

Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 27, 2022, 9:00 am

You are invited to speak the words in **bold**. + Please stand as you are able.

Musicians

Chris Garofalo, Director of Music Ministry, Organ & Piano • Chris DiMarco, Cantor

Prelude

Be Still My Soul

arranged by Chris Garofalo

Welcome

with Pastor Hannah

+ Call to Worship

with Pastor Hannah

God's reach is endless.

God's mercy is unstoppable.

God's grace is lavish.

God's love is constant.

God's wisdom is vast.

God's hope is stubborn.

God's presence is here—

with us, among us, moving through us.

Breathe easy. Breathe deeply.

We are in God's house.

Let us worship the One who welcomes us home.

+ Opening Hymn

Now Thank We All Our God

United Methodist Hymnal #102

Verse 1

Now thank we all our God,
with heart and hands and voices,
who wondrous things has done,
in whom this world rejoices;
who from our mothers' arms
has blessed us on our way
with countless gifts of love,
and still is ours today.

Verse 2

O may this bounteous God
through all our life be near us,
with ever joyful hearts
and blessed peace to cheer us;
and keep us still in grace,
and guide us when perplexed;
and free us from all ills,
in this world and the next.

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Verse 3

All praise and thanks to God
the Father now be given;
the Son, and him who reigns
with them in highest heaven;
the one eternal God,
whom earth and heaven adore;
for thus it was, is now,
and shall be evermore.

Prayer of Confession

with Pastor Hannah

*The prodigal son isn't given a name,
but we know his name.*

It sounds like ours.

And we know his story.

It sounds like ours.

For who among us hasn't burned a bridge?

*Who among us hasn't forgotten
that we belong to one another?*

Who among us has not ached for home?

*The prodigal son isn't given a name,
but we know his name.*

Forgive us God. We want to come home.

Song

Jesus Loves Me

United Methodist Hymnal #191

Verse 1

Jesus loves me! This I know,
for the Bible tells me so.
Little ones to him belong;
they are weak, but he is strong.
Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me!
The Bible tells me so.

Time for Young Disciples

with Amy Hollander

Psalter

Psalms 32: I Turn to You

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Cantor Sings

I turn to you in time of trouble,
and you fill me with the joy of salvation.

Congregational Sung Response

*I turn to you in time of trouble,
and you fill me with the joy of salvation.*

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Verse 1

Happy is he whose sin is forgiven,
whose fault is taken away.
Happy is she whom God shall find
of an innocent heart,
in whose soul there is no guile.

Sung Response

Verse 2

I kept my sin held deep in my soul,
and my frame was wasted away.
Night and day was your hand
a weight upon my heart:
I was weak, wracked with fever and alone.

Sung Response

Verse 3

Then I acknowledged the pain of my sin,
and my guilt I covered not.
I said I confess my fault unto you,
and you took away the guilt of my sin.

Sung Response

Verse 4

Oh, be glad in our God; exult, you just;
rejoice, all you upright of heart.

Sung Response

Scripture

Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

with Bonnie Valiant

The Inclusive Bible © 2007 by Priests for Equality

¹Meanwhile, the tax collectors and the “sinners” were all gathering around Jesus to listen to his teaching, ²at which the Pharisees and the religious scholars murmured, “This person welcomes sinners and eats with them!”³Jesus then addressed this parable to them:

^{11b} “A man had two sons. ¹²The younger of them said to their father, ‘Give me the share of the estate that is coming to me.’ So the father divided up the property between them. ¹³Some days later, the younger son gathered up his belongings and went off to a distant land. Here he squandered all his money on loose living. ¹⁴“After everything was spent, a great famine broke out in the land, and the son was in great need. ¹⁵So he went to a landowner, who sent him to a farm to take care of the pigs. ¹⁶The son was so hungry that he could

