

St. Andrew's Hespeler Presbyterian Church

March 27th 2022

4th Sunday in Lent

St. Andrew's Hespeler Presbyterian Church
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Office Hours:
Monday—Friday 9am-12pm

Order of Worship for March 27. We will meet online and in person at 10 am. The Zoom link will be posted on the website. If you wish to attend in person, masking and social distancing are not required by law but we would continue to highly recommend that we do so as a sign of respect to others who may be vulnerable.

Lenten Candle Liturgy and Prayer

P: Loving God, we thank you that you are with us, and that we may call upon you no matter where we are, or what we are feeling. Keep us mindful of your presence and trusting in your promise—that you are working with us in the moment-by-moment unfolding of our lives. Amen.

Call to Worship

L: If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation!

P: Thanks be to God for such great mercy.

L: Everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!

P: Thanks be to God for new beginnings!

L: God has given us the ministry of reconciliation through Christ Jesus.

P: Together we will make a new beginning in Christ!

L: Let us worship God with joyful hearts, trusting God to renew us and all things.

P: We will lift our praises to God with hearts refreshed by grace.

Prayer of Approach and Confession

L: God of Mystery and Mercy, we gather to worship you in humility and hope because we believe you have the power to change the world; to change the world for the better with your love. We gather to worship you trusting that no one or situation is beyond your concern, or your embrace. Such love astonishes us. Without your grace we cannot imagine such love. Inspire us with a vision of love which will change the world and our lives through the love and mercy we meet in Jesus Christ, your Son and our Saviour.

P: God of love and mercy, when we pause for a moment in your presence, the daily details of our lives press in on us. We recall things left undone,

opportunities ignored. We remember careless words spoken, disappointments that trouble our souls. In silence we offer to you our misspent moments and missed opportunities:

Silence for 15 seconds.

L: Remember the promise that the apostle Paul declares: What can separate us from the love of Christ? Hardship? Distress? Peril or sword? No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through the God who loves us. Neither death nor life, things present nor things to come can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus.

P: Thanks be to God for such a promise! The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with us all.

Hymn #194 Come, let us to the Lord our God

1. Come, let us to the Lord our God
with contrite hearts return;
our God is gracious, nor will leave
the desolate to mourn.

2. God's voice commands the tempest forth
and stills the stormy wave;
God's arm is strong and swift to strike,
but also strong to save.

3. The night of sorrow long has reigned,
but dawn shall bring us light;
God shall appear, and we shall rise
with gladness in God's sight.

4. Then let us know, let us press on
to know our God the Lord,
whose coming is as sure as dawn,
whose name shall be adored.

5. As dew upon the tender grass
diffusing fragrance round,

as rain that ushers in the spring
and cheers the thirsty ground,

6. so shall God's presence bless our souls
and shed a joyful light,
that hallowed morn shall chase away
the sorrows of the night.

Psalm 32

L: Happy are those whose transgression is forgiven,
whose sin is covered.

P: Happy are those to whom the LORD imputes no iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit.

L: While I kept silence, my body wasted away through my groaning all day long.

P: For day and night your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer.

L: Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not hide my iniquity;

P: I said, 'I will confess my transgressions to the LORD', and you forgave the guilt of my sin.

L: Therefore let all who are faithful offer prayer to you; at a time of distress, the rush of mighty waters shall not reach them.

P: You are a hiding-place for me; you preserve me from trouble; you surround me with glad cries of deliverance.

L: I will instruct you and teach you the way you should go; I will counsel you with my eye upon you. Do not be like a horse or a mule, without understanding, whose temper must be curbed with bit and bridle, else it will not stay near you.

P: Many are the torments of the wicked, but steadfast love surrounds those who trust in the LORD. Be glad in the LORD and rejoice, O righteous, and shout for joy, all you upright in heart.

Life and Work of the Church

Scripture:

Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32 Read by Joanne Waugh

¹ Now all the tax-collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to him. ² And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, 'This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.'

³ So he told them this parable:

¹¹ 'There was a man who had two sons. ¹² 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. ¹³ A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and travelled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. ¹⁴ When he had spent everything, a

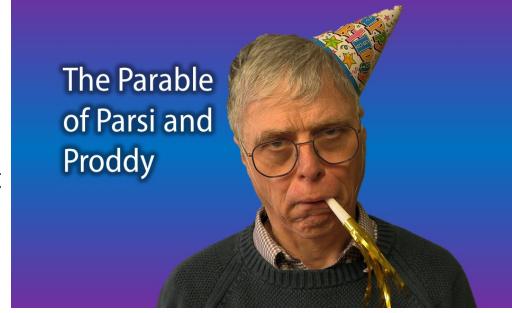
severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. ¹⁵ So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent

him to his fields to feed the pigs. ¹⁶ He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. ¹⁷ 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! ¹⁸ I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; ¹⁹ I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands.'" ²⁰ 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. ²¹ 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." ²² 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. ²³ And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; ²⁴ for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!" And they began to celebrate.

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

Offertory: Chorale Prelude on "Caswall" by Peter Hurford
Martin Bohl

The Parable of Parsi and Proddy



Celebration of our Generosity

Sermon: "The Parable of Parsi and Proddy "

706 Come, let us sing

1. Come, let us sing of a wonderful love,
tender and true, tender and true,
out of the heart of the Father above,
streaming to me and to you:
wonderful love, wonderful love
dwells in the heart of the Father above.

2. Jesus the Saviour this gospel to tell
joyfully came, joyfully came,
came with the helpless and hopeless to dwell,
sharing their sorrow and shame
seeking the lost, seeking the lost,
saving, redeeming at measureless cost.

3. Jesus is seeking the wanderers yet:
why do they roam? Why do they roam?
Love only waits to forgive and forget;
home, weary wanderers, home:
wonderful love, wonderful love
dwells in the heart of the Father above.

