

# A Service of Morning Prayer

## March 30, 2025

### Fourth Sunday in Lent



“Return of the Prodigal Son”  
Rembrandt, 1661-1669, Oil on Canvas  
Heritage Museum, St. Petersburg, Russia

I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him:  
Father I have sinned against heaven and before you. *Luke 15:18*

#### CP 434 The Love of Jesus Calls Us

1 The love of Jesus calls us our joyous praise  
to sing;  
Our deeply felt thanksgivings we now  
together bring,  
For all God’s many blessings, unasked yet  
still received;  
And for the generations who faithfully  
believed

2 The love of Jesus calls us, that we may  
always be;  
Companions on a journey, where all the world  
may see  
That serving Christ is freedom which time  
does not destroy;  
Where Christ’s command is duty, and every  
duty joy.

3 The love of Jesus calls us to go where he  
would go,  
To challenge all that limits, to change, to  
learn, to grow,  
To know that Christ has freed us, that prisons  
are no more;  
For those who seek his kingdom, Christ  
opens every door.

4 The love of Jesus calls us in swiftly  
changing days;  
To be God’s co-creators in new and  
wondrous ways;  
That God with one another may so transform  
the earth,  
That love and peace and justice may give  
God’s kingdom birth.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
And the love of God,  
And the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,  
Be with you all.

**And also with you.**

May his grace and peace be with you.  
**May he fill our hearts with joy.**

Almighty God,  
**To you all hearts are open,  
 All desires known,  
 And from you no secrets are hidden.  
 Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts  
 By the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,  
 That we may perfectly love you,  
 And worthily magnify your holy name;  
 Through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

### Psalm 32

*Refrain: Taste and see that the Lord is good.*

32:1 Happy are those whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.

32:2 Happy are those to whom the LORD imputes no iniquity and in whose spirit there is no deceit.

32:3 While I kept silent, my body wasted away through my groaning all day long.

32:4 For day and night your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer.

32:5 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.

32:6 Therefore let all who are faithful offer prayer to you; at a time of distress, the rush of mighty waters shall not reach them.

32:7 You are a hiding place for me; you preserve me from trouble; you surround me with glad cries of deliverance.

32:8 I will instruct you and teach you the way you should go; I will counsel you with my eye upon you.

32:9 Do not be like a horse or a mule, without understanding, whose temper must be curbed with bit and bridle, else it will not stay near you.

32:10 Many are the torments of the wicked, but steadfast love surrounds those who trust in the LORD.

32:11 Be glad in the LORD and rejoice, O righteous, and shout for joy, all you upright in heart.

### A Reading from Joshua 5:9-12

5:9 The LORD said to Joshua, "Today I have rolled away from you the disgrace of Egypt." And so that place is called Gilgal to this day.

5:10 While the Israelites were camped in Gilgal, they kept the Passover in the evening on the fourteenth day of the month in the plains of Jericho.

5:11 On the day after the Passover, on that very day, they ate the produce of the land, unleavened cakes and roasted grain.

5:12 The manna ceased on the day they ate the produce of the land, and the Israelites no longer had manna; they ate the crops of the land of Canaan that year.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

CP 487 Where Charity and Love Prevail

1 Where charity and love  
There God is ever found  
Brought here together by Christ's love  
By love we are thus bound

2 With grateful joy and holy fear  
His charity we learn  
Let us with heart and mind and strength  
Now love Him in return

3 Forgive we now each other's faults  
As we our faults confess  
Let us love each other well  
In Christian holiness

4 Let strife among us be unknown  
Let all contention cease  
Be His the glory that we seek  
Be ours His holy peace

5 Let us recall that in our midst  
Dwells God's begotten Son;  
As members of his body joined,  
We are in him made one.

6 Love can exclude no race or creed  
If honoured be God's name;  
Our common life embraces all  
Whose Father is the same.

