

**21st Sunday After Pentecost
Little Prairie United Methodist Church
Oct 18, 2026, 9:30 a.m.**



Giving Thanks

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

Marcia Yernberg

Welcome

Pastor Penny Bonsell

Centering Time

Marcia Yernberg

Call to Worship

We are chosen children of God, bound together by the Holy Spirit.

We belong to God, and through God, we belong to one another.

The Spirit empowers us to live as imitators of Christ in love of God, neighbor, self, and all creation.

We belong to God, and through God, we learn to love one another.

The Spirit inspires us to receive God's Word with joy in a world that rejects the good news.

We belong to God, and through God, we live in joy with one another.

Come, let us worship in the assurance of God's love that chooses us, empowers us, and inspires us to live as the family of Christ.

We come to worship God in the assurance that we belong to God, and through God, we belong to one another. Amen.

Written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries, July 2026.

Hymn:

How Great Thou Art (UMH #77)

All

Opening Prayer

Loving, living God, be among us now.

Show us your ways.

Guide our steps.

Live in us, that we may be people of steadfast hope and powerful giving.

Help us hear your words, challenging us to give you all the things that are yours.

Help us remember that all we are and all we have are gifts from you, gifts to be shared in service and love. Holy One among us, help us be a holy people who receive your word with joy and live your message with love. Amen.

Written by Mary Scifres on the Ministry

Matters website, <http://www.ministrymatters.com/all/blog/entry/1779/worship-elements-october-16-2011>. Reposted on the re:Worship blog at <https://re-worship.blogspot.com/2011/10/call-to-worship-prayer-proper-24a.html>.

Sharing the Peace

Children's Moment

THE WORD

Scriptures:

Psalm 99

Praise to God for His Holiness

- ¹ The Lord is king; let the peoples tremble!
He sits enthroned upon the cherubim; let the earth quake!
- ² The Lord is great in Zion;
he is exalted over all the peoples.
- ³ Let them praise your great and awesome name.
Holy is he!
- ⁴ Mighty King, ^[a] lover of justice,
you have established equity;
you have executed justice
and righteousness in Jacob.
- ⁵ Extol the Lord our God;
worship at his footstool.
Holy is he!
- ⁶ Moses and Aaron were among his priests,
Samuel also was among those who called on his name.
They cried to the Lord, and he answered them.
- ⁷ He spoke to them in the pillar of cloud;
they kept his decrees
and the statutes that he gave them.
- ⁸ O Lord our God, you answered them;
you were a forgiving God to them
but an avenger of their wrongdoings.
- ⁹ Extol the Lord our God,
and worship at his holy mountain,
for the Lord our God is holy.

a. [99.4](#) Cn: Heb *And a king's strength*

1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

Salutation

1 Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy,
To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:
Grace to you and peace.

The Thessalonians' Faith and Example

² We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly ³ remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴ For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, ⁵ because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake. ⁶ And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy from the Holy Spirit, ⁷ so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. ⁸ For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia but in every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it. ⁹ For they report about us what kind of welcome we had among you and how you turned to God from idols to serve a living and true God ¹⁰ and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the coming wrath.

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

Message

Giving Thanks

Pastor Penny Bonsell

Hymn

Come, Thou Almighty King (UMH # 61)

All

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

Joys and Concern/Prayers of the People

Lord God, with gratitude for all your goodness, we come to you in prayer— for our family and friends, for our sisters and brothers in faith, and for the world of nations you have made.

Remember those who are dear to us. Wrap your steadfast love around them, sustain them in times of trouble, and keep them always in your care.

Remember the church of Jesus Christ. Empower us to proclaim the gospel, strengthen us in our conviction, and make us imitators of the Lord.

Remember the family of nations. Send out your Spirit to renew the earth, welcome all people into your house, and let your love be known in all the world. To you, O God, Maker of heaven and earth, through the power of the Holy Spirit, in the grace and peace of Christ we pray. Amen.

Long, Kim. Feasting on the Word Worship Companion, Year A - Two-Volume Set: Liturgies for Year A (p. 553). (Function). Kindle Edition.

Offering

Marcia Yernberg

Doxology

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

All

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Gracious God, you choose ordinary people and weave them into a community that shines with your love. We thank you for the gift of belonging—for the call to live our faith in ways that ripple outward into the lives of others.

Receive these gifts as signs of our gratitude and our willingness to be witnesses to your grace. Use what we offer to encourage the weary, welcome the searching, and strengthen your church as a living example of hope. May our shared life together always point to Christ, whose love calls and sends us. Amen. (1 Thessalonians 1:1-10)

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

Living for Jesus (TFWS #2149)

All

Sending

May God bless you with the assurance that you are chosen children of God, empowered and equipped by the Spirit to live as the Family of God in a world in desperate need of the good news. 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

Marcia Yernberg

Little Prairie UMC UPCOMING EVENTS

Sundays, Worship at 9:30 am

Tuesdays, 8:30 am: Breakfast Club, at L&M

Wednesdays, 6-7:30 pm Fall Book Study Philippians thru Nov.18

9-10:30 am James Gang coffee shop with Pastor Penny

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

Sun. Oct. 18, 2:00 pm Movie Matinee *Mary Poppins*

Fri. Oct 30, 6-7 pm Little Prairie is at Trunk-or-Treat in Dundas

Sun. Nov. 1, after worship- LP Endowment and Legacy Planning Workshop

Sat. Nov. 21, 3-7 pm Ham Dinner Supporting CAC local food shelves

Sun. Nov. 29, 9:30 am Hanging of the Greens service Advent begins

7:00 pm Cluster Charge Conference at Little Prairie

Thurs. Dec 24, 4:00 pm Candle light Christmas Eve Service

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

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



[Website](http://www.littleprairieumc.org)



[Online Giving](#)