

Worship Service ~ March 30, 2025, 9:00

Fourth Sunday in Lent

VISION: Be the body of Christ:

welcoming all, inspired by God, and sent out to live our Faith.

MISSION: Led by the Spirit to share God's grace.

Today's Worship Broadcast is sponsored by Lew & Rita Berge
in honor of Rita's Birthday, March 28.

PRELUDE on *Softly and Tenderly* (ELW #608) by Dale Wood

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SHARING OF THE PEACE

P: The Peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

OPENING SONG ACS #1062 *BUILD A LONGER TABLE* stz 1, 3, 4

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INVOCATION

L: In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

L: Let us return to God, confessing our sin in the assurance of God's abiding love. *~Silence for Reflection~*

L: Compassionate One,

C: you are slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love, but our lives do not always reflect you and your love for the world. We do not show others the tender compassion you have shown to us. We do not welcome others with the radical hospitality you grant to all people. We oppress others, even though you have set us free again and again. We squander the abundant gifts of the earth. Transform our lives and guide us again in the way of the cross. Amen.

L: Beloved in Christ, God's arms are always stretched open wide to welcome the wandering ones home. In ☩ Christ your sins are forgiven. You have a place in God's house forever. **Amen.**

KYRIE ACS page 31

HYMN OF PRAISE ACS page 31

PRAYER

L: Let us pray.

C: God of compassion, you welcome the wayward, and you embrace us all with your mercy. By our baptism clothe us with garments of your grace, and feed us at the table of your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

PRAYER LAB MINUTE

SPECIAL MUSIC

“Prodigal Son”

Words and Music by Cory Asbury, Ran Jackson, and Ricky Jackson

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R: A reading from 2 Corinthians.

2 Corinthians 5:16-21

¹⁶From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. ¹⁷So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! ¹⁸All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; ¹⁹that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. ²⁰So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. ²¹For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

R: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

NOTHING IN ALL CREATION

R: A Gospel reading from the 15th chapter of Luke.

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

Luke 15:1-3; 11-32

15 Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to him. ²And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, “This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.” ³So he told them this parable:

¹¹“There was a man who had two sons. ¹²The younger of them said to his father, ‘Father, give me the share of the wealth that will belong to me.’ So he divided his assets between them. ¹³A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant region, and

there he squandered his wealth in dissolute living. ¹⁴When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that region, and he began to be in need. ¹⁵So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that region, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. ¹⁶He would gladly have filled his stomach with the pods that the pigs were eating, and no one gave him anything. ¹⁷But when he came to his senses he said, 'How many of my father's hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! ¹⁸I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; ¹⁹I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands." ' ²⁰So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. ²¹Then the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' ²²But the father said to his slaves, 'Quickly, bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. ²³And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate, ²⁴for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!' And they began to celebrate.

²⁵"Now his elder son was in the field, and as he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. ²⁶He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. ²⁷He replied, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf because he has got him back safe and sound.' ²⁸Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. ²⁹But he answered his father, 'Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command, yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. ³⁰But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your assets with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!' ³¹Then the father said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. ³²But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.' "

R: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

MESSAGE Pastor John Klawiter

SONG OF THE DAY ELW #608 *SOFTLY AND TENDERLY JESUS IS CALLING* stz 1, 2, 3



MUSICAL OFFERING "*Somebody's Praying*" arr. Mark Hayes; Scott Prins, soloist; Faith Choir; Alan Ball, piano; Linda Burk, director

*You can give online by scanning the QR code.
Cash/Checks can be put in the secure offering boxes by the exits or placed in the offering plate. Thank you!*

OFFERTORY ELW #186 *CREATE IN ME*

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

L: Lord in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

BLESSING

The LORD bless you and keep you; The LORD's face shine upon you and be gracious unto you, The LORD look upon you with favor, + and give you peace.

Amen.

SENDING SONG *GOD IS GOOD*

DISMISSAL

L: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

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