7 Lord, we thy presence seek;  
may ours this blessing be;  
give us a pure and lowly heart,  
a temple fit for thee.

A Reading from 2 Corinthians 5:16-21

5:16 From 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 no longer know him in that way.

5:17 So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; look, new things have come into being!

5:18 All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and has given us the ministry of reconciliation;

5:19 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.

5:20 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.

5:21 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.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

CP 520 The King of Love My Shepherd Is

1 The King of love my shepherd is,  
whose goodness faileth never.  
I nothing lack if I am his,  
and he is mine forever.

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

3 Perverse and foolish, oft I strayed,  
but yet in love he sought me;  
and on his shoulder gently laid,  
and home, rejoicing, brought me.

4 In death's dark vale I fear no ill,  
with thee, dear Lord, beside me;  
thy rod and staff my comfort still,  
thy cross before to guide me.

5 Thou spread'st a table in my sight;  
thy unction grace bestoweth;  
and O what transport of delight  
from thy pure chalice floweth!

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

## The Gospel

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according Luke

**Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

### Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

15:1 Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to him.

15:2 And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them."

15:3 So he told them this parable:

15:11b "There was a man who had two sons.

15:12 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.

15:13 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.

15:14 When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that region, and he began to be in need.

15:15 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.

15:16 He would gladly have filled his stomach with the pods that the pigs were eating, and no one gave him anything.

15:17 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!

15:18 I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you;

15:19 I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands."

15:20 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.

15:21 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.'

15:22 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.

15:23 And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate,

15:24 for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!' And they began to celebrate.

15:25 "Now his elder son was in the field, and as he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing.

15:26 He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on.

15:27 He replied, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf because he has got him back safe and sound.'

15:28 Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him.

15:29 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.

15:30 But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your assets with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!'

15:31 Then the father said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours.

15:32 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.'"

The Gospel of Christ

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Sermon by the Rev. Alison Westervelt

### CCLI 7054541 Miracles

1 The One who made the blind to see  
Is moving here in front of me  
Moving here in front of me  
The One who made the deaf to hear  
Is silencing my ev'ry fear  
Silencing my ev'ry fear

2 The One who does impossible  
Is reaching out to make me whole  
Reaching out to make me whole  
The One who put death in its place  
His life is flowing through my veins  
His life is flowing through my veins

#### **Chorus**

***I believe in You***

***I believe in You***

***You're the God of miracles***

***I believe in You***

***I believe in You***

***You're the God of miracles***

#### **Bridge**

The God who was and is to come

The power of the Risen One

The God who brings the dead to life

You're the God of miracles

You're the God of miracles

### Affirmation of Faith (The Apostles' Creed)

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.**

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the Virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

**He descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again.**

**He ascended into heaven.**

**and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again**

**to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,**

**the holy catholic Church,**

**the communion of saints,**

**the forgiveness of sins,**

**the resurrection of the body,**

**and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## Prayers of the People compiled and led by the Rev. Alison Westervelt

Let us lift our hearts in faith to the one who hears all prayers and holds close all those in need, saying, Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

### **Hear our prayer**

Loving God, we pray for your Church throughout the world with its variety, diversity, and richness and for all who are eager to learn more of your message and to follow in your ways.

- In the Anglican world wide communion we pray for the Province de L'Eglise Anglicane Du Congo

- In the Anglican Church in Canada we pray for the acting Primate of Anglican Church of Canada: the Most Rev. Anne Germond, Archbishop.

- In our own Diocese, we pray for St. Thomas, Sherwood Park and her Rector, Chelsy Bouwman; Judy Purkis, Deacon; Sheila Hagan-Bloxham, Michael Rolph, Honorary Assistants; Shawna Stirman, Administrative Assistant. And we pray for our Bishop, Stephen and all clergy and staff of our Diocese.

- We pray for the Buyé Diocese, Kigina Parish and her Rector, Emmanuel Ntakirutimana.

