you. Amen.

Contemporary Welsh prayer posted on A Place for Prayer

<http://revgalprayerpals.blogspot.ca/>. Reposted: <https://re-worship.blogspot.com/2012/07/prayer-for-growth.html>.

Sharing the Peace

Children's Moment

THE WORD

John 15:5-17

⁵I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. ⁶Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. ⁷If you abide in me and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ⁸My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become^[a] my disciples. ⁹As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. ¹⁰If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. ¹¹I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. ¹²"This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. ¹³No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. ¹⁴You are my friends if you do what I command you. ¹⁵I do not call you servants^[b] any longer, because the servant^[c] does not know what the master is doing, but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. ¹⁶You did not choose me, but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. ¹⁷I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.

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

Message

Rooted in God's Love

Lay Servant, Karen Nelson

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

Hymn

I Am Thine, O Lord

UMH #419

All

Joys and Concerns/Prayers of the People

Jesus said: "I am the vine, you are the branches." Let us pray.

We thank you, gracious God, for Jesus Christ the true vine, with his roots eternally grounded in you. We rejoice that by grace we have been grafted into him, to be branches on a vine which bears the loveliest of all the fruits of earth. Yet we confess that all is not well with the way we live. Please forgive us for the occasions when we have been the ones to introduce disease into the vine, preferring its contamination to the vigor of health.

**Forgive us for neglecting to draw deeply on the sap of Life,
for our tendency to wander instead of growing on the framework you provide,**

for being content, and sometimes even proud of, a few sparse or undersized fruits, for the apathy which lets us to go through some seasons without bearing any fruit. Have mercy on us. Please do not lose patience or sever us completely from the true vine. Rather heal our diseases, discipline and train our wandering tendrils, prune our unfruitful branches and cut away our diseased ones.

May we remain in Christ and he in us, through all the changing seasons of life. Let us delight in bearing the fruits of love which are our true purpose and joy. For your Name's sake. Amen! *Written by Bruce Prewer, and posted on Bruce Prewer's Homepage.*

Reposted: <https://re-worship.blogspot.com/2012/04/prayer-of-confession-john-15-1-8.html>.

Offering

Share His Love, William J Reynolds

Nan Winsell

Doxology

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

All

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Dear God, as branches of your vine, let us remember that we are here because you supply us with good soil, sun, and water to grow. As we bring our gifts to you this day, let them be used as the fruit of goodness to help others in need..Amen.

And the prayer in which Jesus unites us...

The Lord's Prayer

All

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

Pass It On

UMH # 572

All

Sending

Go now, and love one another, because love is from God. Proclaim God's salvation to every generation. Remain in Jesus Christ, and like branches of a vine, draw your life from him. And may God the vine grower tend you and make you fruitful; May Christ Jesus abide in you and give you life; and may the Holy Spirit cast out all fear and fill you with God's love. God sends you. The Spirit fills you. Christ goes with you and you with Christ, always and everywhere. God Bless! **Amen.**

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

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 and Karen Matthies

**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 on vacation, not at James Gang coffee shop**Saturdays 9-11 am** Soul Sisters (see Theresa for details)

Wed. August 19, 6-8 pm, Music on the Prairie, Rockin Hep Cats
(Food available at 5:30)