

Our Mission: To serve and unite those we touch

with the Grace of God.

Our Vision: Transforming lives to become the heart,

hands and feet of Jesus in the world.

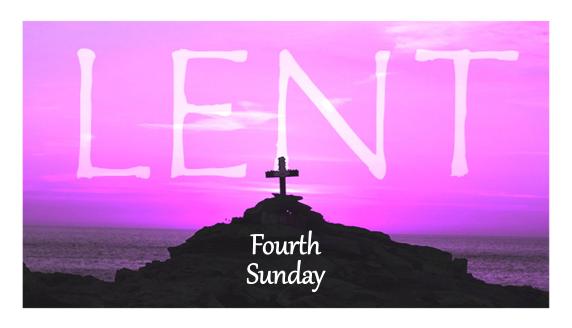
*Please stand as you are able in body or spirit.

March 27, 2022

ORDER OF WORSHIP

10:00 a.m. Service

For everyone's safety, please wear a mask for today's service.



Prelude "Dear Lord and Father of Mankind" - arr. Heaps

Greeting and Announcements

Introit "Lord Be With Us in These Forty Days" - Butler

*Call to Worship

Come, you who thirst for grace.

Come, you who hunger for justice.

Come, you who are strangers in a strange land.

Come, you who are weary and broken down in body and spirit.

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Come, for Christ welcomes you to this time and place.

Come, here our spirits find rest in the divine embrace. Here, God bids us worship through love abundant.

*Hymn #2197/TFWS "Lord of All Hopefulness" verses 1, 3 and 4

Prayer of Intention - in Unison ~ Benedict, 489-543

Almighty God, give us wisdom to perceive you, intellect to understand you, diligence to seek you, patience to wait for you, eyes to behold you, a heart to meditate upon you and life to proclaim you, through the power of the Spirit of our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

Anthem "Take Now My Voice" CCLI #1801843 - Nolan

A Time with God's Kids - The children are invited up to the chancel steps. Following the shared time, they are welcome to go to Sunday school or return to sit with their families.

Centering Prayer/Time of Silence ~ please observe silence for prayer and meditation.

Sung Responsive Psalm 32 - trans. Nan C. Merrill "Psalms for Praying"

Congregational Sung Refrain - <u>in Unison</u> See Screen for Responsive Reading Return to God, with all your heart; the source of grace and mercy.

Come seek the tender faithfulness of God.

Gospel Reading Luke 15:1-3, 11b—32; Message trans.

By this time a lot of men and women of questionable reputation were hanging around Jesus, listening intently. The Pharisees and religion scholars were not pleased, not at all pleased. They growled, "He takes in sinners and eats meals with them, treating them like old friends." Their grumbling triggered this story. Then he said, "There was once a man who had two sons. The younger said to his father, 'Father, I want right now what's coming to me.'

"So the father divided the property between them. It wasn't long before the younger son packed his bags and left for a distant country. There, undisciplined and dissipated, he wasted everything he had. After he had gone through all his money, there was a bad famine all through that country and he began to feel it. He signed on with a citizen there who assigned him to his fields to slop the pigs. He was so hungry he would have eaten the corn-cobs in the pig slop, but no one would give him any.

"That brought him to his senses. He said, 'All those farmhands working for my father sit down to three meals a day, and here I am starving to death. I'm going back to my father. I'll say to him, Father, I've sinned against God, I've sinned before you; I don't deserve to be called your son. Take me on as a hired hand.' He got right up and went home to his father

"When he was still a long way off, his father saw him. His heart pounding, he ran out, embraced him, and kissed him. The son started his speech: 'Father, I've sinned against God, I've sinned before you; I don't deserve to be called your son ever again.' "But the father wasn't listening. He was calling to the servants, 'Quick. Bring a clean set of clothes and dress him. Put the family ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. Then get a prize-winning heifer and roast it. We're going to feast! We're going to have a wonderful time! My son is here—given up for dead and now alive! Given up for lost and now found!' And they began to have a wonderful time.

