



**“PARABLES OF JESUS:
THE PRODIGAL SON”**
Sunday, June 6, 2021 9:00AM
Worship Service

AS WE GATHER

As we read through the various Gospel accounts we come across the parables that Jesus used. By using these short stories, Jesus was able to share religious truths that easily connected with His listeners. Beginning today we will look at some of Jesus’ Parables starting with arguably the most well-known parable, The Prodigal Son.

CALL TO WORSHIP

“Bell Peal in G”

Bisbee

WELCOME

BELL CHOIR ANTHEM

“How Firm a Foundation”

arr. Eithun

OPENING HYMN

“Today Your Mercy Calls Us”

LSB 915

- 1 Today Your mercy calls us
To wash away our sin.
However great our trespass,
Whatever we have been,
However long from mercy
Our hearts have turned away,
Your precious blood can wash us
And make us clean today.
- 2 Today Your gate is open,
And all who enter in
Shall find a Father’s welcome
And pardon for their sin.
The past shall be forgotten,
A present joy be giv’n,
A future grace be promised,
A glorious crown in heav’n.
- 3 Today our Father calls us;
His Holy Spirit waits;
His blessed angels gather
Around the heav’nly gates.
No question will be asked us
How often we have come;
Although we oft have wandered,
It is our Father’s home.
- 4 O all-embracing Mercy,
O ever-open Door,
What should we do without You
When heart and eye run o’er?
When all things seem against us,
To drive us to despair,

We know one gate is open,
One ear will hear our prayer.

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Stand

INVOCATION

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES

- P** O Lord, open my lips,
C and my mouth will declare Your praise.

- P** Make haste, O God, to deliver me;
C make haste to help me, O Lord.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

KYRIE

- P** In peace, let us pray to the Lord.
C Mercy show us, Lord God. Hear us as we pray.

- P** For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.
C Mercy show us, Lord God. Hear us as we pray.

- P** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.
C Mercy show us, Lord God. Hear us as we pray.

- P** For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.
C Mercy show us, Lord God. Hear us as we pray.

- P** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.
C Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P** Let us pray.

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, Your mercies are new every morning. Though we deserve only punishment, You receive us as Your children and provide for all our needs of body and soul.

- C** Fill us with such thanks, praise, and joy, that we may be Christ's ambassadors of reconciliation in all our daily relationships;

- P** through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

- C** People: Amen.

Sit

OLD TESTAMENT READING

- P** The Old Testament Reading is from Isaiah, chapter 12.

Isaiah 12

¹You will say in that day:
“I will give thanks to you, O LORD,
for though you were angry with me,
your anger turned away,
that you might comfort me.

²“Behold, God is my salvation;
I will trust, and will not be afraid;
for the LORD GOD is my strength and my song,
and he has become my salvation.”

³With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation. ⁴And you will say in that day:

“Give thanks to the LORD,
call upon his name,
make known his deeds among the peoples,
proclaim that his name is exalted.

⁵“Sing praises to the LORD, for he has done gloriously;
let this be made known in all the earth.

⁶Shout, and sing for joy, O inhabitant of Zion,
for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.”

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE READING

2 Corinthians 5:16–21

P The Epistle is from 2 Corinthians, chapter 5.

¹⁶From now on, therefore, we regard no one according to the flesh. Even though we once regarded Christ according to the flesh, we regard him thus no longer. ¹⁷Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. ¹⁸All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; ¹⁹that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. ²⁰Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. ²¹For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

GOSPEL READING

Luke 15:1–3, 11–32

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the fifteenth chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹Now the tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to hear him. ²And the Pharisees and the scribes grumbled, saying, “This man receives sinners and eats with them.”

³So he told them this parable: . . .

