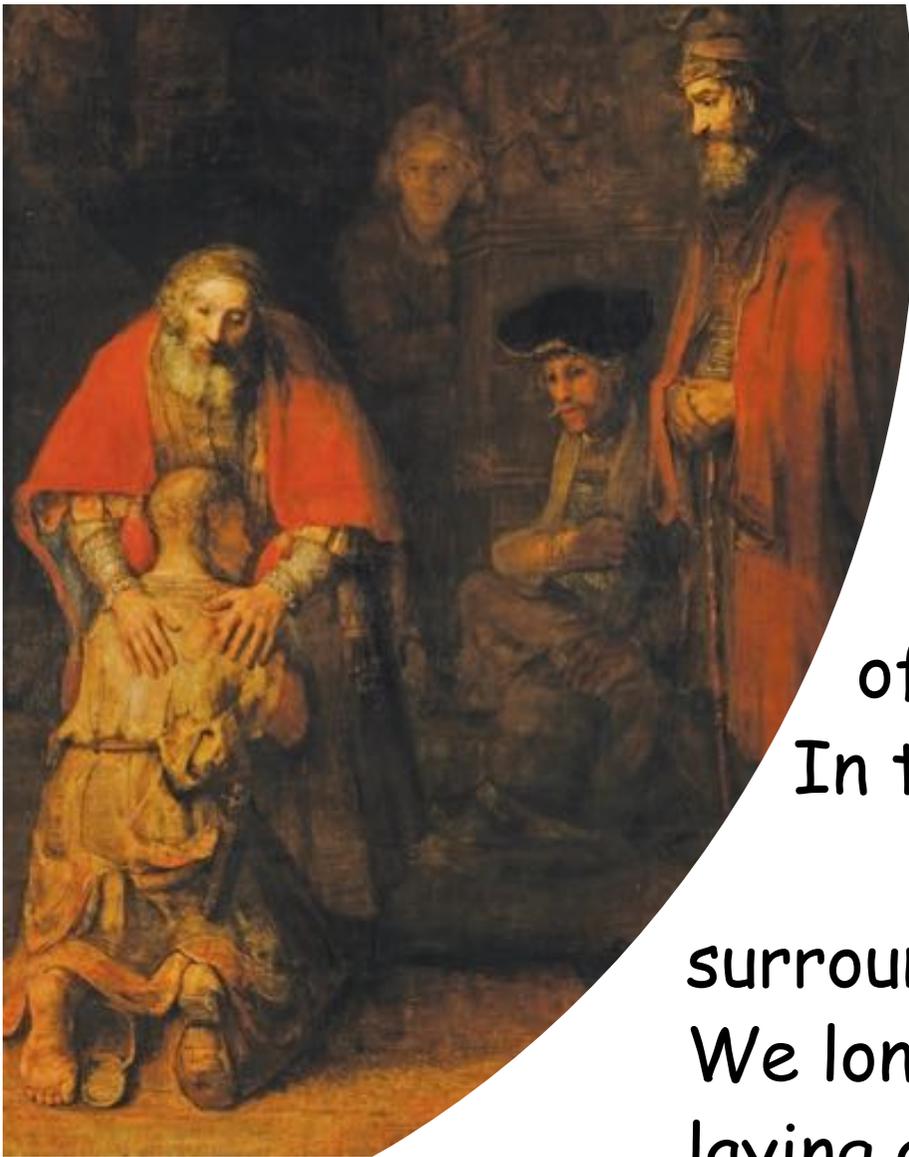


The Prodigal Son

Luke 15: 1-3, 11-32



Here we are Lord!
We come from the routines
of our daily lives to worship you.
In this hour, we long to meet you,
to feel your presence
surrounding us, enveloping us, loving us.
We long to settle into your presence,
laying aside our worries and our cares,
aware of your presence around us,
before us, behind us, within us.
Come be with us Lord.



God, our guide and our protector,
open our minds and hearts,
that we may be inclined
to hear the gentle direction of
your spirit in our lives.

Holy God, Creator of Life,
you call us out of our dark places,
offering us the grace of new life,
surprise us with the breath of your
spirit.