- We pray for the people and community of the Kehewin Cree Nation.

- For our community of St. Peter's, our ministry team, Arthur and Alison, our musician, Nadine, our vestry, our volunteers, and all who call this place their spiritual home, that as we travel the road to our future we may all put our trust in you to guide us into the path that best serves you and your kingdom. Lord in your mercy

### **Hear our Prayer**

We pray for your ever-changing world, a world often depleted in energy and short of vision: a world in which the resources are often misused. We thank you for all people who are working to improve your world by being true stewards of your creation. We pray for areas of the world hit by natural disasters and wars and for those who are working to make your world a more sustainable and peaceful place. May your love flood their lives to comfort them and bring them hope. Lord in your mercy

### **Hear our prayer**

We pray for and ask for your blessing on everyone here this morning and also for our families and our friends near and far. May we all be transformed through the richness of your presence. Come with your generous care into our homes and to all homes within our community. Grant to each one of us deeper insight, more awareness, and a greater love for one another. Help us to put the needs of others before our own and so truly follow in your foot steps. Lord in your mercy,

### **Hear our Prayer**

We pray for your blessing on the poor, the hungry, the abused, those struggling financially, for the unemployed and for those in danger of losing their homes or are facing redundancy because of the economic climate.

Look with mercy on homes where love is threatened by poverty, and we ask that you will strengthen and support parents who struggle to provide adequately for their children. Lord in your mercy,

### **Hear our Prayer**

This morning we pray for all who are ill at this time whether at home or in hospital and for those awaiting diagnosis or treatment: Sandra..... Merle..... Mary..... Irene ..... Tony and Mary Jean..... Bill..... Florence..... Lisa..... Marijke..... Diane..... Janelle..... Sandy..... Evelyn..... Sarah..... Terry..... Ken..... Monica..... Julie..... Lucas..... Helen..... Cody..... Judy..... Skariah..... Ruth..... Jody and Michael..... David L..... Kathy..... Joy..... Melody and her family..... Pauline and Richard.....Jorges and Janine..... Michael S..... Larry..... Christena; and we remember, in a moment of quiet, those known only to you or those we keep in our hearts.....

May your healing love encircle each one of them and those who faithfully care for them and bring them your peace. Lord in your mercy

### **Hear our prayer**

We thank you, Lord for your constant loving provision for us throughout our lives and we commend to your safe keeping all those who have died, and for those mourning the loss of loved ones. May they have peace in the joy of your presence for ever. Lord in your mercy

### **Hear our prayer**

God of every land and nation, you have created all people, and you dwell among us in Jesus Christ. Listen to the cries of those who pray to you, and grant that, as we proclaim the greatness of your name, all people will know the power of love at work in the world. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

### Collect

Gracious Father,  
whose blessed Son Jesus Christ came from heaven  
to be the true bread which gives life to the world,  
evermore give us this bread,  
that he may live in us, and we in him,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,  
 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,  
 the power, and the glory,  
 for ever and ever. Amen.

### CP 572 Let There Be Light

1 Let there be light, let there be understanding, Let all the nations gather, let them be face to face;	3 perish the sword, perish the angry judgement, perish the bombs and hunger, perish the fight for gain;	5 thy kingdom come, thy spirit turn to language, thy people speak together, thy spirit never fade;
2 open our lips, open our minds to ponder, open the door of concord opening into grace;	4 hallow our love, hallow the deaths of martyrs, hallow their holy freedom, hallowed be thy name;	6 let there be light, open our hearts to wonder, perish the way of terror, hallow the world God made.

### The Dismissal

I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him:  
 Father I have sinned against heaven and before you. *Luke 15:18*

Let us bless the Lord  
**Thanks be to God.**

May the God of peace enable us to do His will in every kind of goodness  
 working in us what pleases Him, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory for  
 ever and ever. Amen.

My dear friends, be swift to love, make haste to be kind,  
 and go in peace to love and serve the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**