¹¹And he said, “There was a man who had two sons. ¹²And the younger of them said to his father, ‘Father, give me the share of property that is coming to me.’ And he divided his property between them. ¹³Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took a journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in reckless living. ¹⁴And when he had spent everything, a severe famine arose in that country, and he began to be in need. ¹⁵So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him

into his fields to feed pigs. ¹⁶And he was longing to be fed with the pods that the pigs ate, and no one gave him anything.

¹⁷“But when he came to himself, he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired servants have more than enough bread, but I perish here with hunger! ¹⁸I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, “Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. ¹⁹I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Treat me as one of your hired servants.”’ ²⁰And he arose and came to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him. ²¹And the son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’ ²²But the father said to his servants, ‘Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet. ²³And bring the fattened calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate. ²⁴For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.’ And they began to celebrate.

²⁵“Now his older son was in the field, and as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. ²⁶And he called one of the servants and asked what these things meant. ²⁷And he said to him, ‘Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fattened calf, because he has received him back safe and sound.’ ²⁸But he was angry and refused to go in. His father came out and entreated him, ²⁹but he answered his father, ‘Look, these many years I have served you, and I never disobeyed your command, yet you never gave me a young goat, that I might celebrate with my friends. ³⁰But when this son of yours came, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fattened calf for him!’ ³¹And he said to him, ‘Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. ³²It was fitting to celebrate and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found.’”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

NICENE CREED

C 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.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P Let us pray for ourselves, the Church around the world, and all people in their various needs.

Let us pray for all who, like the people of Isaiah's day, languish under fear and oppression.

C **Reconciling Lord, use police and military people and resources, political powers and courageous leaders, to restore liberty and freedom to all who are displaced or denied justice. Renew in them faith in Your promises and a realization that You are in their midst even in difficult days.**

P Let us pray for all who, like David in his earlier days, deny their transgressions, defend their iniquities, and groan in their misery.

C **Reconciling Lord, by Your Word of Law and Gospel bring them to true contrition and repentance. Be a hiding place for them, and surround them with Your love. Grant that we may act as Your embracing arms.**

P Let us pray for clergy and lay leaders around the world, who, like Paul, are Christ's ambassadors through whom God is making His appeal.

C **Reconciling Lord, strengthen and protect Your Church around the world, all who bring the good news of salvation to the people they meet. Guide us as we carry the ministry of reconciliation in our various relationships. Help us encourage one another on behalf of Christ to be reconciled to You each day.**

P Let us pray for all who reflect the family members in Jesus' parable: those who find themselves destitute, those harboring resentment, and those offering compassionate care.

C **Reconciling Lord, where generations are at odds, bring understanding. Where families are fractured, bring healing. Where people are forgotten, unseen, and marginalized, bring dignity and new hope. Use us gathered here—as well as emergency personnel, health-care workers, mental health consultants, and social agencies of all sorts—to care for their needs of body, mind, and spirit.**

P Into Your hands, heavenly Father, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

C **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.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P As we are about to receive our Lord's body and blood in, with, and under this bread and wine for the forgiveness of sins, let us make confession to our heavenly Father.

P "I said, 'I will confess my transgressions to the Lord,'

C **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin."**

P With God's people when Isaiah's prophecy would be fulfilled, we "give thanks to the Lord, call upon His name."

C **But we confess that when we are drained in our broken relationships, we do not always remember that God is the source of every blessing, nor do we remember that He is always ready to listen when we call out to Him.**

P With David, we rejoice that "against [us] the Lord counts no iniquity."

C **But we confess that we do not always admit all our transgressions to the Lord, groaning instead all day long.**

P With Paul, we rejoice that Christ "gave us the ministry of reconciliation."

C **But we confess that we do not always regard one another as His new creations, failing to be reconciled to one another or to God.**

P With the prodigal son in Jesus' parable, we have felt our heavenly Father's forgiving embrace, welcoming us home.

C **But we confess that at times we are more like the elder brother, feeling sorry for ourselves and seeking tangible blessings for serving our Lord through the years.**

P The Pharisees were correct, saying that Jesus "receives sinners and eats with them." Let us therefore confidently go to God, asking His forgiveness for Jesus' sake.

