

First Presbyterian Church of Rolla
Worship Service for Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 30, 2025

Pre-Service Music: *Amazing Grace* – Tracey Craig McKibben

Welcome and Announcements:

Prelude: *Meditation on “Southwell”* – David Lasky

Introit 399: *God Welcomes All* Chancel Choir

Responsive Call to Worship and Prayer of the Day
(Psalm 32)

Happy are those who are honest with God.

Happy are those whose sin is forgiven.

Therefore, let all who are faithful offer prayer to the Lord in times of distress.

For God is our refuge and protects us in times of trouble.

Be glad in the Lord and rejoice!

Let us shout for joy! Let us worship God!

Prayer of the Day

Loving God, Like the prodigal son, we have recognized the error of our ways. In this season of Lent, we have reflected on our deep need for you, and we are seeking to return to you. We give thanks that you run out to meet us as a loving parent would. Help us to trust your love enough to continue returning. Amen.

Opening Hymn #475: *Come Thou Font of Every Blessing*

Call to Confession

If we keep silent, our sin will flourish, and we will groan all day long. Therefore, let all who are faithful acknowledge our sin and hide our transgression no more. In faith and with courage let us confess our sin to God.

Prayer of Confession

Holy God, we confess that we keep silent when we should speak. We see iniquity and the injustices of the world, yet are content not to call them out. We withhold kind words, yet are quick to speak in judgment. Forgive us, O God. Direct the way we should go and help us to use our voices to spread your grace and truth.

Declaration of Forgiveness

Happy are those whose sin is forgiven.

Be glad and rejoice, for in Christ, we are a new creation.

Thanks be to God!

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

Passing the Peace of Christ

Lord, Have Mercy Upon Us #575: *(please stand)*

Anthem: *Gracious Spirit Dwell With Me* arr. K. Lee Scott

Time for sharing joys and concerns, and the prayer list.

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Worship leader will lead the prayers.

Led by the Spirit, let us turn to God in prayer for the church, the world, and all those in need.

God of faithful promise, make your church a new creation in Christ. As you reconcile us to yourself, guide us also in your way of reconciliation, that through confession and forgiveness, repentance and reparations, your church may bear witness to your love.

God in your mercy, **Receive our prayer.**

Receive the prayers of your people and draw all things together in your love, in the name of Jesus, who leads us from death to life. We join together in the prayer that Jesus taught his followers to pray:

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen

Hymn #418: *Softly and Tenderly Jesus is Calling* vs 1, 3
(seated)

Prayer for Illumination:

Draw us close, Holy Spirit, as the Scriptures are read and the Word is proclaimed. Let the word of faith be on our lips and in our hearts, and let all other words slip away. May there be one voice we hear today — the voice of truth and grace. Amen.

Scriptures for the Day:

Old Testament Lesson: Joshua 5:9 - 12

Epistle Lesson: 2 Corinthians 5:16 - 21

Gospel Lesson: Luke 15:1 – 3, 11b - 32.

Heaven and earth will pass away, but the word of the Lord is forever.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon: *Grace Conquers All* Jonathan Kimball

Please rise in body or spirit as we affirm our faith with these words from St. Patrick (c. 389 – 461).

Affirmation: *from St. Patrick (c. 389 – 461)*

Our God, God of all, God of heaven and earth, seas and rivers, God of sun and moon, of all the stars, God of high mountain and lowly valley, God over heaven, and in heaven, and under heaven. He has a dwelling in heaven and earth and sea and in all things that are in them. He inspires all things, he quickens all things. He is over all things, he supports all things. He makes the light of the sun to shine, He surrounds the moon and the stars, He has made wells in the arid earth, placed dry islands in the sea. He has a Son co-eternal with himself...And the Holy Spirit breathes in them; Not separate are the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit.

Dedication of Tithes and Offerings: (please be seated)

Offering #708: *We Give Thee But Thine Own* vs. 1 and 2

Prayer of Dedication: John Birch-www.faithandworship.com

All good gifts come from you, dear Lord, and from these riches we bring this offering. Help us to use it for the furtherance of your purpose in this place, and for the benefit of those in need. Amen.

Sending Hymn #74: *When God Restored Our Common Life*

(stand)

Charge and Benediction: John Birch-www.faithandworship.com

(remain standing)

May you know the warmth
of God's loving embrace
May you know the joy
of God's ever-presence
May you know the peace
of God's gentle whisper
May you know the strength
of God's Spirit within you
this day and always in your life.

Go in peace. Live in love. **Serve the Lord**

Postlude: *Open My Eyes, That I May See* – Larry Shackley

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