

# ST. MATTHEW LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Lenten Worship  
*We Go to Jerusalem*  
April 2, 2025

**Opening Hymn: 436 – Go to Dark Gethsemane**

**Scripture Reading**

*Luke 15:1–3a, 11–32*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the fifteenth chapter.

**C** **Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>Now the tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to hear [Jesus].

<sup>2</sup>And the Pharisees and the scribes grumbled, saying, “This man receives sinners and eats with them.”

<sup>3</sup>So he told them this parable:

<sup>11</sup>And he said, “There was a man who had two sons. <sup>12</sup>And the younger of them said to his father, ‘Father, give me the share of property that is coming to me.’ And he divided his property between them. <sup>13</sup>Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took a journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in reckless living. <sup>14</sup>And when he had spent everything, a severe famine arose in that country, and he began to be in need. <sup>15</sup>So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed pigs. <sup>16</sup>And he was longing to be fed with the pods that the pigs ate, and no one gave him anything.

<sup>17</sup>“But when he came to himself, he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired servants have more than enough bread, but I perish here with hunger! <sup>18</sup>I will arise and go to my

father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. <sup>19</sup>I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Treat me as one of your hired servants."

<sup>20</sup>And he arose and came to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him. <sup>21</sup>And the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.'

<sup>22</sup>But the father said to his servants, 'Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet. <sup>23</sup>And bring the fattened calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate. <sup>24</sup>For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.' And they began to celebrate.

<sup>25</sup>"Now his older son was in the field, and as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. <sup>26</sup>And he called one of the servants and asked what these things meant. <sup>27</sup>And he said to him, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fattened calf, because he has received him back safe and sound.' <sup>28</sup>But he was angry and refused to go in. His father came out and entreated him, <sup>29</sup>but he answered his father, 'Look, these many years I have served you, and I never disobeyed your command, yet you never gave me a young goat, that I might celebrate with my friends. <sup>30</sup>But when this son of yours came, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fattened calf for him!' <sup>31</sup>And he said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. <sup>32</sup>It was fitting to celebrate and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found.'"

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** **Praise to You, O Christ.**

**Sermon**

**“Disappointment”**

Adam Cooper, pastor emeritus

***Responsive Prayer 2***

Opening Versicles	p. 285
Kyrie	p. 285
Lord’s Prayer	p. 285
Apostles’ Creed	p. 286
Versicles	p. 286
Collect for Evening	p. 287
Benedicamus and Blessing	p. 287

**Closing Hymn: 878 – Abide with Me**

OUR THANKS TO THOSE WHO PROVIDED TONIGHT’S SOUP  
AND SANDWICH MEAL AND TO ALL WHO HELPED TO SET  
UP AND CLEAN UP.