Silence for reflection on the Word of God and for self-examination.

P Almighty God, heavenly Father,

C **we confess that we are by nature sinful. We have failed to love You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have considered ourselves better than others; we have expected You to bless us in all things. For the sake of Jesus Christ, Your Son and our Lord, forgive us, and by the power of Your Holy Spirit cleanse our hearts and minds that we might walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

P Christ Jesus, true man and true God, was obedient to His Father in all things and in our place. By His death, He destroyed death, and by His rising opened eternal life to all who call on Him for forgiveness. Our heavenly Father is therefore ready to welcome us to our heavenly home at the end of our pilgrimage on earth. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen. The Lord God is my strength and my song, and He has become my salvation.**

INVITATION TO THE MEAL

P Jesus Christ, who in love gave His life for us, invites us to share in the meal He has given to His disciples with His words, "Do this in remembrance of Me."

C **We remember His love for us in His death and we remember and celebrate His rising from the grave for our salvation.**

- P** Jesus says, "Whoever acknowledges Me before men, I will also acknowledge before My Father in heaven."
C **We publicly acknowledge You, Jesus, as our Savior from sin and we come before You now in oneness of faith and spirit to receive Your grace in this meal.**

- P** Let us then approach the Table of the Lord with confidence so that we may receive mercy, grace and strength to live as His people.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

- P** 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 $\cdot\text{I}$ 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 $\cdot\text{I}$ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

PAX DOMINI

- P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.
C **Amen.**

Sit

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

"Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness"

LSB 636

- 1 Soul, adorn yourself with gladness,
Leave the gloomy haunts of sadness,
Come into the daylight's splendor,
There with joy your praises render.
Bless the One whose grace unbounded
This amazing banquet founded;
He, though heav'nly, high, and holy,
Deigns to dwell with you most lowly.
- 2 Hasten as a bride to meet Him,
And with loving rev'ence greet Him.
For with words of life immortal
He is knocking at your portal.
Open wide the gates before Him,
Saying, as you there adore Him:
Grant, Lord, that I now receive You,
That I nevermore will leave You.
- 3 He who craves a precious treasure
Neither cost nor pain will measure;
But the priceless gifts of heaven
God to us has freely given.
Though the wealth of earth were proffered,
None could buy the gifts here offered:
Christ's true body, for you riven,
And His blood, for you once given.
- 4 Now in faith I humbly ponder
Over this surpassing wonder
That the bread of life is boundless

Though the souls it feeds are countless:
With the choicest wine of heaven
Christ's own blood to us is given.
Oh, most glorious consolation,
Pledge and seal of my salvation!

5 Jesus, source of lasting pleasure,
Truest friend, and dearest treasure,
Peace beyond all understanding,
Joy into all life expanding:
Humbly now, I bow before You;
Love incarnate, I adore You;
Worthily let me receive You
And, so favored, never leave You.

6 Jesus, sun of life, my splendor,
Jesus, friend of friends, most tender,
Jesus, joy of my desiring,
Fount of life, my soul inspiring:
At Your feet I cry, my maker,
Let me be a fit partaker
Of this blessed food from heaven,
For our good, Your glory, given.

7 Lord, by love and mercy driven,
You once left Your throne in heaven
On the cross for me to languish
And to die in bitter anguish,
To forego all joy and gladness
And to shed Your blood in sadness.
By this blood redeemed and living,
Lord, I praise You with thanksgiving.

8 Jesus, bread of life, I pray You,
Let me gladly here obey You.
By Your love I am invited,
Be Your love with love requited;
By this Supper let me measure,
Lord, how vast and deep love's treasure.
Through the gift of grace You give me
As Your guest in heav'n receive me.

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DISTRIBUTION HYMN

“O Jesus. Blessed Lord, to Thee”

LSB 632

1 O Jesus, blessed Lord, to Thee
My heartfelt thanks forever be,
Who hast so lovingly bestowed
On me Thy body and Thy blood.

