

Prince of Peace  
906 North Main St. Brockton, Massachusetts  
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Sunday March 27, 2022

Worship

# Enough!

## The Fourth Sunday in Lent



## Faith when you are falling

### Prelude

### Welcome

We continue our movement through the season of Lent this week with another faith challenge, holding on to faith when you are falling. Sometimes our ladder-climbing efforts end up with you falling down a rung or two as things don't work out and mistakes pile up. Today we can find the strength to hold on by letting go of ladder-climbing and turning toward the one who holds the fallen and gathers the lost, nurturing "what is" and embracing our holy, good enough, lives.

### Prayer

## Call to Worship “Enough for me”

John Foley, SJ

Verse 1



1. Take, Lord, re-ceive all my lib-er-ty, my



1. mem-o-ry, un-der-stand-ing, my en-tire will.

Refrain



Give me on-ly your love and your grace: that's e-



nough for me. Your love and your grace



are e-nough for me.

Text based on *Spiritual Exercises*; St. Ignatius of Loyola, 1491–1556; John Foley, SJ.

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Holy One,  
**Our God of Forgiveness,**  
**we call out to you and you surround us with deliverance.**  
**You love us infinitely more than we love ourselves or others.**  
**Open us this day to your counsel,**  
**help us be more merciful, more grace-filled,**  
**so that we might rejoice in simple and good enough moments that fill our days.**  
**Amen.**

## Time for Confession and Forgiveness

Today we will hear how a wasteful son lives high on the hog and then famine strikes in the land of his dream vacation. And so he heads home, ashamed and regretful, expecting that he has lost the love of his people as well as everything he had owned. To his surprise, his extravagant failure is met with extravagant love and grace. We can be pretty hard on ourselves when things don't go as we hoped and planned. Guilt, shame, and fear of being seen as a failure can leave us wallowing in the pig pen. Our

delusions of a perfect life keep us disappointed in ourselves. Truth is, life is a big risk every single day and facing whatever each day holds is not only good enough, but worthy of love and grace. Do you find yourself being unrealistically hard on yourself? Let us take a moment of silent reflection...

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Holy One,  
**we confess that we have wandered far from you:  
we have not trusted your promises,  
we have ignored your prophets in our own day,  
we have squandered our inheritance of grace,  
we have failed to recognize you in our midst,  
looking for more when you are already enough.  
Have mercy on us!  
Forgive us and turn us again to you.  
Teach us to follow in your ways, assure us again of your love,  
and help us to love our neighbor. Amen.**

Hear this compassionate word from the Second Letter to the Corinthians: "From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!"

Know that already, God is offering us freedom from the guilt and shame of our past failings and our present unrealistic expectations. We are invited to rejoice that each day is a new beginning, so that we might enjoy, and not dread, the life before us. And know, that despite our sometimes faltering steps, in the name of Jesus Christ, you are being forgiven, even now.  
**In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. Amen.**

## What Wondrous Love Is This

1 What won-drous love is this, O my soul, O my soul! What  
 2 When I was sink-ing down, sink-ing down, sink-ing down, when  
 3 To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing; to  
 4 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on; and

won - drous love is this, O my soul! What won-drous love is this  
 I was sink - ing down, sink-ing down, when I was sink - ing down  
 God and to the Lamb I will sing; to God and to the Lamb,  
 when from death I'm free, I'll sing on; and when from death I'm free,

that caused the Lord of bliss to bear the dread-ful curse for my  
 be - neath God's righ-teous frown, Christ laid a - side his crown for my  
 who is the great I AM, while mil - lions join the theme, I will  
 I'll sing God's love for me, and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing

soul, for my soul, to bear the dread-ful curse for my soul?  
 soul, for my soul, Christ laid a - side his crown for my soul.  
 sing, I will sing, while mil - lions join the theme, I will sing.  
 on, I'll sing on; and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing on.

Text: North American folk hymn, 19th cent., alt.  
 Music: WONDROUS LOVE, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835; arr. Paul J. Christiansen, 1914–1997, alt.  
 Arr. © 1955 Augsburg Publishing House, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
 and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

**Prayer of the day:** Let us pray: God of compassion, you welcome the wayward, and you embrace  
 us all with your mercy. By our baptism clothe us with garments of your grace, and feed us at the table

of your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

## The Word

### Children's Moment

#### First Reading: Joshua 5:9-12

<sup>9</sup>The LORD said to Joshua, "Today I have rolled away from you the disgrace of Egypt." And so that place is called Gilgal to this day.