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have eaten the husks that were fodder for the pigs, but no one made a move to give him anything. ¹⁷ Coming to his senses at last, he said, 'How many hired hands at my father's house have more than enough to eat, while here I am starving! ¹⁸ I'll quit and go back home and say, "I've sinned against God and against you; ¹⁹ I no longer deserve to be called one of your children. Treat me like one of your hired hands.'" ²⁰ With that, the younger son set off for home. "While still a long way off, the father caught sight of the returning child and was deeply moved. The father ran out to meet him, threw his arms around him and kissed him. ²¹ The son said to him, 'I've sinned against God and against you; I no longer deserve to be called one of your children.' ²² But his father said to one of the workers, 'Quick! Bring out the finest robe and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and shoes on his feet. ²³ Take the calf we've been fattening and butcher it. Let's eat and celebrate! ²⁴ This son of mine was dead and has come back to life. He was lost and now he's found!' And the celebration began. ²⁵ "Meanwhile the elder son had been out in the field. As he neared the house, he heard the sound of music and dancing. ²⁶ He called one of the workers and asked what was happening. ²⁷ The worker answered, 'Your brother is home, and the fatted calf has been killed because

your father has him back safe and sound.' ²⁸ "The son got angry at this and refused to go into the party, but his father came out and pleaded with him. ²⁹ The older son replied, 'Look! For years now I've done every single thing you asked me to do. I never disobeyed even one of your orders, yet you never gave me so much as a kid goat to celebrate with my friends. ³⁰ But then this son of yours comes home after going through your money with prostitutes, and you kill the fatted calf for him!' ³¹ "'But my child!' the father said. 'You're with me always, and everything I have is yours. ³² But we have to celebrate and rejoice! This brother of yours was dead and has come back to life. He was lost and now he's found.'"

Response to Scripture

The Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God!

Hymn of Preparation

○ Come and Dwell in Me

United Methodist Hymnal #388, verse 1

Verse 1

*○ come and dwell in me,
Spirit of power within,*

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and bring the glorious liberty
from sorrow, fear, and sin.

Sermon Preparation

May the words of my mouth,
*and the meditation of our hearts
be acceptable to your Spirit,
our Rock and our Redeemer.*

Sermon

Prodigal Grace
with Pastor Hannah

Affirmation of Faith

with Pastor Hannah

*We believe in a God
who waits in the driveway for us.*

*We believe in a God
who leaves the porch light on
and throws a feast when we are found.*

*We believe in a God
who doesn't stop looking for us when we get lost.*

*We believe in a God of prodigal grace —
excessive, extravagant, over-the-top grace.*

*In response to this grace,
we hold tighter to each other.*

*We remember that humans are
not meant to go through life alone;
so we look for ways to welcome each other in,
to live like we are family,
and to lead with grace —
excessive, extravagant, over-the-top grace.
We believe that this is our call.
Let it be so. Amen.*

Hymn of Response

God of the Sparrow God of the Whale
United Methodist Hymnal #122
verses 1, 4 & 6

Verse 1

God of the sparrow

God of the whale

God of the swirling stars

How does the creature say Awe

How does the creature say Praise

Verse 4

God of the hungry

God of the sick

God of the prodigal

How does the creature say Care

How does the creature say Life

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Verse 6

God of the ages
God near at hand
God of the loving heart
How do your children say Joy
How do your children say Home

Pastoral Prayer

with Pastor Hannah

The Lord's Prayer

with Pastor Hannah

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 sins, as we forgive those who sin 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.

Offering Invitation

with Amy Hollander

Offertory

Spring ... Dream Song on May

by Takashi Yoshimatsu

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+ Doxology

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

United Methodist Hymnal #95

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heavenly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Prayer of Dedication

with Pastor Hannah

Announcements

with Pastor Hannah

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+ Hymn of Sending Forth

The King of Love My Shepherd Is

United Methodist Hymnal #138

verses 1, 2 & 6

Verse 1

The King of love my shepherd is,
whose goodness faileth never.

I nothing lack if I am his,
and he is mine forever.

Verse 2

Where streams of living water flow,
my ransomed soul he leadeth;
and where the verdant pastures grow,
with food celestial feedeth.

Verse 6

And so through all the length of days,
thy goodness faileth never;
Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise
within thy house forever.

Postlude

Nocturne Op. 16, No. 4

by Ignacy Jan Paderewski

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Benediction

with Pastor Hannah