"All this time his older son was out in the field. When the day's work was done he came in. As he approached the house, he heard the music and dancing. Calling over one of the houseboys, he asked what was going on. He told him, 'Your brother came home. Your father has ordered a feast—barbecued beef!—because he has him home safe and sound.'

"The older brother stomped off in an angry sulk and refused to join in. His father came out and tried to talk to him, but he wouldn't listen. The son said, 'Look how many years I've stayed here serving you, never giving you one moment of grief, but have you ever thrown a party for me and my friends? Then this son of yours who has thrown away your money on whores shows up and you go all out with a feast!' "His father said, 'Son, you don't understand. You're with me all the time, and everything that is mine is yours—but this is a wonderful time, and we had to celebrate. This brother of yours was dead, and he's alive! He was lost, and he's found!""

Message

Pastor Amanda Lunemann

The People's Prayer - see screen or handout ~ by St. Francis of Assisi - 13th century

"Lord Make Me An Instrument of Your Peace" - arr. Marty Haugen

Jim Lunemann, guitar recording; Pastor Amanda, cantor

The Lord's Prayer - in Unison

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. Amen

Offertory "Andante" - Hesse

*Doxology - set to Hymn #95 - <u>Projected</u>

Praise God throughout these forty days. Praise Christ, Our Lord, whom God did raise. And praise the Spirit who imparts God's love in Christ into our hearts. Amen.

*Offertory Prayer

All things come from Thee O Lord. And of Thine

And of Thine own have we given Thee.

*Hymn #378/UMH

"Amazing Grace" verses 1, 2 and 4

*Blessing and Benediction

*Song of Peace

Go in peace, my friend, till we meet again.

May God's blessing be on you, may you be a blessing too.

May God's Spirit burning bright, be your ever-guiding light.

God go with you, making all things new.

Postlude

"Recessional on "Old Hundredth"

- Young

We will be singing "Make Me an Instrument of Your Peace" all through lent. PLEASE leave this purple handout in the pews. Where available, kindly place them in the wooden slot on the back of the pew in front of you. Otherwise set it on the chair. Thank you.



It was recently announced that the 2020 General Conference cannot be held in 2022 due to COVID-related and governmental policies/constraints. Of concerns were visas and passports, the health and safety of delegates, volunteers and other attendees, vaccination rates, and the need for provisions for quarantine or medical care should any delegates contract COVID-19. The targeted date for the conference is now 2024 and the hope is that it will afford greater opportunity for global travel and a higher degree of protection for the health and safety of delegates and attendees."

WORSHIP HELPERS: Serving us **TODAY** ~ 10:00 a.m. service: <u>Greeter</u>: Rick Fossum; <u>Usher</u>: Sean Litterer; <u>Sound</u>: Tom Litterer; <u>Liturgist</u>: James Milne; <u>Acolyte</u>: Max Halsted;

WORSHIP HELPERS: Serving us Sunday, April 3, 2022 ~ Greeter: Glenda Wheelock; Usher: Bill Macklin; Sound: Robert Timmerman; Liturgist: Doris Marek; Acolyte: Timmerman Brothers; Communion: Doris Marek, James Milne and Mark Anderson

GRACE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

15309 Maple Island Road Burnsville, MN 55306-5522 Phone: 952-435-5696

<u>Church E-Mail</u>: office@graceumcburnsville.org

Web Site: www.graceumcburnsville.org

CCLI License 11274570 - One License #A-736029

<u>Pianist</u>: Marilyn Oliphant <u>Choir Director</u>: Paige Macklin

<u>Treasurer</u>: treasurer@graceumcburnsville.org

<u>Pastor</u>: Amanda Lunemann:

pastor@graceumcburnsville.org revlunemann@gmail.com

Cell Phone: 651-503-2242