<sup>10</sup>While the Israelites were camped in Gilgal they kept the passover in the evening on the fourteenth day of the month in the plains of Jericho. <sup>11</sup>On the day after the passover, on that very day, they ate the produce of the land, unleavened cakes and parched grain. <sup>12</sup>The manna ceased on the day they ate the produce of the land, and the Israelites no longer had manna; they ate the crops of the land of Canaan that year. The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

#### Psalm 32

<sup>1</sup>Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven,  
and whose sin is put away!

<sup>2</sup>**Happy are they to whom the LORD imputes no guilt,  
and in whose spirit there is no guile!**

<sup>3</sup>While I held my tongue, my bones withered away,  
because of my groaning all day long.

<sup>4</sup>**For your hand was heavy upon me day and night;  
my moisture was dried up as in the heat of summer.**

<sup>5</sup>Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and did not conceal my guilt.  
I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD."  
Then you forgave me the guilt of my sin.

<sup>6</sup>**Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in time of trouble;  
when the great waters overflow, they shall not reach them.**

<sup>7</sup>You are my hiding-place; you preserve me from trouble;  
you surround me with shouts of deliverance.

<sup>8</sup>**"I will instruct you and teach you in the way that you should go;  
I will guide you with my eye.**

<sup>9</sup>Do not be like horse or mule, which have no understanding;  
who must be fitted with bit and bridle, or else they will not stay near you."

<sup>10</sup>**Great are the tribulations of the wicked;  
but mercy embraces those who trust in the LORD.**

<sup>11</sup>Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice in the LORD;  
shout for joy, all who are true of heart.

## **Gospel Greeting for Lent:**

**We do not live by bread alone, but by every word  
that comes from the mouth of God. (*Deuteronomy 8.3*)**

### **Gospel: Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32**

<sup>1</sup>Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to [Jesus.] <sup>2</sup>And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, “This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.”

<sup>3</sup>So he told them this parable: <sup>11b</sup>“There was a man who had two sons. <sup>12</sup>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. <sup>13</sup>A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. <sup>14</sup>When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. <sup>15</sup>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. <sup>16</sup>He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. <sup>17</sup>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! <sup>18</sup>I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, “Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; <sup>19</sup>I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands.”’ <sup>20</sup>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. <sup>21</sup>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.’ <sup>22</sup>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. <sup>23</sup>And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; <sup>24</sup>for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!’ And they began to celebrate.

<sup>25</sup>“Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. <sup>26</sup>He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. <sup>27</sup>He replied, ‘Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.’ <sup>28</sup>Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. <sup>29</sup>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. <sup>30</sup>But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!’ <sup>31</sup>Then the father said to him, ‘Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. <sup>32</sup>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.’”

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ!**

## **Gospel Greeting for Lent:**

**We do not live by bread alone, but by every word  
that comes from the mouth of God. (*Deuteronomy 8.3*)**

### **Message**

## Our Father, We Have Wandered

1 Our Fa - ther, we have wan - dered and hid - den from your face;  
2 And now at length dis - cern - ing the e - vil that we do,  
3 O Lord of all the liv - ing, both ban - ished and re - stored,

in fool-ish-ness have squan - dered your leg - a - cy of grace.  
be - hold us, Lord, re - turn - ing with hope and trust to you.  
com-pas-sion-ate, for - giv - ing, and ev - er - car - ing Lord,

But now, in ex - ile dwell - ing, we rise with fear and shame,  
In haste you come to meet us and home re - joic - ing bring,  
grant now that our trans - gress - ing, our faith - less - ness may cease.

as, dis - tant but com - pel - ling, we hear you call our name.  
in glad-ness there to greet us with calf and robe and ring.  
Stretch out your hand in bless - ing, in par - don, and in peace.

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It features three systems of music. Each system has a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The key signature is one sharp (F#), and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are written below the vocal line, with three verses of text provided for each system. The piano accompaniment consists of chords and moving lines in the left hand.

Text: Kevin Nichols, 1929–2006

Music: HERZLICH TUT MICH VERLANGEN, Hans Leo Hassler, 1564–1612; arr. Johann Sebastian Bach, 1685–1750

Text from *Resource Collection of Hymns and Service Music for the Liturgy*, © 1981 International Committee on English in the Liturgy, Inc.

