

**Fourth Sunday in Lent**  
**“Welcome Home”**

March 27, 2022

**As We Gather**

The parable of the Prodigal Son is a powerful picture of the grace of God. But it is actually three pictures in one. It is a story about receiving grace, about giving grace, and about celebrating grace given to others. As God comes to us in His grace this morning, may His Spirit be at work in us that we may live each day in light of His amazing grace.

**Welcome**

**Gathering**

**“God Loved the World so that He Gave” LSB 571**

God loved the world so that He gave  
His only Son the lost to save,  
That all who would in Him believe  
Should everlasting life receive.

Be of good cheer, for God's own Son  
Forgives all sins which you have done;  
And, justified by Jesus' blood,  
Your Baptism grants the highest good.

Christ Jesus is the ground of faith,  
Who was made flesh and suffered death;  
All then who trust in Him alone  
Are built on this chief cornerstone.

If you are sick, if death is near,  
This truth Your troubled heart can cheer:  
Christ Jesus saves Your soul from death;  
That is the firmest ground of faith.

God would not have the sinner die,  
His Son with saving grace is nigh;  
His Spirit in the Word declares  
How we in Christ are heaven's heirs.

Glory to God the Father, Son,  
And Holy Spirit, Three in One!  
To Thee, O blessed Trinity,  
Be praise now and eternally!

**Invocation**

**Pastor:** In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People:** Amen.

**Confession and Absolution**

**Musical Offering**

*Kindergarten & 1<sup>st</sup> Grade Choir*

**Prayer**

## Children's Church

### Service of the Word

#### First Reading: Isaiah 12:1-6

In that day you will say:

"I will praise you, LORD.

Although you were angry with me,  
your anger has turned away  
and you have comforted me.

<sup>2</sup> Surely God is my salvation;

I will trust and not be afraid.

The LORD, the LORD himself, is my strength and my defense<sup>[a]</sup>;  
he has become my salvation."

<sup>3</sup> With joy you will draw water  
from the wells of salvation.

<sup>4</sup> In that day you will say:

"Give praise to the LORD, proclaim his name;  
make known among the nations what he has done,  
and proclaim that his name is exalted.

<sup>5</sup> Sing to the LORD, for he has done glorious things;  
let this be known to all the world.

<sup>6</sup> Shout aloud and sing for joy, people of Zion,  
for great is the Holy One of Israel among you."

*This is the Word of the Lord*

**Thanks be to God**

#### Second Reading: 2 Corinthians 5:16-21

So from now on we regard no one from a worldly point of view. Though we once regarded Christ in this way, we do so no longer. <sup>17</sup> Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here! <sup>18</sup> All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: <sup>19</sup> that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting people's sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. <sup>20</sup> We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God. <sup>21</sup> God made him who had no sin to be sin<sup>[b]</sup> for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

*This is the Word of the Lord*

**Thanks be to God**

**Holy Gospel: Luke 15:1-3, 11-32**

Now the tax collectors and sinners were all gathering around to hear Jesus. <sup>2</sup> But the Pharisees and the teachers of the law muttered, "This man welcomes sinners and eats with them."

<sup>3</sup> Then Jesus told them this parable:

Jesus continued: "There was a man who had two sons. <sup>12</sup> The younger one said to his father, 'Father, give me my share of the estate.' So he divided his property between them.

<sup>13</sup> "Not long after that, the younger son got together all he had, set off for a distant country and there squandered his wealth in wild living. <sup>14</sup> After he had spent everything, there was a severe famine in that whole country, and he began to be in need. <sup>15</sup> So he went and hired himself out to a citizen of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed pigs. <sup>16</sup> He longed to fill his stomach with the pods that the pigs were eating, but no one gave him anything.

<sup>17</sup> "When he came to his senses, he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have food to spare, and here I am starving to death! <sup>18</sup> I will set out and go back to my father and say to him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. <sup>19</sup> I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me like one of your hired servants.' <sup>20</sup> So he got up and went to his father.

"But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him.

<sup>21</sup> "The son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.'

<sup>22</sup> "But the father said to his servants, 'Quick! Bring the best robe and put it on him. Put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. <sup>23</sup> Bring the fattened calf and kill it. Let's have a feast and celebrate. <sup>24</sup> For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.' So they began to celebrate.

<sup>25</sup> "Meanwhile, the older son was in the field. When he came near the house, he heard music and dancing. <sup>26</sup> So he called one of the servants and asked him what was going on. <sup>27</sup> 'Your brother has come,' he replied, 'and your father has killed the fattened calf because he has him back safe and sound.'

<sup>28</sup> "The older brother became angry and refused to go in. So his father went out and pleaded with him. <sup>29</sup> But he answered his father, 'Look! All these years I've been slaving for you and never disobeyed your orders. Yet you never gave me even a young goat so I could celebrate with my friends. <sup>30</sup> But when this son of yours who has squandered your property with prostitutes comes home, you kill the fattened calf for him!'

<sup>31</sup> "'My son,' the father said, 'you are always with me, and everything I have is yours. <sup>32</sup> But we had to celebrate and be glad, because this brother of yours was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.'"

