

Prelude

Hanna Noh

Greeting

Asbury Mission Statement

“We are Asbury; Abundantly thankful to God;
Saved by Christ’s resurrection; Blessed by God; United by Christ’s love for each of
us; Reaching out to our church family and our community; to tell the Good
News to all by being Christ’s voice, hands, and feet in the world.”

Announcement

Centering hymn: TFWS # 2236 Gather Us In vs 1,2

Call to Worship

Return

(inspired by Luke 15:1-3, 11-32)

let this be the welcoming place
the place of return

and let it be built by a love
that bends towards those who return here

for it is a love that has been waiting
like a candle in the window
ever lighting the way back
and never willing to let go
the hope that each child
will return home

let it be the place where
the only appropriate response

to love that has come to the end of its longing
is to kill the fatted calf,
feast and celebrate
send up balloons
and prepare the party
for that which has been lost
has returned to be among us
once more

*Written by Roddy Hamilton, and posted on Mucky
Paws, <http://www.nkchurch.org.uk/index.php/mucky-paws>. Reposted: <https://re-worship.blogspot.com/2016/02/prayer-reflection-return-luke-15.html>.*

Opening Hymn UMH # 384 Love Divine, All Loves Excelling vs 1,2,4

Women History Month Sharing: Diane Newman-Goins

Joy and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord’s Prayer

Offering Invitation

Offering prayer

Scripture reading: Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

15:1 Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to him.

15:2 And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them."

15:3 So he told them this parable:

15:11b "There was a man who had two sons.

15:12 The younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.' So he divided his property between them.

15:13 A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living.

15:14 When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need.

15:15 So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs.

15:16 He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything.

15:17 But when he came to himself he said, 'How many of my father's hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger!

15:18 I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you;

15:19 I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands.'"

15:20 So 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.

15:21 Then the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.'

15:22 But 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.

15:23 And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate;

15:24 for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!' And they began to celebrate.

15:25 "Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing.

15:26 He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on.

15:27 He replied, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.'

15:28 Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him.

15:29 But 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.

15:30 But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!'

15:31 Then the father said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours.

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.'"

Sermon: Coming Home

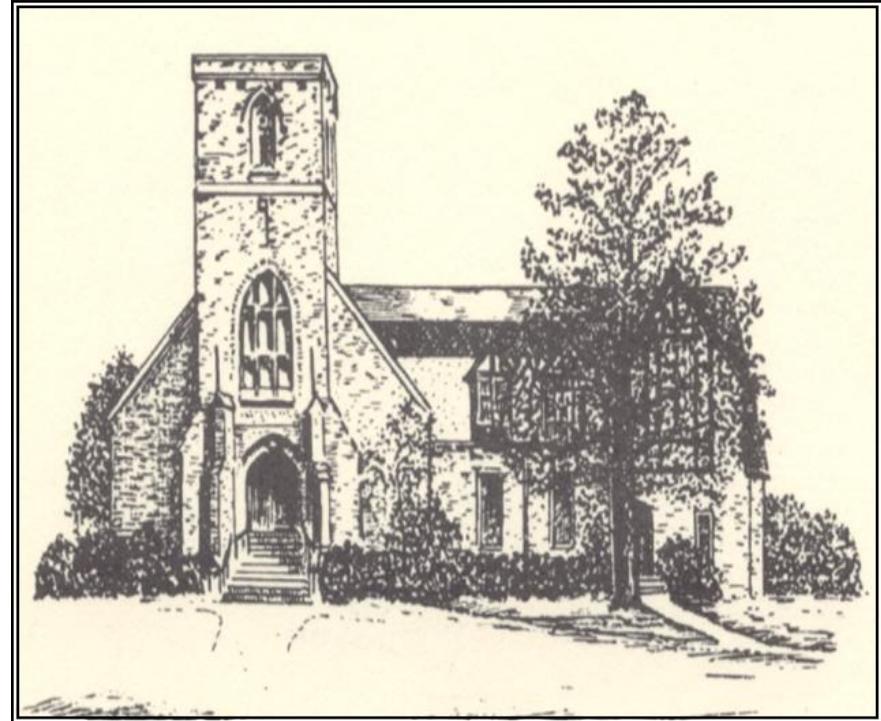
Closing hymns: TFWS # 2151 I'm So Glad Jesus Lifted Me

Benediction

Prayer for peace through hymn UMH #431 "Let There Be peace on Earth"

Postlude

**** There will be a brief meeting of the church council today, in the library, immediately following the service. ****



**“If you are without a church home, we invite you to join us
for Sunday worship at 9:30 a.m.
You are always welcome here.”**

Asbury United Methodist Church

Pastor

Rev. Yohan Go

March 27, 2022