SLATE RIDGE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH March 30, 2025 11:00am Fourth Sunday of Lent

PRELUDE

"The Old Rugged Cross"

Innes

ANNOUNCEMENTS & MINUTE FOR MISSION

*RINGING OF THE TOWER BELL

*INTROIT #305 / Refrain

"Jesus Paid It All"

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: God's reach is endless.

People: God's mercy is unstoppable.

Leader: God's grace is lavish. God's love is constant.

People: God's wisdom is vast. God's hope is stubborn.

Leader: God's presence is here—

People: with us, among us, moving through us.

Leader: Breathe easy. Breathe deeply.

People: We are in God's house.

All: Let us worship the One who welcomes us home.

*OPENING PRAYER

(ALL)

You are the source of our deliverance, O God, and rightly to be blessed. Your name shall ever be upon our lips. You have heard the poor and saved them from trouble. You have enlightened believers; their faces reflect your radiance.

Aglow with the splendor of your promised redemption, we rise up to worship you, ruler of nations.

*OPENING HYMN #788

"Now Thank We All Our God"

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

If you ask any parent with a teenager what it's like to wait up for their child to meet curfew, they will tell you – they're standing at the door. The porch light is on. No one can sleep until that child is home safe. Friends, I think God is like that for us. The porch light is on. The door is unlocked. We might be late for curfew, but God is just so glad we're home. So let us pray the prayer of confession together, trusting that no matter what we do or what we leave undone, the porch light is always on. Let us pray.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

(ALL)

The prodigal son isn't given a name, but we know his name. It sounds like ours. And we know his story. It sounds like ours. For who among us hasn't burned a bridge? Who among us hasn't forgotten that we belong to one another? Who among us has not ached for home? The prodigal son isn't given a name, but we know his name. Forgive us God. We want to come home.

Moment for silent prayer and reflection

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Family of faith, the word 'prodigal' can be defined as wasteful or imprudent, hence the name, "Prodigal Son." However, 'prodigal' can also be described as extravagant and excessive. Friends, we worship a prodigal God – a God who is extravagant in mercy and excessive in grace. God is standing at the end of the driveway waiting for us; ready to forgive us, to receive us home. God's grace is extravagant. Forgiveness is ours for the asking.

Thanks be to God!

*THE GLORIA PATRI #812

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

(ALL)

God of open doors, quiet everything but your Word for us today. Leave us awestruck. Drown out the distractions. Come as thunder or come as a still, small voice; we don't care which, we just pray that you will come. Turn on the light. Speak through these words. Find the parts of us that are lost. With hope we pray. Amen.

NEW TESTAMENT READING

2 Corinthians 5: 16-21

Page 1799

ANTHEM

"The Heart of God"

Hamlin

GOSPEL READING

Luke 15: 1-32 Pages 1623-1625

SERMON

"Prodigal Son – Prodigal Grace?"

*PROFESSION OF FAITH

hymnal, back cover

*HYMN #479

"Softly and Tenderly"

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE THE LORD'S PRAYER RESPONSE TO PRAYERS #641

"Hear Our Prayer, O Lord"

PRESENTATION OF OUR GIFTS AND OFFERINGS OFFERTORY

"Ave Verum (O Loving Savior)"

Gounod

*DOXOLOGY

*OFFERING PRAYER

*CLOSING HYMN #746 vs. 1, 2 and 5

"He Keeps Me Singing"

*CHARGE AND BLESSING

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE

SEE SCREEN

"Go Now in Peace"

*POSTLUDE

"The March to Calvary"

Curtis

*Please stand, if you are able.