Holy God call us out of our complacency
and routines, set us free from our self-
imposed bonds, and fill us with your
spirit of life, compassion, and peace,
Amen.



Lord of all Hopefulness



Father God,
you are the one who leads us
from darkness into light,
from captivity into freedom,
from anxiety into peace,
from despair into joy.
Yet we long to break free,
choosing independence,
convinced of our own wisdom,
forgetting your love and grace.
We come to you confessing our
sins in penitence and faith
asking that you forgive us,
draw close to us, embrace us in
your loving arms,
and enable us to follow you
in grateful service each day
of our lives
Amen



God, you are good and upright,
and you instruct sinners in
your ways,
Show us how to break down the
barriers separating us from
each other,
**Lead us through the wilderness
sin has created to find new life.**

Forgive us for the times we have
abandoned the poor,
the disabled, and the homeless,
Teach us to live by the law of love
in unity, peace, and harmony.
**Lead us through the wilderness
sin has created to find new life.**



Forgive us for the ways we
exclude people of different race,
culture, or gender,

Guide us that we may come to
mutual understanding and care.

**Lead us through the wilderness
sin has created to find new life.**

Draw us into your community to
embrace those with whom we need
to be reconciled,

Grant that all who seek to heal divisions
between peoples may have hope.

**Lead us through the wilderness sin has
created to find new life.**

Show us your ways, O Lord,

Teach us your paths and guide us
towards your truth.

**Lead us through the wilderness sin has
created to find new life.**



May the God of love and
power
forgive us and free us from
our sins,
heal and strengthen us by his
Spirit,
and raise us to new life in
Christ our Lord.

Amen



There's a Wideness in
God's Mercy

COLLECT

Let us pray:

O Lord, we beseech you mercifully to hear the prayers
of your people who call upon you;
and grant that they may both perceive and know
what things they ought to do,
and also may have grace and power
faithfully to fulfil them;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

AMEN

A Reading from the Book of James

Chapter 3:13 - 4:3,7-8a

¹³ Who is wise and understanding among you? Let them show it by their good life, by deeds done in the humility that comes from wisdom. ¹⁴ But if you harbour bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast about it or deny the truth. ¹⁵ Such "wisdom" does not come down from heaven but is earthly, unspiritual, demonic. ¹⁶ For where you have envy and selfish ambition, there you find disorder and every evil practice.

¹⁷ But the wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure; then peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere. ¹⁸ Peacemakers who sow in peace reap a harvest of righteousness.

4 ¹What causes fights and quarrels among you? Don't they come from your desires that battle within you? ²You desire but do not have, so you kill. You covet but you cannot get what you want, so you quarrel and fight. You do not have because you do not ask God. ³When you ask, you do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, that you may spend what you get on your pleasures.

⁷Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. ⁸Come near to God and he will come near to you.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God



Parable of the Prodigal Son



Sermon



Where am I in
the story?

What can we
learn
from the story?

Am I like the younger son,
in a bad place and needing
to turn back to God?

Am I like the older son,
angry when other people get attention and
rewards, even though I have enough for myself

Am I like the father,
wanting to mend broken relationships with
family, friends and those around me?

We draw strength from our faith. So let us affirm our faith -
a faith grounded in an all powerful loving God,

We believe in God, the Creator!
Maker of everything,
Author of the Universe,
And Mystery behind every matter.

We believe in Jesus Christ!

God from God, Light from Light, true God and true human,
One with the Creator.

He is the Word made flesh and the Saviour of all creation.

We believe in the Holy Spirit!

Breath of God moving among us,

One with the Creator and one with Christ,

He is our Guide and the Mentor of all creation!

Amen.



