

WORSHIP HANDOUT

Sunday September 3rd

Communion

Pulpit Swap: Luke 15



OPENING OF WORSHIP

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

*SONG OF WELCOME “Gather Us In” vs. 1,3,4 TFWS 2236

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Come, let us celebrate the forgiving, reconciling love of God.

**For once we were lost and felt so far away;
now we have been found and welcomed home.**

Know that God’s love is lavished upon you forever.

We rejoice at the news of forgiveness and hope!

Come, let us celebrate and praise the God of Love.

AMEN!

~ written by Nancy Townley, and posted on the *Worship Connection* page of the **Ministry Matters** website. <http://www.ministrymatters.com/all/entry/3623/worship-connection-march-6-2016>

OPENING PRAYER

God of wonder and glory, this world around us is awesome.

You created it!

**You continue to hold it together,
even as we threaten to tear it apart.**

**God of justice and righteousness,
to you we look for the truth.**

You are the ultimate judge.

Your wisdom cuts through the lies.

**God of grace and mercy,
the love you have shown us in Jesus is more than we deserve.
Your arms are open wide,
like a waiting father for his prodigal children,
ready to welcome and restore.**

**We come to you just now thirsting for your living water.
Guide us to the streams of your wonder and glory,
your justice and righteousness, your grace and mercy,
that we may drink and be satisfied,
renewed for our continuing journey with Jesus.**

This we pray in the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit....Amen.

~ posted on the Long Green Valley Church of the Brethren website. <http://rockhay.tripod.com/>

SONG AS CHILDREN GATHER Where Children Belong TFWs 2233

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

HYMN: "The First Song of Isaiah" (CCLI) TFWs 2030

LESSON I Jeremiah 15:15-21 CEB

You understand, Lord!

Remember me and act on my behalf.

Bring judgment on those who torment me.

In your mercy, spare my life.

Consider how I'm insulted on your account.

**16 When your words turned up, I feasted on them;
and they became my joy, the delight of my heart,
because I belong to you,
Lord God of heavenly forces.**

**17 I didn't join the festive occasions;
I took no delight in them.
I sat alone
because your hand was upon me
and you had filled me with curses.**

**18 Why am I always in pain?
Why is my wound incurable,
so far beyond healing?**

**You have become for me as unreliable
as a spring gone dry!**

**19 Therefore, the Lord proclaims:
If you return to me, I will take you back
and let you stand before me.
If you utter what is worthwhile,
not what is worthless,
you will be my spokesman.**

**They will turn to you,
not you to them!**

20 I will make you a sturdy bronze wall

against these people.

They will attack you,

but they won't triumph,

because I am with you

to protect and rescue you,

declares the Lord.

21 I will rescue you from the hand of the wicked;

I will redeem you from the grasp of the violent.

May God add a blessing to this reading.

*LESSON 2

Luke 15:11-32 CEB

¹¹ Jesus said, "A certain man had two sons. ¹² The younger son said to his father, 'Father, give me my share of the inheritance.' Then the father divided his estate between them. ¹³ Soon afterward, the younger son gathered everything together and took a trip to a land far away. There, he wasted his wealth through extravagant living.

¹⁴ "When he had used up his resources, a severe food shortage arose in that country and he began to be in need. ¹⁵ He hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed pigs. ¹⁶ He longed to eat his fill from what the pigs ate, but no one gave him anything. ¹⁷ When he came to his senses, he said, 'How many of my father's hired hands have more than enough food, but I'm starving to death! ¹⁸ I will get up and go to my father, and say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. ¹⁹ I no longer deserve to be called your son. Take me on as one of your hired hands.'" ²⁰ So he got up and went to his father.

“While he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was moved with compassion. His father ran to him, hugged him, and kissed him. ²¹ Then his son said, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I no longer deserve to be called your son.’ ²² But the father said to his servants, ‘Quickly, bring out the best robe and put it on him! Put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet! ²³ Fetch the fattened calf and slaughter it. We must celebrate with feasting ²⁴ because this son of mine was dead and has come back to life! He was lost and is found!’ And they began to celebrate.

²⁵ “Now his older son was in the field. Coming in from the field, he approached the house and heard music and dancing. ²⁶ He called one of the servants and asked what was going on. ²⁷ The servant replied, ‘Your brother has arrived, and your father has slaughtered the fattened calf because he received his son back safe and sound.’ ²⁸ Then the older son was furious and didn’t want to enter in, but his father came out and begged him. ²⁹ He answered his father, ‘Look, I’ve served you all these years, and I never disobeyed your instruction. Yet you’ve never given me as much as a young goat so I could celebrate with my friends. ³⁰ But when this son of yours returned, after gobbling up your estate on prostitutes, you slaughtered the fattened calf for him.’ ³¹ Then his father said, ‘Son, you are always with me, and everything I have is yours. ³² But we had to celebrate and be glad because this brother of yours was dead and is alive. He was lost and is found.’”

L: This is the Word of God for all people.

P: Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE

The Courage to Say Sorry

HYMN

O Thou Who This Mysterious Bread UMH 613

SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION (UMH 7-11)

Sharing Our Joys & Prayer Concerns
Time of Silent and Musical Prayer
Pastoral Prayer

*PRAYER RESPONSE

INVITATION

CONFESSION AND PARDON

Merciful God, we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart. We have failed to be an obedient church. We have not done your will, we have broken your law, we have rebelled against your love, we have not loved your neighbors, and we have not heard the cry of the needy. Forgive us, we pray. Free us for joyful obedience, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Hear the good news: Christ died for us while we were yet sinners: that proves God's love toward us. In the name of Jesus Christ you are forgiven!

**In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.
Glory to God. Amen.**

OFFERTORY

*DOXOLOGY UMH #95

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host,
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*UNISON PRAYER

Almighty God,

giver of every good and perfect gift,
teach us to give to you all that we have and all that we are,
that we may praise you not with our words only,
but with our whole lives. Amen.

SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION (Cont.)
THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing...

...we praise your name and join their unending hymn.

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ...

...as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Pour out your Holy Spirit...

...almighty Father, now and for ever.

Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

And now, with the confidence of children of God, let us 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 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 now and forever. Amen.

BREAKING THE BREAD
GIVING THE BREAD AND THE CUP

PRAYER RESPONSE

Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*HYMN “Lord of All Hopefulness” (CCLI) TFWS 2197

*BENEDICTION and RESPONSE

 “May You Run and Not Be Weary” (CCLI) TFWS 2281

POSTLUDE