



**OWATONNA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

**Fourth Sunday in Lent**

**March 30, 2025**

The Mission of the UMC: "Make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world."

**WE GATHER AS THE FAMILY OF CHRIST**

**PRELUDE** *Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross* arr. James Southbridge

**WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

If you've wandered far from home, turn around, come home.  
If the road is bumpy and rough, and you've lost your way, you can come home.  
If friends only like you for what you can do,  
There is a place where love is real.  
If the nights are long and lonely,  
God is always awake, right by your side.  
If doubts and questions swirl around you,  
Come home to God who always is there to listen.  
If the good life is suddenly empty of meaning a purpose,  
Don't be afraid, come home!

**\*OPENING HYMN** *Great Is Thy Faithfulness* Red #140

**INVOCATIONAL PRAYER**

**O God, like a loving parent You have always watched over us, even when we were intent on running away from You. We thank you, Lord, and we give you our heartfelt love. Receive us into your presence, not as we are in ourselves, but as we are in Christ: make us clean by Your grace, reconciled by Your love, and re-created by Your Spirit. In Christ we pray. Amen.**

**SPECIAL MUSIC** *When You Prayed Beneath the Trees* Idle & Larson  
Sally Kos, Soloist

**WE LISTEN FOR THE WORD OF GOD**

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

**HYMN** *Make Me a Channel of Your Peace* Black #2171

**THE WORD PROCLAIMED** Which son was lost? Pastor Wane Souhrada

**SHARING TITHES AND OFFERINGS**

**OFFERTORY**  
**\*THE DOXOLOGY** Red #95

**Prayer of dedication: Lord, we offer these gifts with glad and grateful hearts. We ask that you accept our gifts and that you will use them to carry the good news of your gospel into every home and every heart. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.**

**JOYS and CONCERNS**

**PASTORAL PRAYER**  
**THE LORD'S PRAYER** Screen

**WE RESPOND WITH FAITH AND JOY**

**\*CLOSING HYMN** *God of Grace and God of Glory* Red #577

**\*BENEDICTION**

**The God who in Christ reconciled you to himself  
now sends you out as agents of reconciliation,  
ambassadors of Christ  
to people who have wondered away from God and each other.  
Amen.**

**\*POSTLUDE** *Fantasia on "Salvation"* arr. David Paxton  
**WORSHIP is over, let the SERVICE begin!**

- \* Please stand as you are able.
- † Welcome to all visitors. Everyone please sign and pass the attendance register, and please join us for a social time after the service. Large print bulletins and hymnals are available from the ushers