

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

March 27th, 2022

“FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT”

“UMCOR SUNDAY”

Liturgical Color – Purple



DALLAS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

TODAY'S CENTERING MEDITATION

*For God made Christ, who never sinned,
to be the offering for our sin,
so that we could be made right with God through Christ.*

2 Corinthians 5:21(NLT)

* Please stand in stature or in heart as you are able.

WELCOME / ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE ...

I Surrender All

Winfield S. Weeden arr. by Joel Raney

Come Home

* CALL TO WORSHIP

From darkness and despair, from being lost and lonely, God calls us home.

Even though we have been selfish and let God down, we are still called beloved.

Remember the eternal love of God which has been poured out for you.

Our hearts rejoice at the wondrous ways in which God loves and forgives us.

Remember that in all your ways you can trust in God's compassion and faithfulness.

* *Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling*

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PRAYER OF CONFESSION FOLLOWED BY MOMENTS OF SILENT PRAYER

Lord, it is interesting

that it is easy for us to identify with today's scripture about the "Prodigal Son".

Some of us are easily reminded of our own selfishness and stubbornness

when we willfully sought our own way.

Others are reminded about how angry we were

when others were not held accountable for their actions,

when we have been so careful not to displease anyone.

Still others can identify with the father who, feeling the loss of his son, welcomes him home again,

reminding the brother that he has always been in the love and care of the Father.

We hear this story and it's a pleasant memory. But do we really understand what it is about?

Do we know that we have also been stubborn and selfish,

angry and unforgiving, sorrowful and caught between two conflicting factions?

We are no different from these characters, in our own unique way.

Yet, in God's infinite love, we also are forgiven and healed.

We are called to turn our lives back to God's care, which is always extended to us.

Forgive us and heal us, gracious God.
Open our hearts and our spirits to truly receive the blessings of your healing love.
For it is in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ, that we pray. Amen.

In life, in death, in life beyond death,
God is with us. We are not alone.
Thanks be to God. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE & PARDON

* *Glory Be to the Father*

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JESUS LOVES THE LITTLE CHILDREN

*Jesus loves the little children, all the children of the world.
Red and yellow, black and white, they are precious in his sight.
Jesus loves the little children of the world.*

TIME OF PRAYER / THE LORD'S PRAYER:

(Ecumenical Text)

**Our Father in Heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done on Earth, as it is in Heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.**

CHILDREN'S CHAT

WHERE CHILDREN BELONG

2233

A PRAYER FOR OFFERING OUR TREASURES TO THE LORD

* *This Is a Day of New Beginnings*

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* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH:

A Statement of Faith of the United Church of Canada

**We are not alone,
we live in God's world.
We believe in God:
who has created and is creating,
who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh,
to reconcile and make new,
who works in us and others by the Spirit.
We trust in God.**

GOD'S WORD:

Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

(The Liturgist says: "This is the Word of God for ALL people" ... AND ... the People respond: "Thanks BE to God"

TODAY'S MESSAGE:

"KNOWING THE GRACIOUS GRACE-DISPENSING FATHER"

* *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*

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* BENEDICTION

* *The Old Rugged Cross*

504 (verse 4)

Wesley's 3 Simple Rules

- 1) Do no harm**
- 2) Do good**
- 3) Stay in love with God**