

United Methodist Church—340 N Newell Ave—Minden, Nebraska
4th Sunday in Lent
10:00 a.m.—March 30, 2025

Welcome

Opening Songs “Here I Am to Worship” #22 & “How Can I Keep from Singing” #19

Call to worship!

L: Come, all who are lost and longing for home.

P: **We come to find our place in the loving arms of God.**

L: Come, all who seek grace and restoration.

P: **We come to celebrate the mercy of our Heavenly Father.**

L: Let us rejoice, for God welcomes us with open arms!

P: **With grateful hearts, we come to worship the God of boundless love!**

Silent Prayer of Reflection

Prayer of Assurance

Passing the Peace of Christ

Children’s Sermon

Scriptures

Leanna Warner

Luke 15:11-32 (NIV) The Parable of the Lost Son

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

“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. After he had spent everything, there was a severe famine in that whole country, and he began to be in need. So he went and hired himself out to a citizen of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed pigs. He longed to fill his stomach with the pods that the pigs were eating, but no one gave him anything.

“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! I will set out and go back to my father and say to him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me like one of your hired servants.’ 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.

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

“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. Bring the fattened calf and kill it. Let’s have a feast and celebrate. For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.’ So they began to celebrate.

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

“The older brother became angry and refused to go in. So his father went out and pleaded with him. But 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. But when this son of yours who has squandered your property with prostitutes comes home, you kill the fattened calf for him!’

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

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

P: Thanks be to God.

Message by Pastor Peter Choi
“Welcome Home: The Heart of the Father”

Announcements

1. Upcoming Programs and Services:

Palm Sunday Service: 10:00 AM, April 13

Maundy Thursday online Devotion: 7:00 PM, April 17.

Good Friday Service: 07:00 PM, April 18

Easter Service: 10:00 AM, April 20

2. Today is UMCOR Sunday, a special day to support the United Methodist Committee on Relief. Your generous donations help provide disaster relief and support to communities in need around the world.

3. Continue watching devotional videos on Facebook and YouTube during Lent.

4. We'd really appreciate your help! If you're interested in volunteering as a scripture reader, greeter, communion server, or refreshment host, please add your name to the sign-up sheet at the back of the sanctuary.

5. Refreshments will be served in Room 300 following worship.

6. Last week we received offerings of \$1,670.

Joys & Concerns—Pastoral Prayer—The Lord's Prayer

Offering—Doxology

“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow” UMH#95

Offertory Prayer

Gracious God, our refuge and restorer, we bring these gifts as a sign of our return to you. Like the prodigal, we long to feel your embrace and live in the light of your grace. As we observe this holy time of Lent, may our offerings reflect hearts that are turning back to you. Clear the clogs in our lives that separate us from you and one another and help us see the rainbow of your promise even in our struggles. Bless these gifts and our lives so that we may share your steadfast love with the world. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

Closing Song “Hope of the Nations” #13

Sending Forth

Go forth in the love and grace of our Lord Jesus Christ. May His peace guide your steps, His joy fill your heart, and His strength sustain you in all things. As you go, remember that you are never alone—God's steadfast love surrounds you, now and always. Amen.



Happy Birthday to

Gene Lundeen

Joan Fries

Prayer List

March 30-April 5, 2025

Sunday

Monday

7:00pm Boy Scouts

Tuesday

Wednesday

3:30pm –5:00pm

Wednesday School

6:00pm Youth Group

Thursday

Friday

Saturday