Prayers

The Lord's Prayer

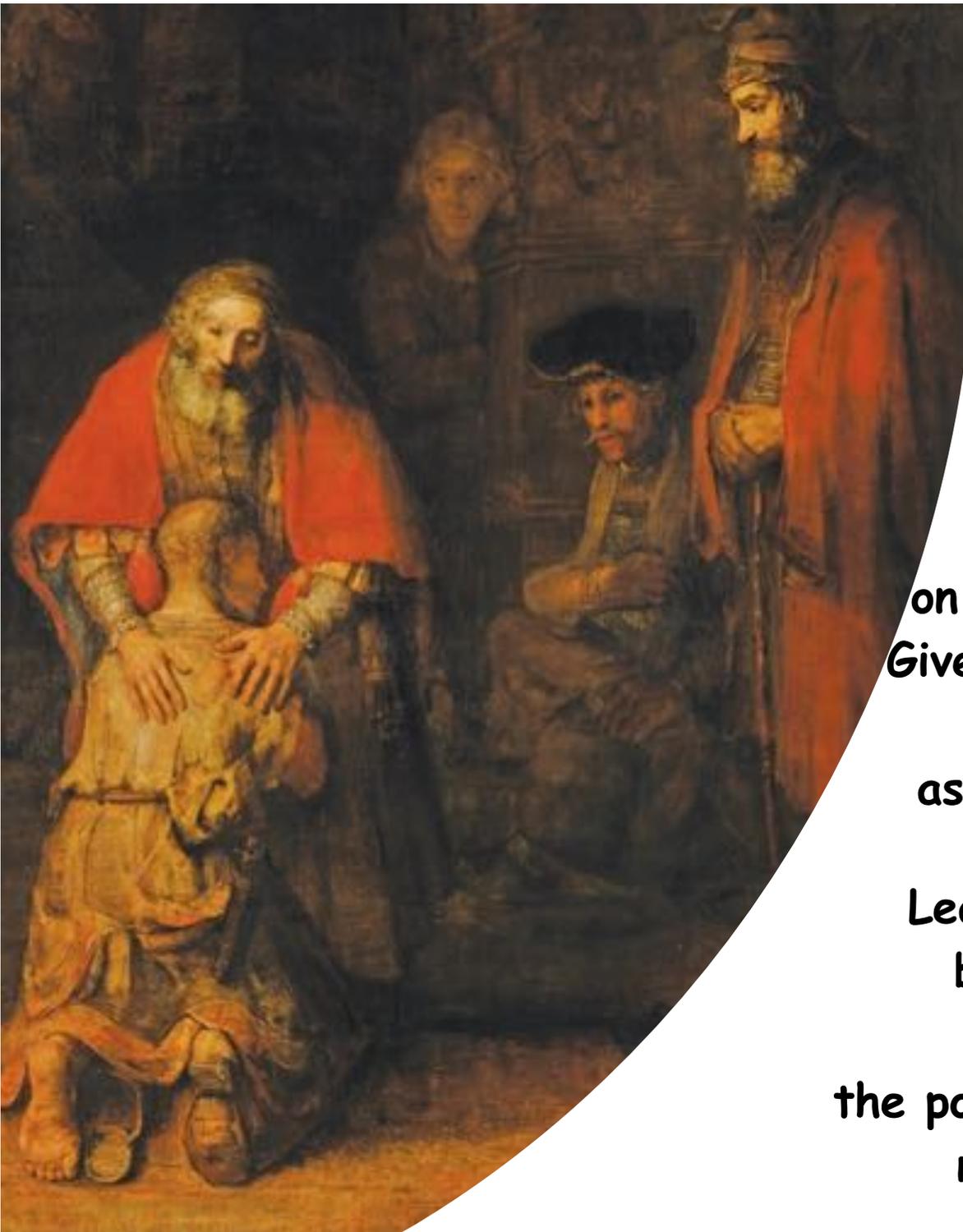
Let us say together the prayer
Jesus himself taught us to pray

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.**

**Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin
against us.**

**Lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom,
the power and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**





News

Blessing

Let us go now, to be nourished
by the love of God;
to be generous
in the way of Christ Jesus
and to be filled and fuelled
by the living Spirit.

Amen.



**Immortal Invisible
God only Wise**

The Dismissal

So let us go out
to walk in God's light,
to rejoice in God's love
and to reflect God's glory.

Go in peace to love
and serve the Lord

**In the name of Christ,
Amen.**