*This is the Gospel of the Lord*  
**Praise to You O Christ**

**Nicene Creed**

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, Who proceeds from the Father and the Son, Who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, Who spoke by the prophets.

And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

**Sermon**

*“Welcome Home”*

**Ministry Moment  
Offering**

*Lutheran Schools Week*

**Prayers**

*Please add your prayer requests to the chat.*

**Thanksgivings**

**Pastor:** O Lord, we praise You.  
**People:** **Thanks be to God.**

**Petitions**

**Pastor:** Lord, in Your mercy,  
**People:** **Hear our prayer.**

**St. John’s People and Families**  
Tom, Tracy, Aidan, & Grayson Cushing  
Lori and Gabriel Gutierrez  
Leonard, Tracy, Devin, & Tyler Lamb  
Pastor Mike and Teresa Schmid  
Gary & Marlen Virkus  
Levi, Ashley, Lachlan, & Levi Cloud  
Melanie and Sophie Dal Cielo  
Mark, Jonna, & Evan Lewis  
Brian, Alexis, & Mark Riccomini  
Thomas, Katelyn, & Mac Sims

**The Service of Holy Communion**

**Preface**

**Pastor:** The Lord be with you.  
**People:** **And also with you.**  
**Pastor:** Lift up your hearts.  
**People:** **We lift them to the Lord.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

Pastor: Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish by have eternal life.

At Your command, Abraham prepared to offer his son Isaac as a sacrifice on the mountain; yet, in mercy You provided a ram as a substitute. We give You thanks that on Calvary You spared not Your only Son but sent Him to offer His life as a ransom for many.

As we eat and drink his body and blood, grant us, like Abraham our father, to trust in Your promise now fulfilled in Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world.

Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

**People: 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 and ever. Amen.**

### **The Words of Institution**

Pastor: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**People: Amen.**

### **Communion**

Pastor: Take, eat; this is the true body of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, given into death for your sins.

**People: Amen.** *(Take and eat)*

Pastor: Take, drink; this is the true blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, shed for the forgiveness of your sins.

**People: Amen.** *(Take and drink)*

**Musical Offering**

**“Let Us Break Bread Together”**

*Spiritual, Arr. By Lloyd Larson*

Let us break bread together on our knees.  
When I fall on my knees, with my face to the risin’ sun,  
O Lord , have mercy on me.

Let us drink the cup together on our knees.  
When I fall on my knees, with my face to the risin’ sun,  
O Lord , have mercy on me.

Praise God together on our knees.  
When I fall on my knees, with my face to the risin’ sun,  
O Lord , have mercy on me.

**Communion Hymn**

**“I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light” LSB 411**

I want to walk as a child of the light  
I want to follow Jesus  
God sent the stars to give light to the world  
The star of my life is Jesus  
In Him there is no darkness at all  
The night and the day are both alike  
The Lamb is the light of the city of God  
Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus

The night and the day are both alike  
The Lamb is the light of the city of God  
Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus

I’m looking for the coming of Christ.  
I want to be with Jesus.  
When we have run with patience the race,  
We shall know the joy of Jesus.  
In Him there is no darkness at all  
The night and the day are both alike  
The Lamb is the light of the city of God  
Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus

I want to see the brightness of God  
I want to look at Jesus  
Clear Sun of Righteousness, shine on my  
path  
And show me the way to the Father  
In Him there is no darkness at all

**Communion Blessing**

**Pastor:** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. His peace be with you.

**People:** Amen.

**Prayer**

**Benediction**

**“Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies” LSB 873**

1 Christ, whose glory fills the skies,  
Christ, the true and only light,  
Sun of righteousness, arise;  
Triumph o’er the shades of night.  
Dayspring from on high, be near;  
Daystar, in my heart appear.

2 Dark and cheerless is the morn  
Unaccompanied by Thee;  
Joyless is the day’s return

Till Thy mercy’s beams I see,  
Till they inward light impart,  
Glad my eyes, and warm my heart.

3 Visit then this soul of mine,  
Pierce the gloom of sin and grief;  
Fill me, radiance divine,  
Scatter all my unbelief;  
More and more Thyself display,  
Shining to the perfect day.

**Offering**

<http://stjohnslutheran.net/give/>

You may also mail your offering to St. John’s (3521 Linda Vista, Napa, CA 94558)

**Serving in Worship Today**

Preacher	Rev. Michael A. Schmid
Liturgist	Kevin Mathison
Lay Readers	Hunter Bledsoe
Communion Assistants	Rev. Greg & Trudi Stringer, Tim Huss,
Organist	Erin Blackwood
Sound Technician	Tyler Roberts
Streaming Technician	Joshua Wright
Worship Preparation Team	Gerry & Midge Schneider, Ron Irwin, Jan Newton
Ushers	Gary & Marlen Virkus
Projection Technician	Brian Schoenfeld
Children’s Church	Gail Vandeburgt, Jeni Schluter

**Memory Verse for This Week**

But God demonstrates His own love for us in this:  
While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.  
*Romans 5:8*