

MAYFLOWER CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
A SERVICE OF MORNING WORSHIP

Sunday, March 30, 2025, 10:30 a.m.
Fourth Sunday in Lent

Welcome and Greeting - Pastor Mark

Handbell Prelude: "It Is Well With My Soul" (Philip P. Bliss, arr. Larry Sue) - Barb/Mayflower Ringers

Opening Sentences - Lorraine

Hymn 45: "There's a Wideness in God's Mercy" - DeeAnn et al.

Opening Prayer - Lorraine

Anthem: "O Lord, Throughout These Forty Days" (Walter L. Pelz) - Barb/DeeAnn/Choir

Giving and Receiving of Our Gifts - Pastor Mark

Doxology (Hymn 563) - DeeAnn

Pastoral Prayer and The Lord's Prayer (using debts and debtors) - Pastor Mark

Gospel Reading: Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32 - Rachel

Now all the tax-collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to him. And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, 'This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.' So he told them this parable: 'There was a man who had two sons. The younger of them said to his father, "Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me." So he divided his property between them. A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and travelled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. But when he came to himself he said, "How many of my father's hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands." 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. 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." 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. And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!" And they began to celebrate. Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. He replied, "Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound." Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. 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. But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!" Then the father said to him, "Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. 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."

Sermon: "EQUITY, JUSTICE, AND THE FATTED CALF" - Pastor Mark

Hymn 334: "Amazing Grace" - DeeAnn et al.

Benediction - Pastor Mark

Benediction Response Hymn 578 (v. 1): "Sent Forth by God's Blessing" - DeeAnn et al.

Sent forth by God's blessing, our true faith confessing, the people of God from His dwelling take leave. The service is ended; Oh, now be extended the fruits of our worship in all who believe. The seed of His teaching, receptive souls reaching, shall blossom in action for God and for all. His grace did invite us; His love shall unite us to work for God's kingdom and answer His call.

Greet One Another - All

Participants: Pastor Mark and DeeAnn McCormick, Barb Fuller, Lorraine Finison, Rachel Gehres, Choir, Ringers

THE TRIUNE GOD

45

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

Frederick W. Faber, 1814-1863

Traditional Dutch Melody

Arr. by Julius Röntgen, 1855-1933

1. There's a wide-ness in God's mer-cy, Like the wide-ness
2. For the love of God is broad-er Than the meas-ure
3. Trou-bled souls, why will you scat-ter Like a crowd of

of the sea; There's a kind-ness in His jus-tice, Which is
of man's mind; And the heart of the E-ter-nal Is most
fright-ened sheep? Fool-ish hearts, why will you wan-der From a

more than lib-er-ty. There is no place where earth's sor-rows
won-der-ful-ly kind. If our love were but more sim-ple,
love so true and deep? There is wel-come for the sin-ner


Are more felt than up in heav'n; There is no place where earth's
We should take Him at His word; And our lives would be all
And more grac-es for the good; There is mer-cy with the

"He," "Him," or "His" may be replaced by "God(s)" or "You(r)."

Second verse: "Than the measure of our minds"

IN BABILONE
8.7.8.7 D

THE TRIUNE GOD



fail - ings Have such kind - ly judg - ment giv'n.
sun - shine In the sweet - ness of our Lord.
Sav - ior, There is heal - ing in His blood. A - men.

Amazing Grace

John Newton, 1725-1807

St. 6, anonymous

Traditional American Melody

Carrell and Clayton's *Virginia Harmony*, 1831

Arr. by Edwin O. Excell, 1851-1921

1. A - maz - ing grace! how sweet the sound That
 2. 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, And
 3. Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares, I
 4. The Lord has prom - ised good to me, His
 5. Yea, when this flesh and heart shall fail, And
 6. When we've been there ten thou - sand years, Bright

saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but
 grace my fears re - lieved; How pre - cious did that
 have al - read - y come; 'Tis grace hath brought me
 word my hope se - cures; He will my shield and
 mor - tal life shall cease, I shall pos - sess, with -
 shin - ing as the sun, We've no less days to

now am found; Was blind, but now I see.
 grace ap - pear The hour I first be - lieved.
 safe thus far, And grace will lead me home.
 por - tion be, As long as life en - dures.
 in the veil, A life of joy and peace.
 sing God's praise Than when we'd first be - gun.