

ST. PETER'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



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St. Peter's

**UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST**

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310 N. Meadow St.
Grant Park, Illinois 60940

God is still speaking.

Sunday, July 19th, 2020 worship service

Prelude “O How I Love Jesus” (American Melody) Shari Ohm

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship Inspired by Luke 15:11-32

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

People: We were once lost, feeling so far away; but now, we have been found and welcomed home.

Pastor: God’s love is lavished upon us forever,
He is a God of second chances.

People: We rejoice at the news of forgiveness and hope!

ALL: We will celebrate and praise our God of love!

Opening Prayer (Read silently in your own heart)

Holy and Almighty God, how I long to know you more. Reveal to me Your truths and show me how to live a life that glorifies You. Forgive me, as I know that I fall short of Your expectations and holiness, but renew my spirit that I may follow after Yours. Receive me once again into Your loving arms, as a Prodigal Father loves His children. May my heart be cleansed, my mind be purified that I may have a heart full of Your love to serve You and others more faithfully. Amen.

Song “Lift High the Name of Jesus” Getty Music

Scripture Luke 15:11-32

Special Music “Mercy Came Running”

Sermon “Who is God?: Part VI – A God of Second Chances”

Closing Song

“Softly & Tenderly”

Benediction

Postlude

“God of Grace and God of Glory”

Shari Ohm

Scripture Reading: Luke 15:11-32

¹¹ Jesus continued: “There was a man who had two sons. ¹² The younger one said to his father, ‘Father, give me my share of the estate.’ So he divided his property between them.

¹³ “Not long after that, the younger son got together all he had, set off for a distant country and there squandered his wealth in wild living. ¹⁴ After he had spent everything, there was a severe famine in that whole country, and he began to be in need. ¹⁵ So he went and hired himself out to a citizen of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed pigs. ¹⁶ He longed to fill his stomach with the pods that the pigs were eating, but no one gave him anything.

¹⁷ “When he came to his senses, he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired servants have food to spare, and here I am starving to death! ¹⁸ I will set out and go back to my father and say to him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. ¹⁹ I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me like one of your hired servants.’ ²⁰ So he got up and went to his father.

“But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him.

²¹ “The son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’”

²²“But the father said to his servants, ‘Quick! Bring the best robe and put it on him. Put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. ²³Bring the fattened calf and kill it. Let’s have a feast and celebrate. ²⁴For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.’ So they began to celebrate.

²⁵“Meanwhile, the older son was in the field. When he came near the house, he heard music and dancing. ²⁶So he called one of the servants and asked him what was going on. ²⁷“Your brother has come,’ he replied, ‘and your father has killed the fattened calf because he has him back safe and sound.’

²⁸“The older brother became angry and refused to go in. So his father went out and pleaded with him. ²⁹But he answered his father, ‘Look! All these years I’ve been slaving for you and never disobeyed your orders. Yet you never gave me even a young goat so I could celebrate with my friends. ³⁰But when this son of yours who has squandered your property with prostitutes comes home, you kill the fattened calf for him!’

³¹“‘My son,’ the father said, ‘you are always with me, and everything I have is yours. ³²But we had to celebrate and be glad, because this brother of yours was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.’”

SERMON NOTES: