

Flowers given by: **COLLAGE** in celebration of **PRIDE month** and in gratitude for the love and support of First Congregational United Church of Christ.

PRELUDE                      *Open Sky and Morning Song*                      Bill Douglas  
   Bharat Chandra, clarinet

CALL to WORSHIP

One:            The song softly sings to our soul every day,

**Many:        Softly and tenderly Jesus is calling to you and me!**

One:            Why do we wait, wonder, or worry in responding to God's call?

**Many:        When God continually is calling us home.**

One:            On this day, we lay down our excuses and set down our shields that we hide behind.

**Many:        And we run toward God's wide-open embrace. Come home, come home. All who are weary, worn out, confused, deflated, and tired of trying to do it all alone.**

One:            Come home.

\*OPENING HYMN        *O Come to Me, You Weary*                      #484

**"O come to me, you weary, and I will give you rest."  
The blessed voice of Jesus, which comes to hearts oppressed!  
It tells of benediction, of pardon, grace, and peace,  
of joy that has no ending, of love which does not cease.**

**"O come to me, you wanderers, and I will give you light."  
The loving voice of Jesus, which comes to cheer the night!  
Our hearts were filled with sadness, and we had lost our way;  
but morning brings us gladness and songs for each new day.**

**"All you who come and seek me will never be cast out."  
The welcome voice of Jesus, which drives away our doubt!  
And though we are unworthy of love so free and true,  
we hear your call to sinners; in trust we come to you.**

\*OPENING PRAYER

**Waiting and watching One, there is nowhere we can go that You are not there. There is nothing we can do that can separate us from Your love. Once we accept that we are accepted, that truth rearranges our *entire* lives. Suddenly, the scripts of scoring points no longer seem as important. Suddenly, what we have been told will give us the status, success, and satisfaction seem empty. Meet us in this moment, Prodigal God, in ways that we feel Your eternal embrace. May this be more than words we say, but an experience we feel every day this week. Amen.**

**Softly and tenderly, Jesus is calling, calling for you and for me;  
See at the portals Christ is waiting and watching, watching for you and me.**

*Refrain* **Come home, come home, All who are weary, come home.  
Earnestly, tenderly Jesus is calling, calling, “O sinner, come home!”**

## RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

**Cas Burleson, Frank & Elaine Hallice, Lisa MacBlane**

## ENGAGING SCRIPTURE

Luke 15:11-24

<sup>11</sup> Then Jesus said, “There was a man who had two sons. <sup>12</sup> The 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. <sup>13</sup> A 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. <sup>14</sup> When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that region, and he began to be in need. <sup>15</sup> So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that region, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. <sup>16</sup> He would gladly have filled his stomach<sup>[b]</sup> with the pods that the pigs were eating, and no one gave him anything. <sup>17</sup> But 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! <sup>18</sup> I will get up 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 like one of your hired hands.”’ <sup>20</sup> 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. <sup>21</sup> 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.’<sup>[c]</sup> <sup>22</sup> 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. <sup>23</sup> And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate, <sup>24</sup> for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!’ And they began to celebrate.

## SERMON

Prodigal-ing Part One

## ANTHEM

*My Shepherd Will Supply My Need*

Mack Wilberg

## TESTAMONY

Dr. Steve Horowitz

## PASTORAL PRAYER &amp; LORD’S PRAYER

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

## \*CLOSING HYMN

*Amazing Grace*

#547

**Amazing grace, how sweet the sound, that saved a wretch like me!  
I once was lost, but now am found, was blind but now I see.**

**“Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved;  
How precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed!**

**Through many dangers, toils, and snares, I have already come;  
‘Tis grace has brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.**

**My God has promised good to me, whose word my hope secures;  
God will my shield and portion be as long as life endures.**

**When we’ve been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun,  
We’ve no less days to sing God’s praise than when we’d first begun.**

BENEDICTION:

POSTLUDE

*Largo*  
Bharat Chandra, clarinet

Jean-Baptiste Loeillet