## Apostles Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.  
He descended into hell.  
On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.

## **The Peace**

### **Announcements**

--Thirsty Thursday theme: **Something New Pictures to prandall22@gmail.com**  
--Weds. Bible Study 10 AM-we will be on Facebook live  
--Weds. Voices of Refugees-Lenten soup and prayer at Holy Trinity N. Easton  
soup begins 5:30, prayer at 6:45  
--Fridays at First: Lenten Lunch- at noon

### **Offering Prayer**

Extravagant God,  
you have blessed us with more than enough, the fullness of creation.  
Now we are gathered at your feast  
where you offer us the true food that satisfies.  
Take and use what we offer here, come among us,  
and feed us with the word of your son,  
in whose name we pray.  
Amen.

### **Prayers of Intercession**

Drawn close to the heart of God, we offer these prayers for the church, the world, and  
all who are in need.

*A brief silence.*

Jesus taught his disciples in the ways of extravagant mercy and profound welcome.  
Lead your church to be a community marked by forgiveness, hospitality, and  
celebration. Send us to transform a world plagued by fear and condemnation. Merciful  
God, **receive our prayer.**

You make the land to produce a harvest that sustains your entire creation. Bring peace  
so that farmers and farm workers may till the soil. Nourish the earth with ample rainfall  
and abundant sunshine. Teach us to heal grounds tainted by pollution or misuse.  
Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**



Countries are divided and leaders often harbor grudges. Reconcile nations that experience conflict, especially we pray for Ukraine and for Russia. Act quickly to bring an end to war. Anoint peacemakers trained in the art of diplomacy and send a spirit of desire for the common good among political rivals. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Your people cry for help in times of distress. Resolve disagreements among family members. Show a way out to those experiencing financial hardship. Hear our prayers for those who are sick or grieving. Console us with your promise that everything can become new. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Your love comes to us when a table is set and a feast is prepared. Bless the feeding ministries of this congregation, the food pantries we support and the lunch project we launched. Bring an end to hunger in our community and around the world. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

The one who was dead is alive again. We give thanks for those who have died, confident that steadfast love surrounds them. Shelter them in your love until we are gathered at your heavenly banquet. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Accept the prayers we bring, O God, on behalf of a world in need, for the sake of Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

## **The Lord's Prayer**

**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 and ever. Amen.**

## **Blessing:**

And now, may the God who loves all of creation, especially those broken parts, and Jesus, our companion along this crooked path called life, and the Holy Spirit, who loves to improvise in surprising ways, go with you, dwell among you, and give you joy. **Amen**

## Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling

1 Soft - ly and ten - der - ly Je - sus is call - ing, call - ing for  
 2 Why should we tar - ry when Je - sus is plead - ing, plead - ing for  
 3 Oh, for the won - der - ful love he has prom - ised, prom - ised for

you and for me. See, on the por - tals he's wait - ing and watch - ing,  
 you and for me? Why should we lin - ger and heed not his mer - cies,  
 you and for me! Though we have sinned, he has mer - cy and par - don,

*Refrain*  
 watch - ing for you and for me.  
 mer - cies for you and for me? “Come home, come home!  
 par - don for you and for me. Come home, come home!

You who are wea - ry, come home.” Ear - nest - ly, ten - der - ly,

Je - sus is call - ing, call - ing, “O sin - ner, come home!”

Text: Will L. Thompson, 1847–1909  
 Music: THOMPSON, Will L. Thompson

## Dismissal

Go in peace. Jesus meets you on the way and that is enough.

Thanks be to God.

## Postlude

**And just one more prayer for these days:**

O God, as war between Russia and Ukraine rages, we pray:

For all in hiding, searching for safety...

For those forced to take up arms...

For all journeying to new lands, leaving behind homes and loved ones...

For children surrounded by confusion and chaos...

For those in Russia who bravely advocate for peace...

For journalists risking safety to report on daily events...

For those consumed by the power to dominate and control, that they are filled with compassion for all people...

For the difficult work of diplomats, world leaders, and international organizations

For all providing welcome, protection, and sustenance to those who have fled...

For medical workers as they attend to the injured...

For all grieving those who have died...

Holy One, your strength comes not by grasping power and might but is poured out in loving service. Support us with such strength to work for peace, to love our enemies, and to trust in your resurrection life even in the midst of pain and death. All this we ask in your name. Amen

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