

**Your  
anger  
turned away,  
that You  
might  
comfort me**

**Isaiah 12:1**

# Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 30, 2025

## BEAUTIFUL SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH

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**Guest Pastor Marv Ahlborn**

### Our Mission

“To Know Jesus and to Make Him Known”

### Our Vision

Educate, Equip and Encourage ourselves and our families through worship and study, and engage our community through discipleship, example and Acts of Kindness, using the unique gifts bestowed on each member of our congregation by the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

### Worship Information

**Parents with Young Children:** We encourage families to worship together.

**Worship Bulletin:** Our order of service is printed out in your worship folder.

**Worship Form:** There are 5 “Movements” in our Worship.

- God grants us the gift of forgiveness.
- God speaks to us from His Word.
- God receives our offerings and prayers.
- God offers us His real presence in Holy Communion.
- God blesses us and sends us out.

**Communion:** Please read the Statement of Communion below.

(If you are **gluten intolerant** please speak with Pastor or an elder prior to the worship service so we can accommodate you.)

### STATEMENT OF COMMUNION

#### BECAUSE THE WORD OF GOD TEACHES THAT:

- We are all sinners in need of forgiveness.
- Jesus is our only Savior from sin through His death and resurrection.
- The True Body and Blood of Christ is present in the Sacrament of the Holy Communion



**Please see Pastor if you have any questions about this or do not believe in the Lord's Supper in this way. You are welcome to come forward for a blessing if you are not communing.**

- **Please see Pastor if there is something going on in your life that needs the attention of Christ in private confession and absolution.**


**AS WE GATHER--** “Not all the blood of beasts On Jewish altars slain Could give the guilty conscience peace Or wash away the stain” (*LSB* 431:1). We can only be saved through Christ’s blood. Consider these words, penned by Isaiah and promised by God, “I, I am He who blots out your transgressions for My own sake, and I will not remember your sins” (Isaiah 43:25). “I have blotted out your transgressions like a cloud, and your sins like mist” (44:22). Jesus cleanses us from sin through His blood. Blood was all He had. His disciples had deserted Him. His garments had been gambled away. Even His Father had turned His back. Blood was all He had, but the blood of Jesus is all we need. “Believing, we rejoice To see the curse remove; we bless the Lamb with cheerful voice And sing His bleeding love” (*LSB* 431:5).

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**WELCOME to GUESTS & VISITORS**

Hymns will be from the Lutheran Service Book (*LSB*).

**✠ PREPARATION ✠**

 **HYMN** “Jesus, Thy Blood and Righteousness” *LSB* 563, vs. 1–3

**INVOCATION** *2 Corinthians 13:14*

**Pastor:** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**People:** Amen.

**CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION** *Psalms 102*

**Pastor:** Hear my prayer, O Lord; let my cry for help come to You.

**People:** **Do not hide Your face from me when I am in distress. Turn Your ear to me; when I call, answer me quickly.**

**Pastor:** For my days vanish like smoke; my bones burn like glowing embers.

**People:** **My heart is blighted and withered like grass; I forget to eat my food.**

**Pastor:** Because of my loud groaning I am reduced to skin and bones.

**People:** **I am like a desert owl, like an owl among the ruins.**

**Pastor:** I lie awake; I have become like a bird alone on a roof.

**People:** **My days are like the evening shadow; I wither away like grass.**

**People:** **But You, O Lord, sit enthroned forever; Your renown endures through all generations.**

**Pastor:** You will arise and have compassion on Zion, for it is time to show favor to her; the appointed time has come.

**People:** **For the Lord will rebuild Zion and appear in His glory.**

**Pastor:** He will respond to the prayer of the destitute; He will not despise their plea.

**People:** **Father, You invite us to come into Your loving embrace. Doing so, we confess our sin; make known our stubborn pride; and renounce all ungodly thoughts, words, and actions.**

**Pastor:** Upon this, your confession, I announce the amazing and transforming grace of God to all of you. Christ's blood was shed; His tomb is empty; His return is certain, and you are eternally forgiven in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People:** **Amen.**

**Pastor:** The name of the Lord will be declared in Zion and His praise in Jerusalem

**People:** **When the people assemble to worship the Lord.**

**RESPONSE** "Jesus, Thy Blood and Righteousness" LSB 563, vs. 4

### **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**Pastor:** The Lord be with you.

**People:** **And also with you.**

**Pastor:** Let us pray. Gracious Father, You provided the gift of Your Son who suffered and died to cleanse us from our iniquities. As our atoning sacrifice and Passover Lamb, His blood forgives us and frees us from all sin. Hear us as we give You thanks and praise for this wonderful salvation; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People:** **Amen.**

### **FIRST READING** *Isaiah 48:17–22*

**Lector:** This is the Word of the Lord.

**People:** **Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM** *Psalms 32* (Blessed are the forgiven)

### **EPISTLE** *Hebrews 9:11–14* (Redemption through the blood of Christ)

**Lector:** This is the Word of the Lord.

**People:** **Thanks be to God.**

### **CHILDREN'S MESSAGE** "Get Out!"

### **HOLY GOSPEL** *Matthew 10:26–33* (Have no fear)

**Pastor:** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the tenth chapter.

**People:** **Glory to You, O Lord.**

(The Gospel is read.)

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

**CREED** *Apostles' Creed*

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**



**HYMN**

“Not All the Blood of Beasts” LSB 431

**SERMON**

“Get Out”

*Isaiah 48:17-22*

**OFFERTORY**

(in offering plate at entrance to sanctuary)



**HYMN**

“We Give Thee But Thine Own” LSB 781, vs.1-2

**PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

Pastor: Father in heaven, You command Your church,

People: **“Get out from Babylon, flee from Chaldea, declare it with a shout of joy.”** (Isaiah 48:20a)

Pastor: Hear our shouts of joy.

People: **What can wash away my sin? Nothing but the blood of Jesus. What can make me whole again? Nothing but the blood of Jesus.**

Pastor: O God, You give us this mandate,

People: **“Proclaim salvation; to send it out to the ends of the earth.”** (Isaiah 48:20b)

Pastor: And so we say to the world,

People: **For my pardon this I see, nothing but the blood of Jesus. For my cleansing this my plea, nothing but the blood of Jesus.**

Pastor: Lord God, with gladness and great delight we say,

People: **“The Lord has redeemed His servants!”** (Isaiah 48:20c)  
**Nothing can for sin atone; nothing but the blood of Jesus.  
Naught of good that I have done; nothing but the blood of  
Jesus.**

+ Additional Prayers may be added here +

Pastor: Hands were cut; blood was shed; and *we* are saved.  
People: **All praise to You, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and  
forever. Amen.**

### ✠ SACRAMENT ✠

**PREFACE** *2 Timothy 4:22*

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**



**SANCTUS** “Holy, Holy, Holy” LSB 161

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might:

Heaven and earth are full of Your glory.

Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

### PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross. Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

**THE WORDS OF OUR LORD** *Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24;  
Luke 22:19–20; 1 Corinthians 11:23–25*

Pastor: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**LORD’S PRAYER** *Matthew 6:9–13*

**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 trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

**PAX DOMINI**

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: **And also with you. Amen.**

 **AGNUS DEI** “Lamb of God” LSB 163

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

**COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION**

See LSB 329: **Christian Questions with Their Answers** prepared by Dr. Martin Luther for those who intend to go to the Sacrament.



**NOTE: Pastor will come around again, offering the COMMON CUP.**

 **DISTRIBUTION HYMNS**

“Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing” LSB 686

“What Wondrous Love Is This” LSB 543

“O Living Bread from Heaven” LSB 642



## COMMUNION DISMISSAL

Pastor: Now this, the Body and Blood of Christ, crucified, risen and ascended, strengthen you, nourish you and keep you steadfast in the true faith to life everlasting. Depart in peace.

**People: Amen.**

## POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

Pastor: O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,

**People: and His mercy endureth forever.**

Pastor: Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son's body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People: Amen.**

## BENEDICTION *Numbers 6:24-26*

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

**People: Amen.**



## HYMN

“O Sing to the Lord”

LSB 808 (*English verses only*)

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### SENDING

Pastor: Go in peace! Serve the Lord!

**People: Thanks be to God.**

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Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series C, Quarter 2.

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## NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

(the second listed are lined up with the Lent sermon series being used):

**OLD TESTAMENT READING** Isaiah 43:16-21; Isaiah 49:1-6

**EPISTLE** Philippians 3:8-14; Hebrews 10:5-10

**HOLY GOSPEL** Luke 20:9-20; Matthew 18:1-10



**TITHE & OFFERING – our sacrifice of thanksgiving to the Lord**

Our “tithes” are our first fruits returned to God in proportional, joyful, thankful and faithful response to His grace. “Offerings” are special gifts for ministries, memorials and needs over and above the tithe.

*(If you are a guest, we welcome you as a guest. Please do not feel obligated to give an offering unless you feel moved to do so by the Spirit.)*

**February Financial Recap:**

February Givings (Thank you!)	\$27,050.29
Monthly Need:	<u>\$17,812.08</u>
Overage:	\$ 9,238.21

Parking Lot Project:
\$66,898.00
Goal: \$100,000

**Life Quotes: March 30** “Our Lord dwelt among us for quite some time without anyone seeing or meeting Him. Yet in this span, He consecrated and sanctified every human life from its very beginning at the moment of fertilization. And He demonstrated that neither age nor appearance nor ability—nor any lack thereof—improves or impairs anyone’s worth. God creates, redeems, and calls each one as His own to start with.” *Pastor Michael Salemink, Lutherans For Life – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org*

**CALENDAR:**

- Tuesdays**—9am Orphan Grain Train packing
- Fridays**—10-11:30am, Friday morning Bible study
- Wednesdays**—Lent Meals and Bible Study, 5:30-7pm
- April 6**—11-1:30 Spaghetti Dinner and Silent Auction



**Friday Study:** Pastor Dan will lead “You are Never Alone” based on the book by Max Lucado. This study explores Christ’s miracles and how He is still at work in our lives. April 4: We Can Solve This.

<p><b><u>Call Process:</u></b></p> <p>Thank you to the volunteers serving on our Call Committee: Karol Harris, Marv Hopp, Lee Loomis, Werner Gross, Kristi Philhower</p> <p>Update: <b>A Congregational Call Meeting was held March 23<sup>rd</sup>. Please speak with a member of the call committee for the most recent update.</b></p>
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**Grief Share Classes: Tuesdays, 4:30-6pm** through May 27. These sessions make it possible for individuals to begin or continue the healing process after the loss of a loved one or dear friend. Pastor Dan will be facilitating. Pamphlets are available in the narthex.



**Wednesday Lenten Meals and Bible Study: 5:30-6pm, dinner; 6-7pm Bible Study.** April 2nd we will be having Walking Tacos and focusing on Jesus as our Encourager. How can you help? There is a sign-up sheet in the narthex (dessert, sides). We look forward to growing together this Lenten season.



**Spaghetti Dinner and Silent Auction: April 6, 11-1:30** Join us for this delicious meal and fundraiser. All funds raised are to help with shipping costs for Orphan Grain Train. Tickets are available at the door (Adults \$10, Children \$5, 5 and under free). To donate to the silent auction, speak with Karen Holman. There is a sign up sheet in the narthex for desserts and workers.



**Holy Week Worship Schedule:**

Maundy Thursday, April 17	6:30pm
Good Friday, April 18	Noon & 6:30pm
Easter Sunday, April 20	9:30am

## **OLD TESTAMENT:**

Isaiah 48:17-22

<sup>17</sup> Thus says the Lord,  
your Redeemer, the Holy One of  
Israel:

“I am the Lord your God,  
who teaches you to profit,  
who leads you in the way you  
should go.

<sup>18</sup> Oh that you had paid attention to  
my commandments!

Then your peace would have been  
like a river,

and your righteousness like the  
waves of the sea;

<sup>19</sup> your offspring would have been  
like the sand,

and your descendants like its  
grains;

their name would never be cut off  
or destroyed from before me.”

<sup>20</sup> Go out from Babylon, flee  
from Chaldea,

declare this with a shout of joy,  
proclaim it,

send it out to the end of the earth;

say, “The Lord has redeemed his  
servant Jacob!”

<sup>21</sup> They did not thirst when he led  
them through the deserts;

he made water flow for them from  
the rock;

he split the rock and the water  
gushed out.

<sup>22</sup> “There is no peace,” says the Lord,  
“for the wicked.”

**EPISTLE:** Hebrews 9:11-14

<sup>11</sup> But when Christ appeared as a  
high priest of the good things that  
have come, then through the greater  
and more perfect tent (not made with

hands, that is, not of this  
creation) <sup>12</sup> he entered once for all  
into the holy places, not by means  
of the blood of goats and calves  
but by means of his own blood, thus  
securing an eternal  
redemption. <sup>13</sup> For if the blood of  
goats and bulls, and the sprinkling of  
defiled persons with the ashes of a  
heifer, sanctify for the purification of  
the flesh, <sup>14</sup> how much more will the  
blood of Christ, who through the  
eternal Spirit offered himself without  
blemish to God, purify our  
conscience from dead works to serve  
the living God.

## **HOLY GOSPEL:**

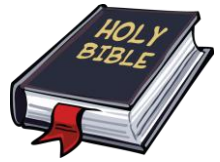
Matthew 10:26-33

<sup>26</sup> “So have no fear of them, for  
nothing is covered that will not be  
revealed, or hidden that will not be  
known. <sup>27</sup> What I tell you in the dark,  
say in the light, and what you hear  
whispered, proclaim on the  
housetops. <sup>28</sup> And do not fear those  
who kill the body but cannot kill the  
soul. Rather fear him who can  
destroy both soul and body in hell.

<sup>29</sup> Are not two sparrows sold for a  
penny? And not one of them will fall  
to the ground apart from your  
Father. <sup>30</sup> But even the hairs of your  
head are all numbered. <sup>31</sup> Fear not,  
therefore; you are of more value than  
many sparrows. <sup>32</sup> So everyone who  
acknowledges me before men, I also  
will acknowledge before my Father  
who is in heaven, <sup>33</sup> but whoever  
denies me before men, I also will  
deny before my Father who is in  
heaven.

March 30-April 5, 2025

**Week 14 “Bible in a Year” Questions:**



**Leviticus 1-8:**

1. What was the purpose of the following principal offerings and how were they to be made?

- a. Burnt Offering
- b. Grain Offering
- c. Fellowship Offering
- d. Sin Offering
- e. Guilt Offering

**Proverbs 17-23:**

Choose any five proverbs from these chapters and copy them down. What do these proverbs mean to you or why do they stand out to you?

**John 20-21, Psalms 1-9:**

1. Why does Jesus reinstate Peter in 21:15-22?

2. Who wrote the Psalms and how many are there?

3. What was happening in David's life when he wrote Psalm 3?

**General Questions to consider:**

1. What did you learn from this week's readings?

2. Is there something in these readings that surprised you?

3. What is one passage that encourages or challenges you? How?

## **Beautiful Savior Lutheran Prayer List : 3/30/2025 – 4/5/2025**

### **Ongoing prayers for Grief & Loss: (Named & Not Named):**

Family of Art Holford; Schultz Family; Kubisiak family (Roy's mother passed away); Karen Holman (mother, Rose Janke, passed away); Family of Sharon Hughes; Family of Lynda Helmrick

### **Situations:**

Suicide Attempts, Cancer, Christian Parenting, Caregivers, AODA (those struggling with alcohol and other substance abuse), those struggling with mental health

**Military:** Devante; Emily; Nick

### **Pending Diagnosis & Treatment:**

Ken Resch (Father of Julie Barge); Phil Idsvoog; BSLC friend, Sarah, cancer; Jane Dubois

### **Hospitalized/Recovering:**

### **Circuit 17:**

St Luke-Rapids (continuing the Call process for a Pastor); Bethlehem-Nekoosa (continuing the Call process for a Pastor); **Beautiful Savior as we are in the Call process**

**Shut-ins:** Mary S.; Anita C.

### **Birthdays:**

3/30 Carson Deater  
3/30 Peter Gunn  
3/30 Pam Lutz  
3/31 Jonilee Gunn  
4/1 Jeff Langenhahn  
4/2 David Deater  
4/3 Lori Hopp

### **Baptism Birthdays:**

3/31 George Diekelman  
4/1 Donavon Dix

### **Anniversaries:**

### **Missions:**

First Choice Resource Center  
Camp Luther  
Peace Campus Center & Pastor Andy Weden  
St. Paul Lutheran Elementary School  
Immanuel Lutheran School  
Future Lutheran High School  
Wycliffe & Lutheran Bible Translators & Linda Jordan  
J.P. & Aimee Cima & Family  
Orphan Grain Train Center  
Christ Care / Carpenter's Crew

\*\*\*Please let us know if you have any prayer requests – Thank you! \*\*\*

## Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 12:1-6

- 1 You will say in that day:  
"I will give thanks to you, O LORD,  
for though you were angry with me,  
your anger turned away,  
that you might comfort me."
- 2 "Behold, God is my salvation;  
I will trust, and will not be afraid;  
for the LORD GOD is my strength and my song,  
and he has become my salvation."
- 3 With joy you will draw water from the wells of  
salvation. "And you will say in that day:  
"Give thanks to the LORD,  
call upon his name,  
make known his deeds among the peoples,  
proclaim that his name is exalted."
- 5 "Sing praises to the LORD, for he has done  
gloriously;  
let this be made known in all the earth."
- 6 Shout, and sing for joy, O inhabitant of Zion,  
for great in your midst is the Holy One  
of Israel."

## Epistle: 2 Corinthians 5:16-21

<sup>16</sup>From now on, therefore, we regard no one according to the flesh. Even though we once regarded Christ according to the flesh, we regard him thus no longer. <sup>17</sup>Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. <sup>18</sup>All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; <sup>19</sup>that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. <sup>20</sup>Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. <sup>21</sup>For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

## Holy Gospel: Luke 15:1-3, 11-32

<sup>1</sup>Now the tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to hear [Jesus]. <sup>2</sup>And the Pharisees and the scribes grumbled, saying, "This man receives sinners and eats with them."

<sup>3</sup>So he told them this parable: . . .

<sup>11</sup>"There was a man who had two sons. <sup>12</sup>And the younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of property that is coming to me.' And he divided his property between them. <sup>13</sup>Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took a journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in reckless living. <sup>14</sup>And when he had spent everything, a severe famine arose in that country, and he began to be in need. <sup>15</sup>So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed pigs. <sup>16</sup>And he was longing to be fed with the pods that the pigs ate, and no one gave him anything.

<sup>17</sup>But when he came to himself, he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have more than enough bread, but I perish here with hunger! <sup>18</sup>I will arise 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 as one of your hired servants."' <sup>20</sup>And he arose and came to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him. <sup>21</sup>And 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>22</sup>But the father said to his servants, 'Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet. <sup>23</sup>And bring the fattened calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate. <sup>24</sup>For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.' And they began to celebrate.

<sup>25</sup>"Now his older son was in the field, and as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. <sup>26</sup>And he called one of the servants and asked what these things meant. <sup>27</sup>And he said to him, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fattened calf, because he has received him back safe and sound.' <sup>28</sup>But he was angry and refused to go in. His father came out and entreated him, <sup>29</sup>but he answered his father, 'Look, these many years I have served you, and I never disobeyed your command, yet you never gave me a young goat, that I might celebrate with my friends. <sup>30</sup>But when this son of yours came, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fattened calf for him!' <sup>31</sup>And he said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. <sup>32</sup>It was fitting to celebrate and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found.'"



**About the Cover:** Our sin merits the anger and wrath of God. But His strict warning of judgment against sin is meant to lead us to repentance. God wants to show grace and mercy to sinners so that we may believe and receive forgiveness. Christ willingly received the wrath of God for all sin in our place when He died on the cross. He did this so that, like the prodigal son, we may know our heavenly Father's eternal embrace of comfort (see Luke 15:11-32).