SERVICE OF WORSHIP FOR MAR. 30, 2025

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE Poor Wayfaring Stranger by Mark Hayes

INTROIT 418 Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling (refrain) SOFTLY AND **TEANDERLY**

Gathering Around The Word

*CALL TO WORSHIP from Ps. 32:1

One: Grace and peace in Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

One: Blessed are those whose transgression is forgiven.

Thanks be to God.

*Hymn 366 Love Divine, All Loves Excelling HYFRYDOL

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

from Luke 15:11b-24

Merciful God,

we confess that we have strayed from your ways.

Like the Prodigal Son, we have wasted our inheritance.

You gave us the earth for our home,

but we squander earth's resources and hoard its bounty.

You gave us neighbors to love, but we pursue selfish ambitions. You gave us the commandments that lead to human flourishing,

but we break your law and forsake your love.

Forgive us our sin and bring us to repentance.

Draw our wandering hearts back to you

that we may find freedom in obedience to your love.

Through Christ our Lord we pray. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

from Luke 15:20

*PASSING THE PEACE

We invite you to share the peace of Christ with others.

*RESPONSE 581

GIORIA PATRI

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, amen.

Listening To the Word

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION OF GOD'S WORD from 2 Cor. 5:16-17

FIRST READING

(The scripture readings can be found on the back of the bulletin)

ANTHEM Do Not Fear, For You Are Mine David Lantz III

SECOND READING LUKE 15:1-3, 11B-32

SERMON "The Big Brother Syndrome" Rev. David Holden

Responding to the Word

*HYMN 774 There Is Now a New Creation

STUTTGART

PSALM 32

*Affirmation of Faith A New Creed (United Church of Canada)

We are not alone,

we live in God's world.

We believe in God:

who has created and is creating,

who has come in Jesus,

the Word made flesh,

to reconcile and make new,

who works in us and others

by the Spirit.

We trust in God.

We are called to be the Church:

to celebrate God's presence,

to live with respect in Creation,

to love and serve others.

to seek justice and resist evil,

to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,

our judge and our hope.

In life, in death, in life beyond death,

God is with us.

We are not alone.

Thanks be to God.

MINUTE FOR MISSION

SHARING OUR PRAYERS

See prayer concerns list, back page

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER ("debts" / "debtors")

page 35 in hymnal

*for portions marked with an asterisk, you're invited to rise in body or spirit

GIVING BACK TO GOD'S KINGDOM

(Give online @ bit.ly/FPCSomersetGive or scan the code on the yellow pew card)

OFFERTORY

Poor Wayfaring Stranger

by Mark Hayes

TEN CENTS A MEAL OFFERING

(Any donation placed in the baskets today will go toward feeding those in need)

*THE DOXOLOGY 606

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Christ, all creatures here below; Praise God above, you heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

God Sends Us Forth

*HYMN 804

Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart!

MARION

*CHARGE & BENEDICTION

from 2 Cor. 5:20

*BLESSING

HYMN 541 God Be with You Till We Meet Again

RANDOLPH

POSTLUDE

Visiting today? Welcome!

Please tell us about yourself! You can scan this QR code with your smartphone to fill out our online form, or fill out a pew card and drop it in the offering plate.



This Week

Wed., April 2 @ 10:30am - Presbyterian Women Bible Study

Wed., April 2 @ 6:30pm - Choir Practice

Thur., April 3 @ 4:00pm - Spiritual Formation Meeting Thur., April 3 @ 7:00pm - ONLINE: Lenten Study

Fri., April 4 @ 7:30am - Men's Breakfast @ Bob Evan's Restaurant

Sat., April 5 @ 10:00am - Share Fair

Worship Assistants Next Week

Liturgist	J.B. Pitman
Ushers	Linda Bonardel & Linda Cook
Audio	Paul Guffey
Video	Sue Guffey
Coffee Plus	Mary Beth Waller

First Reading—Psalm 32

¹Happy are those whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered. ²Happy are those to whom the Lord imputes no iniquity and in whose spirit there is no deceit. ³While I kept silent, my body wasted away through my groaning all day long. 4For day and night your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer. Selah 5Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not hide my iniquity; I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord," and you forgave the guilt of my sin. Selah ⁶Therefore let all who are faithful offer prayer to you; at a time of distress, the rush of mighty waters shall not reach them. 7You are a hiding place for me; you preserve me from trouble; you surround me with glad cries of deliverance. Selah 81 will instruct you and teach you the way you should go; I will counsel you with my eye upon you. ⁹Do not be like a horse or a mule, without understanding, whose temper must be curbed with bit and bridle, else it will not stay near you. ¹⁰Many are the torments of the wicked, but steadfast love surrounds those who trust in the Lord. 11Be glad in the Lord and rejoice, O righteous, and shout for joy, all you upright in heart.

