

Welcome to
PALMA CEIA
Presbyterian Church



Traditional Service

Sunday, March 30, 2025 | 8:30 & 11:00 AM

Fourth Sunday In Lent

GATHERING

Preparation for Worship: We are grateful God has called you to worship with us this morning. Today is the Fourth Sunday in Lent, a six-week period leading to Easter when Christians focus on renewing patterns of prayer, Bible study, generosity, and spiritual nurture. On this Fourth Sunday in Lent the lectionary brings us the story of the Prodigal Son and His Brother.

Prelude: “Fantasia”

Pachelbel

Chiming the Hour

Welcome

Introit: “I Will Arise and Go to Jesus”

Traditional tune, arr. Parker/Shaw

Call To Worship: (II Corinthians 5:16-21)

L: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

P: And also with you.

L: Everyone joined to Christ is a new creation.

P: The old has passed away, and the new has come.

L: All this is done by God, who through Christ changed us from enemies into his friends and gave us the task of making all people his friends as well.

All: We are ambassadors for Christ.

God makes his appeal through us to the world.

Invocation

Hymn #356: “Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”

Prayer of Confession and Intercession: (Psalm 51, adapted)

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin. For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me. Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me. Do not cast me away from your presence, and do not take your holy spirit from me.

Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and sustain in me a willing spirit. Then I will teach transgressors your ways, and sinners will return to you. (silent confession) We pray remembering Jesus Christ and the mercy he has brought us...Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Greeting One Another in the Peace of Jesus Christ

Act of Praise, Hymn #280: “Amazing Grace” (Verses 1 & 2)

Amazing Grace, how sweet the sound, that saved a wretch like me!

I once was lost, but now am found, Was blind, but now I see.

Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, And grace my fear relieved;

How precious did that grace appear The hour I first believed!

THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Lesson: Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

^{15:1} Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to him. ² And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, “This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.” ³ So he told them this parable: ¹¹ “There was a man who had two sons. ¹² The 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. ¹³ A 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. ¹⁴ When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that region, and he began to be in need. ¹⁵ So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that region, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. ¹⁶ He would gladly have filled his stomach with the pods that the pigs were eating, and no one gave him anything. ¹⁷ But 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! ¹⁸ I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, “Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; ¹⁹ I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands.”’ ²⁰ So 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. ²¹ Then the son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’ ²² But 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. ²³ And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate, ²⁴ for 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. ²⁶ He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. ²⁷ He replied, ‘Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf because he has got him back safe and sound.’ ²⁸ Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. ²⁹ But 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. ³⁰ But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your assets with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!’ ³¹ Then the father said to him, ‘Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. ³² But 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.’”

Time with the Children:

As the children come forward and as they leave the congregation can join in singing “*What does the Lord require of you? To seek justice, and love kindness, and walk humbly with your God.*” Following the Children’s Message, children Pre-K3-1st grade may be accompanied by a parent/guardian to the Godly Play room. Children 2nd grade and older are invited to remain in the sanctuary. There is also a staffed nursery on the first floor of Eastminster.

Junior Choir (11:00 AM)

Mission Celebration: H.O.P.E.

Prayer of Dedication and Worship with Tithes and Offerings

Offertory: “Even When He is Silent”

Text: Anonymous 20th Century

I believe in the sun even when it’s not shining.

I believe in love even when I feel it not.

I believe in God even when He is Silent.

Sermon: “The Waiting Father”

Rev. Dr. John T. DeBevoise



Preparation for Prayer: “God Be In My Head and In My Understanding”

Carter

Prayers of the People and 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 debts as we forgive our debtors. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Responsive Reading: Luke 15:3-10

L1: So Jesus told them this parable: ‘Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? When he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them,

P: “Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.”

L2: Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous people who need no repentance.

L1: ‘Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? When she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying,

P: “Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.”

L2: Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.’

SENDING

Hymn #272: “God of the Sparrow”

Roeder

Charge and Benediction:

“From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view...if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation”... (I Corinthians 5:16-21)

Benediction Response: “Create In Me A Clean Heart, O God”

Mueller

Postlude: “Basse et Deuss de Trompette”

Clerambault

The Flowers in the Chancel are dedicated to the glory of God and are given in thanksgiving for Carolyn Norton by her dear friends.

Leading in Worship Today: Reverends John DeBevoise, John Reiter, and Kenny Hubbell (11:00 AM); Nancy Callahan, Music Director; Chancel Choir; Junior Choir, Ashley Greenfield, Co-Director; Worship Leaders: River Knitch, Walker Watkins; Allison Kelly and Anna Shuford, Children’s Ministry; Susan Peacock, Chief Usher; Bert Chamorro, Beadle; Beth DeBevoise, Jackson Fowler, and Scott Wilson, Livestreamers

