

THE SUNG RESPONSE TO THE SCRIPTURE READING

“Amazing Grace”

‘Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved;
how precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed.

SERMON

“The Prodigal Son: Grace for the Lost”

- Dr. Tim Hazlett

†HYMN OF RESPONSE

“Freely, Freely”

#389

1. God forgave my sin in Jesus' name, I've been born again in Jesus' name,
and in Jesus' name I come to you, to share his love as he told me to.
He said, "Freely, freely you have received, freely, freely give."
Go in my name, and because you believe, others will know that I live."
2. All power is given in Jesus' name, in earth and Heaven in Jesus' name,
and in Jesus' name I come to you, to share his power as he told me to.
He said, "Freely, freely you have received, freely, freely give."
Go in my name, and because you believe, others will know that I live."

†CLOSING PRAYER (responsively)

Lay Reader: Heavenly Father, in Jesus' parable, the father showed grace to his lost son, welcoming his son home even though he did not deserve such a welcome. You showed your grace to us when we were lost and dead in sin. You sent your only Son to seek and to save the lost.

People: **You are our Father and, in Christ, you welcome us back to yourself, forgiving our sins for Jesus' sake. So many people are still lost in the darkness of sin. Empower us with your Spirit to share with them the good news that Jesus died to save them and that you are eagerly waiting to welcome them home. Hear our prayer in Jesus' name. Amen.**

†CHORAL BENEDICTION

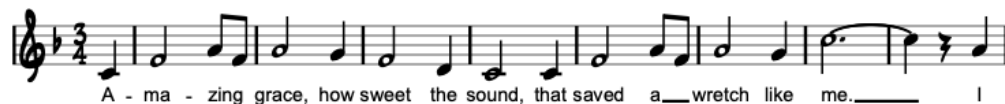
“Shalom”

- Chancel Choir

†POSTLUDE

“Prayer”

- Dana Moody



Today's service is being broadcast on Facebook Live at 11:00 am. You can access the service through the Oaklette Church Group on Facebook. You must be a member of that group page to see it however. Please send Dr. Tim a Facebook request to join the group if you are not already a member of the group. You can also access the sermon through the Oaklette UMC Facebook page. If you are unable to use Facebook Live a link can be sent to you by email after the Facebook Live Worship has been recorded, but we will need your email address to do this. The Facebook Live service will also be downloaded to our website on Monday morning.

The flowers on the altar today are presented to the glory of God by Tim and Lori Hazlett in memory of their grandparents.

The Food Basket on the altar is presented to the glory of God by Tim and Lori Hazlett in memory of Sylvia Peele.



Oaklette United Methodist Church

"God's Body in this Community"

"Oaklette United Methodist Church through worship, education, and outreach, seeks to make the gospel of Jesus Christ real, as we minister to all people."

Website: www.oakletteumc.org

Office's Email: oaklette@oakletteumc.org, Pastor's Email: dr.tim@cox.net

520 Oaklette Dr., Chesapeake, VA 23325

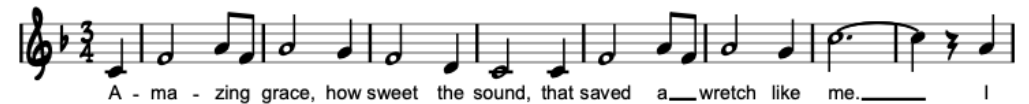
Telephone: (757) 545-7434 Fax: (757) 543-2222

Parsonage: (757) 494-9369

February 26, 2023 ~ 11:00 A.M.

First Sunday in Lent

"Amazing Grace"



Welcome in the name of our Lord. A nurturing and well-supervised nursery is available for infants and young children. A Crying Room is also available. Please ask the greeter for further assistance and direction to these rooms.

[†] = Invites persons to stand as they are able.

PRELUDE

“What Wondrous Love Is This”

- Dana Moody

THE MORNING WELCOME

- Dr. Tim Hazlett

CENTERING PRAYER (in unison)

Heavenly Father, we are overcome with praise and gratitude by Your amazing grace. Not only have you have given us a seat at Your table as a son or daughter; you have stripped off our dirty rags, and replaced them with robes of color.

We thank You for the old hymn Amazing Grace written by John Newton because it summarizes the wonder and beauty of Your grace: *“Amazing grace! How sweet the sound, that saved a wretch like me!”* It is a grace that hath brought us safe thus far and a grace that will lead us home. Being a benefactor of the greatest gift and sacrifice ever made, we humbly come before you, and like your servant Paul, thank you for what Jesus expressed to him in 2 Corinthians 12:9. *“My grace is enough for you, because power is made perfect in weakness.”* Amen.

†OPENING HYMN

“I Stand Amazed in the Presence”

#371

1. I stand amazed in the presence of Jesus the Nazarene,
and wonder how he could love me, a sinner, condemned, unclean.
How marvelous! How wonderful! And my song shall ever be;
How marvelous! How wonderful is my Savior's love for me!

