

Prelude

Liturgist: Karen Rowley

Choral Introit

Welcome

Praise Songs

The People Gather

One: O my people, listen to my teaching, Open your ears to what I am saying. I will teach you hidden lessons from our past-

Many: Stories we have heard and know

One: Stories our ancestors handed down to us.,

Many: We will not hide these truths from our children,

One: But will tell the next generation about the glorious deeds of the Lord.

Many: We will tell of His power and the mighty miracles He did.

One: He commanded our ancestors to teach them to their children.

Many: so the next generation might know them- even the children not yet born- that they in turn might teach their children.

Hymn #130 "God Will Take Care of You"

The People Pray

O God, our Father, help us to the kind of children who bring joy and comfort to both You and our earthly fathers. Help us follow the example set by Christ as He followed your teachings. We also ask that You strengthen all earthly fathers so they may understand and fulfill Your directive to teach their children well. Bless our worship that we may be a blessing to others. Amen

Special Music

Children's Moment

Susan Bell

The Word of God for the People of God

Scripture Luke 15:11-32

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 feasting²⁴ 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.'

Message: Father

Lyle Tague

Pastoral Prayer

The People Bring Their Gifts

There are baskets in the back or use your online app

Response "Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow" UMH 95

The People Go into The World

Hymn #399 "Take My Life, and Let It Be"

Benediction

Postlude