

Fourth Sunday in Lent — March 30, 2025

### Preparing our Hearts

Great Things You Are The Way

Welcome and the Life of the Church

I Surrender All

Centering Ourselves for Worship (adapted from Psalm 32)

- L: For day and night your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer.
- P: Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not hide my iniquity; I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord," and you forgave the guilt of my sin.
- L: Therefore let all who are faithful offer prayer to you; at a time of distress, the rush of mighty waters shall not reach them.
- P: You are a hiding place for me; you preserve me from trouble; you surround me with glad cries of deliverance.

All: Be glad in the Lord and rejoice, O righteous, and shout for joy, all you upright in heart.

## A Prayer for New Creations & 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; And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil; For Thine is the Kingdom, and the Power, and the Glory forever.

Scripture Lesson Luke 15:11-32

11 Then Jesus said, "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 vounger 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.' "

#### Children's Message

— The Congregation Sings, "What does the Lord require of you?" Following the Children's Message, children entering PreK3-1st grade are invited to Covenant Hall 101 for Godly Play. The Prayground is open to all young children who desire to remain in worship— worshipping with us, offering to God the art they create, the friendships they make, and the energy they share with all of us.

Children 2nd grade and older are invited to remain in the worship spaces.

Passing the Peace of Christ

Mission Celebrations & Sharing Our Gifts

# **Preparing Ourselves to Hear the Word Proclaimed**Called Me Higher

Scripture Lesson 2 Corinthians 5:17-21

17 So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; look, new things have come into being! 18 All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; 19 that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. 20 So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ: be reconciled to God. 21 For our sake God made the one who knew no sin to be sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

Sermon Rev. John DeBevoise

### Being Sent out into the World Goodness of God

Prayer of the Day — Fourth Sunday in Lent

Gracious God,
in order that the children of earth
might discern good from evil
you sent your Son to be the light of the world.
As Christ shines upon us,
may we learn what pleases you,
and live in all truth and goodness;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever. Amen.

Charge & Benediction

Leading in worship today:

Musicians — Music Dir. Roger Sullins, Art Mickelson,
Jermaine Giddens, Jeff Jinks
Technicians — Michael Prichard, Thom Vanderklipp, Bob Fjellin
Video & Production: Beth DeBevoise, Scott Wilson, Jackson Fowler
Pastors— Revs. John DeBevoise, Kenny Hubbell
Liturgists — Ty Parker

# Thank you for joining us through Lent!

**The Season of Lent** is a time of prayer, fasting, and self-examination in preparation for the celebration of the resurrection of the Lord at Easter. It is a period of 40 days — like the flood of Genesis, Moses' sojourn at Mount Sinai, Elijah's journey to Mount Horeb, Jonah's call to Ninevah to repent and Jesus' time of testing in the wilderness. We hope you will join us in worship throughout this season of exploration and arrive with us to a deeper, more meaningful faith.