Second Reading—Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

¹Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to him. ²And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them."

³So he told them this parable:

11b"There was a man who had two sons. 12The younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of the wealth that will belong to me.' So he divided his assets between them. 13A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant region, and there he squandered his wealth in dissolute living. ¹⁴When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that region, and he began to be in need. 15So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that region, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. ¹⁶He would gladly have filled his stomach with the pods that the pigs were eating, and no one gave him anything. ¹⁷But when he came to his senses he said, 'How many of my father's hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! 18I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; ¹⁹I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands." ²⁰So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. ²¹Then the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' ²²But the father said to his slaves, 'Quickly, bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. ²³And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate, ²⁴for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!' And they began to celebrate.

²⁵"Now his elder son was in the field, and as he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. ²⁶He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. ²⁷He replied, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf because he has got him back safe and sound.' ²⁸Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. ²⁹But he answered his father, 'Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command, yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. ³⁰But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your assets with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!' ³¹Then the father said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. ³²But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.'"

Scripture verses taken from the New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition



Prayers for Comfort, Concern, and Healing

The family of Allen Munts; Aaron Ramsey; Tim Noel; Leslie Phillips' parents, J.R & Karen Goff; Don Haney; Rebecca Davis; Pat Carpenter; David & Brenda Bryant; Jeff & Kathy Bishop's daughter, Ashley Kerr; Ed & Joyce Mick; Jennifer Williams; Bill House; Leslie Phillips

Current Giving

	Rec'd month of Feb.	Needed Monthly	Received YTD	Needed YTD
Offering	\$18,018	\$16,522	\$31,182	\$33,044

Blessing Box Attendant

This Week	Nina Wilhelm
Next Week	Marshall Judy

Assisting In Worship Today

Ministers	Every Member
Liturgist	Marshall Judy
_	Wanda Mabry & Carol Wade
Audio	Paul Guffey
Video	Sue Guffey
Coffee Plus	Linda Cook & Sandra Harris
Director of Music	Theresa Jean Kibby
Piano & Organ	Debby McDonald
_	Rev. David Holden

Deacons:

Linda Cook Rebecca Davis Sue Guffey

Don Haney Nancy Holland Marshall Judy Marci Randall

<u>Elders:</u>

Class of 2025 Class of 2026 Class of 2027

Charles Leveridge Sharon Mandt Jo Salmon Mark Dikeman

Perry Waller Laura Wright

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First Presbyterian Church

March 30th, 2025 Fourth Sunday in Lent



Murariu, Elena. Return of the Prodigal Son, from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=59103 [retrieved March 27, 2025]. Original source: https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:The_return_of_the_prodigal_son,_Elena_Murariu.jpg.

People of God, Welcome Home!

May Christ's peace and presence fill your heart as you worship this day, and may you go forth with the light and love of God shining within you.

We welcome you to worship, and ask that any electronic devices be placed on silent so that all may hear what God has to say.







2025 Holy Week

Community Services

April 14 - 18

Service @ 12 | Lunch @ 12:30

Monday - First Presbyterian Church

200 N. Vine St., Somerset, KY 42501

Speaker: Mo. Chris Brannock of Saint Patrick Episcopal Church Offering given to SkyHope Recovery Program for Women

Tuesday - First Christian Church

1115 KY-39, Somerset, KY 42503

Speaker: Pastor Jacob Wilson of Science Hill Trinity
Offering given to CW Teen Missions

Wednesday - Saint Mildred Catholic Church

203 S. Central Ave., Somerset, KY 42501

Speaker: Rev. David Holden of First Presbyterian Church Offering given to Help the Homeless

Thursday - New Beginnings Worship Center

1335 Thurman Rd., Somerset, KY 42503

Speaker: Pastor Todd Young of Pleasant Hill Baptist Church Offering given to God's Food Pantry

Friday - First United Methodist Church

99 S. Central Ave., Somerset, KY 42501

Speaker: Rev. Rhoda Raglin of Davis Chapel AME Offering given to Pulaski Emergency Relief Ministry

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