4. Come to my heart, O thou wonderful love;
come and abide, come and abide,
lifting my life till it rises above
envy and falsehood and pride:
seeking to be, seeking to be
lowly and humble, a learner of thee.

Prayers of the people (using chat to share requests)

Benediction

Other Lectionary Readings:

Joshua 5:9-12

⁹ 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.

¹⁰ While the Israelites were encamped in Gilgal they kept the passover in the evening on the fourteenth day of the month in the plains of Jericho. ¹¹ On the day after the passover, on that very day, they ate the produce of the land, unleavened cakes and parched grain. ¹² 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.

2 Corinthians 5:16-21

¹⁶ 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. ¹⁷ So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! ¹⁸ All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; ¹⁹ that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. ²⁰ So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. ²¹ For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

This week's Lenten Activity: Extravagant Gifts

Each family will be given oil and scents to experiment with anointing oil and to use our sense of smell. Materials will be included in the Family Faith @ Home packages.

Mission Moment – Sunday, March 27

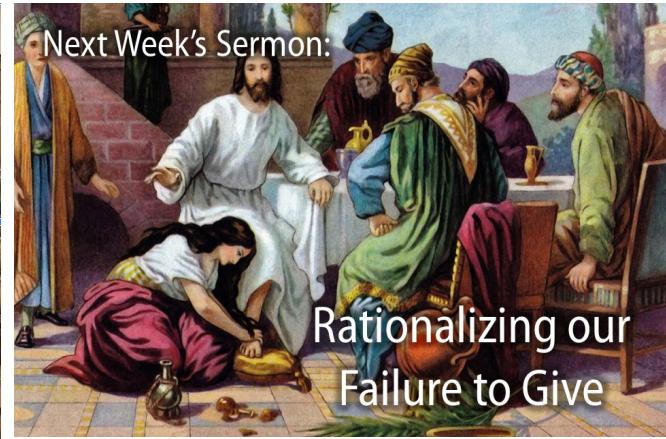
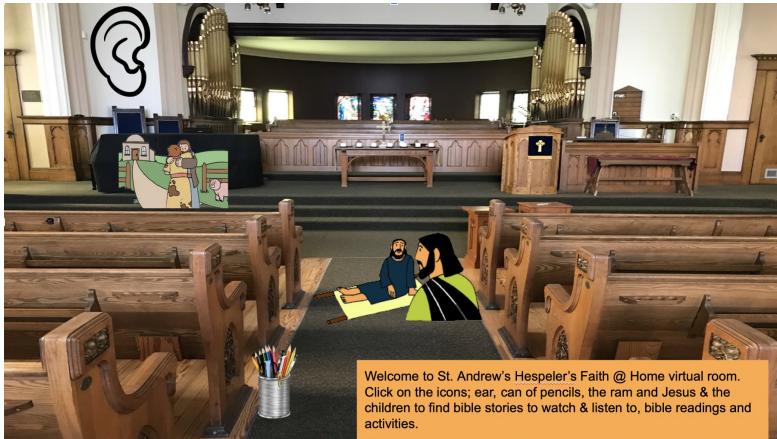
In Nepal, Pallu Oli knew something wasn't right when he felt a burning sensation on his leg. After seeing the doctor, Pallu was prescribed medicine but did not feel better after taking it. As his health worsened, Pallu wondered why he hadn't healed yet. **His son suggested that he visit the Shining Hospital. At the hospital, Pallu was diagnosed with leprosy and entered a treatment program** (which he has since completed). Sharing his experience, Pallu

expressed, "I am very happy that my disease is diagnosed and is treated accordingly." The Shining Hospital is supported by Presbyterian World Service & Development.



News for Families:

- Faith @ Home packages will be delivered weekly during Lent and Easter. Please check your porches, usually Monday mornings.
- Don't forget to check out our Faith @ Home online room. It is posted on our website, Facebook page and Twitter each Saturday morning. You are free to check in whenever you have time throughout the week. There are Bible readings, stories to listen to and activities to find, all new each week.



Let us Join in Prayer

Sunday, March 27 (Fourth Sunday in Lent) God of Hope, renew us and energize us for service in your church and the world.

Monday, March 28 We pray for staff at the Shining Hospital in Nepal as they treat illnesses and provide vocational training with support from the church through Presbyterian World Service & Development.

Tuesday, March 29 We pray for the Canadian Armed Forces and all military chaplains who bring guidance and support to our troops and their families at home and abroad.

Wednesday, March 30 We pray for the people who gather and serve at Winnipeg Inner City Missions in Manitoba, and we give thanks for their mission and ministry.

Thursday, March 31 (Transgender Day of Visibility) We pray for transgender people, who often live with the fear of violence and intolerance. Help us to listen well so that we may work in solidarity for the dignity and well-being of all transgender people.

Friday, April 1 We pray for the Rev. Dr. Bob Faris, nominee for Moderator of the 2022 General Assembly of The Presbyterian Church in Canada, as he prepares for the upcoming Assembly. Saturday,

April 2 (World Autism Awareness Day) We pray for children with autism and related conditions, and we thank God for church programming that supports them and their families.

The Presbyterian Church in Canada



Prayer Partnership

Engaging in God's Mission
Through Word and Action

A Message from the Seunath Family

Whether you kept us in your thoughts and prayers or sent flowers or cards, please know that your kindness brings us comfort and will not be forgotten. Thank you and God Bless you.

Vin, Wendy, Neysa and Ravinda Seunath and Family

Food Bank needs this week: milk, cheese, and eggs.

Hope Clothing needs this week: we have many people asking for rubber boots, in all sizes. Children and adults! We are also now accepting donations of spring and summer clothing.