2 Break forth, my soul, for joy and say:
What wealth is come to me this day!

My Savior dwells within my heart:
How blessed am I! How good Thou art!

Text: Public domain

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

P Let us pray.

Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son's body and blood. Strengthen and renew us daily in our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all our brothers and sisters in Christ, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

HYMN of the DAY

“Amazing Grace”

LSB 744

1 Amazing grace—how sweet the sound—
That saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost but now am found,
Was blind but now I see!

2 The Lord has promised good to me,
His Word my hope secures;
He will my shield and portion be
As long as life endures.

3 Through many dangers, toils, and snares
I have already come;
His grace has brought me safe thus far,
His grace will lead me home.

4 Yes, when this flesh and heart shall fail
And mortal life shall cease,
Amazing grace shall then prevail
In heaven's joy and peace.

5 When we've been there ten thousand years,
Bright shining as the sun,
We've no less days to sing God's praise
Than when we'd first begun.

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SERMON

PARABLES OF JESUS: THE PRODIGAL SON

The BLESSING of the GRADUATES

P Dear Lord, we thank You for blessing our graduates with the gift of education. We thank You for their achievements and ask You to be with them as they take the next steps in their lives. As they do,

C Lord, we ask You to give them wisdom. In Jesus' name. Amen.

P Graduates, let the words of the Lord in Proverbs 3 speak to you today. The Lord said, “Do not forget My teaching, but let your heart keep My commandments. For the length of days and years of life and peace they will add to you. Let not steadfast love and faithfulness forsake you; bind them around your neck; write them on the tablet of your heart. So you will find favor and good success in the sight of God and man. Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways

acknowledge Him, and He will make straight your paths. Be not wise in your own eyes; fear the Lord, and turn away from evil. It will be healing to your flesh and refreshment to your bones. Honor the Lord with your wealth and with the firstfruits of all your produce; then your barns will be filled with plenty and your vats will be bursting with wine. Do not despise the Lord's discipline or be weary of His reproof, for the Lord reproves him whom He loves, as a father the son in whom he delights. Blessed is the one who finds wisdom, and the one who gets understanding.”.

P Let us pray. Lord God, we commend these young people to Your care, asking You all things to watch over them and to keep them in Your grace in Christ Jesus.

C **Help them when they share their troubles with You. Hear and bless them when they ask for Your help and guidance. Help them to repent their sins and turn to You, for forgiveness of sins in Christ Jesus, our Savior, who lived, died, and rose again so that we may know Your love and live in Your grace. Amen.**

BENEDICTION

P God is a hiding place for us; He preserves us from trouble.

C **He surrounds us with shouts of deliverance.**

P The Lord bless you and keep you in His welcoming embrace. The Lord make His face shine on you in His reconciling grace. The Lord look upon you as His new creation and ✠ give you peace.

C **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN

“Go, My Children, with My Blessing”

LSB 922

1 Go, My children, with My blessing,
Never alone.

Waking, sleeping, I am with you;
You are My own.

In My love's baptismal river
I have made you Mine forever.

Go, My children, with My blessing—
You are My own.

2 Go, My children, sins forgiven,
At peace and pure.

Here you learned how much I love you,
What I can cure.

Here you heard My dear Son's story;
Here you touched Him, saw His glory.

Go, My children, sins forgiven,
At peace and pure.

3 Go, My children, fed and nourished,
Closer to Me;

Grow in love and love by serving,
Joyful and free.

Here My Spirit's power filled you;
Here His tender comfort stilled you.

Go, My children, fed and nourished,
Joyful and free.

4 I the Lord will bless and keep you
And give you peace;

I the Lord will smile upon you

And give you peace:
I the Lord will be your Father,
Savior, Comforter, and Brother.
Go, My children; I will keep you
And give you peace.

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