2. For me it was in the garden he prayed: “Not my will, but thine.”
He had no tears for his own griefs, but sweat-drops of blood for mine.
How marvelous! How wonderful! And my song shall ever be;
How marvelous! How wonderful is my Savior’s love for me!
4. He took my sins and my sorrows, he made them his very own;
he bore the burden on Calvary, and suffered and died alone.
How marvelous! How wonderful! And my song shall ever be;
How marvelous! How wonderful is my Savior’s love for me!
5. When with the ransomed in glory his face I at last shall see,
‘twill be my joy through the ages to sing of his love for me.
How marvelous! How wonderful! And my song shall ever be;
How marvelous! How wonderful is my Savior’s love for me!

THE MORNING PRAY OF CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS (responsively)

Lay Reader: A son received a generous inheritance, but wasted it all in sinful living. He acknowledged his sin and returned in humble repentance, seeking his father’s mercy. Our gracious heavenly Father has given us so much, but we too have misused his gifts and wasted what we have received. Humbly repenting of our sins, we ask his forgiveness.

People: **Heavenly Father, we confess that we are not always thankful for the gifts we have received, the gifts of family, home, work and friends. Daily we choose to follow paths that may lead us away from you, the pathways of our own desires. We turn away from your will and your Word. Have mercy on us and forgive us for the sake of Jesus, who took up the path of the cross for us.**

Lay Reader: The father welcomed his wayward son and celebrated his return, saying, “My son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.”

People: **God our heavenly Father has had mercy on us, showering us with his grace through Jesus, who suffered the penalty of death for our sins.**

Lay Reader: I announce to you that your sins are forgiven in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. In Jesus’ Powerful Name we pray the prayer he taught his disciples to pray...

THE LORD’S PRAYER (in unison)

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

ANTHEM

“His Life for Mine”

- Chancel Choir

SCRIPTURE READING

- Luke 15:11-32 (CEV)

¹¹ Jesus told them yet another story: Once a man had two sons. ¹² The younger son said to his father, “Give me my share of the property.” So the father divided his property between his two sons.

¹³ Not long after that, the younger son packed up everything he owned and left for a foreign country, where he wasted all his money in wild living. ¹⁴ He had spent everything, when a bad famine spread through that whole land. Soon he had nothing to eat.

¹⁵ He went to work for a man in that country, and the man sent him out to take care of his pigs. ¹⁶ He would have been glad to eat what the pigs were eating,^[b] but no one gave him a thing.

¹⁷ Finally, he came to his senses and said, “My father’s workers have plenty to eat, and here I am, starving to death! ¹⁸ I will go to my father and say to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against God in heaven and against you. ¹⁹ I am no longer good enough to be called your son. Treat me like one of your workers.’”

²⁰ The younger son got up and started back to his father. But when he was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt sorry for him. He ran to his son and hugged and kissed him.

²¹ The son said, “Father, I have sinned against God in heaven and against you. I am no longer good enough to be called your son.”

²² But his father said to the servants, “Hurry and bring the best clothes and put them on him. Give him a ring for his finger and sandals^[c] for his feet. ²³ Get the best calf and prepare it, so we can eat and celebrate. ²⁴ This son of mine was dead, but has now come back to life. He was lost and has now been found.” And they began to celebrate.

²⁵ The older son had been out in the field. But when he came near the house, he heard the music and dancing. ²⁶ So he called one of the servants over and asked, “What’s going on here?”

²⁷ The servant answered, “Your brother has come home safe and sound, and your father ordered us to kill the best calf.” ²⁸ The older brother got so angry that he would not even go into the house.

His father came out and begged him to go in. ²⁹ But he said to his father, “For years I have worked for you like a slave and have always obeyed you. But you have never even given me a little goat, so that I could give a dinner for my friends. ³⁰ This other son of yours wasted your money on prostitutes. And now that he has come home, you ordered the best calf to be killed for a feast.”

³¹ His father replied, “My son, you are always with me, and everything I have is yours. ³² But we should be glad and celebrate! Your brother was dead, but he is now alive. He was lost and has now been found.”

PARTNERS IN MINISTRY TODAY

Members of the Church

Nursery Care Providers: Jane Basnight & Linda Tandy

Lay Reader: Brenda Swoope

Organist/Director of Music: Dana Moody

Prayer Partner: Barbara Bennett

Audio-Visual Operator: Danny Castellow

Facebook Live Recorder: Bright Tsevi

Greeter: Joanne Rooks

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Timothy D. Hazlett

Administrative Assistant: Eileen Ballance

Financial Secretary: Edna Bess

Costal Virginia Dist. Superintendent: Rev. Dr. Cecelia R. Brooks

Resident Bishop, Richmond Area: Bishop Sue Hauptert-Johnson