



Who Is Lost



March 7, 2021. Third Sunday of Lent. Narrative Lectionary reading 33 of year 3.

GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE

Prelude

Greeting

Unison Call to Worship

Psalm 19:7-14

The Lord's Instruction is perfect, reviving one's very being. The Lord's laws are faithful, making naive people wise. The Lord's regulations are right, gladdening the heart. The Lord's commands are pure, giving light to the eyes. Honoring the Lord is correct, lasting forever.

The Lord's judgments are true. All of these are righteous! They are more desirable than gold—than tons of pure gold! They are sweeter than honey—even dripping off the honeycomb! No doubt about it: your servant is enlightened by them; there is great reward in keeping them.

But can anyone know what they've accidentally done wrong? Clear me of any unknown sin and save your servant from willful sins. Don't let them rule me. Then I'll be completely blameless; I'll be innocent of great wrongdoing.

Let the words of my mouth and the meditations of my heart be pleasing to you, Lord, my rock and my redeemer.

Psalm Song

"The Holy Way"

Richard Bruxvoort Colligan

Prayer of Confession

Holy and Gracious God, we too often treat religion as a source for answers. We look for simple answers that belittle your deep mystery. During this season of Lent, push us to ask deeper questions. Help us to ask about our neighbors. Lead us to ask questions about our sorrow. Inspire us to ask questions about our

role as disciples. Forgive us for our complacency and lack of curiosity. Forgive us for allowing our faith to stagnate in easy assumptions. Stir in us questions that lead us to a deeper relationship with you.

Pause for Silent Reflection and Confession

Words of Assurance

Share the Peace of Christ with others

Hymn #187

"Rise, Shine, You People"

Offering and Prayer of Thanksgiving

Hymn #95

"Praise God"

Pastoral Prayer and Lord's Prayer

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Luke 15:1-32(CEB)

Tamara Baugh

All the tax collectors and sinners were gathering around Jesus to listen to him. The Pharisees and legal experts were grumbling, saying, "This man welcomes sinners and eats with them."

Jesus told them this parable: "Suppose someone among you had one hundred sheep and lost one of them. Wouldn't he leave the other ninety-nine in the pasture and search for the lost one until he finds it? And when he finds it, he is thrilled and places it on his shoulders. When he arrives home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, 'Celebrate with me because I've found my lost sheep.' In the same way, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who changes both heart and life than over ninety-nine righteous people who have no need to change their hearts and lives.

"Or what woman, if she owns ten silver coins and loses one of them, won't light a lamp and sweep the house, searching her home carefully until she finds it? When



Who is Lost



March 7, 2021. Third Sunday of Lent. Narrative Lectionary reading 33 of year 3.

she finds it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, 'Celebrate with me because I've found my lost coin.' In the same way, I tell you, joy breaks out in the presence of God's angels over one sinner who changes both heart and life."

Jesus said, "A certain man had two sons. The younger son said to his father, 'Father, give me my share of the inheritance.' Then the father divided his estate between them. Soon afterward, the younger son gathered everything together and took a trip to a land far away. There, he wasted his wealth through extravagant living.

"When he had used up his resources, a severe food shortage arose in that country and he began to be in need. He hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed pigs. He longed to eat his fill from what the pigs ate, but no one gave him anything. When he came to his senses, he said, 'How many of my father's hired hands have more than enough food, but I'm starving to death! I will get up and go to my father, and say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I no longer deserve to be called your son. Take me on as one of your hired hands."' So he got up and went to his father.

"While he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was moved with compassion. His father ran to him, hugged him, and kissed him. Then his son said, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I no longer deserve to be called your son.' But the father said to his servants, 'Quickly, bring out the best robe and put it on him! Put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet! Fetch the fattened calf and slaughter it. We must celebrate with feasting because this son of mine was dead and has come back to life! He was lost and is found!' And they began to celebrate.

"Now his older son was in the field. Coming in from the field, he approached the house and heard music and dancing. He called one of the servants and asked what was going on. The servant replied, 'Your brother has arrived, and your father has slaughtered the fattened calf because he received his son back safe and sound.' Then the older son was furious and didn't want to enter in, but his father came out and begged him. He answered

his father, 'Look, I've served you all these years, and I never disobeyed your instruction. Yet you've never given me as much as a young goat so I could celebrate with my friends. But when this son of yours returned, after gobbling up your estate on prostitutes, you slaughtered the fattened calf for him.' Then his father said, 'Son, 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. He was lost and is found.'"

Musical Offering

"Amazing Grace"
Gail Novak

Sermon

Who is Lost?
Rev. Robb McCoy

RESPONSE OF THE PEOPLE

Hymn #400

"Come Thou Font of Every Blessing"

Blessing

Hymn #592

"When the Church of Jesus"
See screen for new text

Postlude



Pastor

Robb McCoy, mccoy@tworiversumc.org

Program Staff

Director of Music

Mark Swessinger, mswess@mchsi.com

Organist

Michael Smith

Organist Emeritus

Judith Litherland

Ministers

All of us

Lay Leader

Susan Lorenzen

Support Staff

Church Office Manager

Brianna Pollock, office@tworiversumc.org

Volunteer Financial Secretary

Charlotte Peterson

Nursery Attendants

Divera Mpawenayo

Autumn Glass

Church Custodian

Ellen Martin

Camp Milan Caretaker

Kent Hessman

Two Rivers United Methodist Church

1820 5th Ave. Rock Island, IL 61201

Office Phone: (309)788-9384

Email: office@tworiversumc.org



WEEKLY GPS

GROW

PRAY

STUDY

Current series: "Who?"

March 14	The rich man and Lazarus	Luke 6:19-31
March 21	Jesus & Zacchaeus	Luke 18:31-19:10
March 28	Triumphal Entry	Luke 19:29-44
April 4	Easter Sunday	Luke 24:1-12

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THE WEEK: Luke 15:32

"But 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."

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

Monday	Psalm 119:169-176	A Lost Sheep
Tuesday	1 Samuel 16:6-13	A Keeper of Sheep
Wednesday	Genesis 45:1-9	Joseph and His Brothers
Thursday	Genesis 45:21-28	Joseph Returned to His Father
Friday	Exodus 2:1-10	Moses Returned to His Mother
Saturday	John 4:46-54	A Man's Son is Returned

CARING CONVERSATIONS or REFLECTIONS

- **Thinking About This Week's Story:** In this week's readings, there is much rejoicing when what was lost is found. What has brought you joy today? What has brought you sadness or frustration?
- **Getting Ready for Next Week's Story:** In next week's reading, a rich man ignores Lazarus' obvious needs without offering to share his abundance with him. When have you ignored someone's need today? How can you do better in the future?