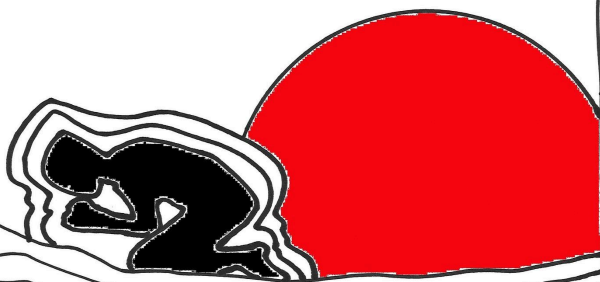
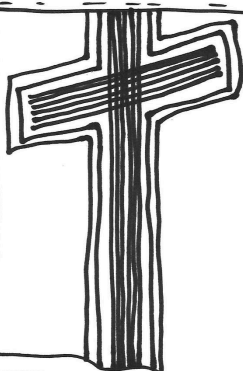


Blessed is the one whose transgressions are forgiven....



LENT 4

...whose sins are covered. Psalm 32v1

js

Mt Vernon UMC

March 27, 2022

Fourth Sunday In Lent

GREETINGS<sup>1</sup>

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

PRELUDE & CANDLE LIGHTING

CALL TO WORSHIP<sup>2</sup>

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

**For once we were lost and felt so far away; now we have  
been found and welcomed home.**

Know that God's love is lavished upon you forever.

**We rejoice at the news of forgiveness and hope!**

Come, let us celebrate and praise the God of Love.

**AMEN!**

OPENING PRAYER<sup>3</sup>

How incredible is your love, O God! We have been made new  
in your love and reconciled to you and to each other in peace  
and joy. Be with us this day as we hear your words of  
comfort and hope. Guide our lives that we may serve you  
more fully all of our days. **AMEN.**

PSALM - Psalm 32

 HYMN

**140. Great Is Thy Faithfulness**

OT READING - Joshua 5:9-12

 HYMN

**339. Come, Sinners, to the Gospel Feast**

CHILDREN'S SERMON

INTERCESSORY PRAYERS

LORD'S PRAYER

 DOXOLOGY - #95

---

<sup>1</sup> Cover art by John Stuart, [www.stushieart.com](http://www.stushieart.com).

<sup>2</sup><https://www.ministrymatters.com/all/entry/3623/worship-connection-march-6-2016>, Nancy C. Townley,

<sup>3</sup> *ibid.*

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God, all creatures here below;  
Praise God for all that love has done;  
Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One.

NT READING - 2 Corinthians 5:16-21

GOSPEL - Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

SERMON

 HYMN

378. Amazing Grace

CONFESSION & PARDON<sup>4</sup>

I will get up and go back to my Father and say: “Father, I have sinned against heaven and in your sight. I am no longer fit to be called your child. Please make me one of your hired laborers.”

Let us return to our God, and make our confession.

Let us pray.

Loving God,

There is enough evil within us  
to dampen our confidence;

**Sometimes there is enough doubt in us  
to swamp our faith.**

Some days there is enough weariness in us  
to swamp our hopefulness.

**There is enough apathy within us  
to smother our compassion.**

Yet, thankfully there is also enough hunger in us  
to keep us unhappy.

**And enough discontent in us  
to make us return home to your love**

God of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
have mercy on me, a sinner.

---

<sup>4</sup> <https://re-worship.blogspot.com/2013/02/prayer-of-confession-luke-15.html>,

**Amen. Have mercy on me, a sinner.**

Then the Father said: Bring quickly the best clothes for him, and put a signet ring on his finger and shoes on his feet, and kill the fattened calf, and let us eat and celebrate, for this my child was dead and is alive again, was lost and is found.

My friends, welcome back home. This fellow Jesus, and his remarkable household, welcomes sinners and even eats with the likes of us!

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

**In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!**

**Glory to God. Amen.**

**OFFERING & PEACE**

**HOLY COMMUNION**

**DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING**

Go forth in peace.

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ,  
the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit  
be with you all.

**POSTLUDE**

God calls Mt Vernon UMC to:

- Love God & neighbor as Jesus taught
- Learn together of God's love and grace
- Serve others by using our God given gifts and talents
- Be witnesses of our faith in God through Jesus Christ to all the world!.

To learn more, visit [facebook.com/MtVChamp](https://facebook.com/MtVChamp)

If you would like a prayer, a visit, a meal, to have Holy Communion brought to your home, or have any other need, please contact any church member or Pastor Rob (217-751-4400, [pastor@mtvernon-umc.org](mailto:pastor@mtvernon-umc.org)).

