

March 10, 2019 ... Lent #1

Prevenient Grace

John 6:44, 12:32, Luke 15:4-6, 17-20

419 I Am Thine, O Lord 419 Sandy Snider, Cathy Wilkins, Joanne Luttrell

641 Fill My Cup, Lord

348 Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling Jill Shirley

VISION: We are a functional family of God, where Jesus is Lord and people grow.

MISSION: Every layperson is called to carry out the Great Commission (Matthew 28:18-20); every layperson is called to be missional.

(¶126 of the 2016 Book of Discipline)

There are two kinds of people in this world: people who need to become disciples and disciples who need to become disciple makers.



Peace be with you.
AS THE FATHER HAS
SENT ME,
— EVEN SO I AM —
SENDING YOU.

John 20:21, ESV

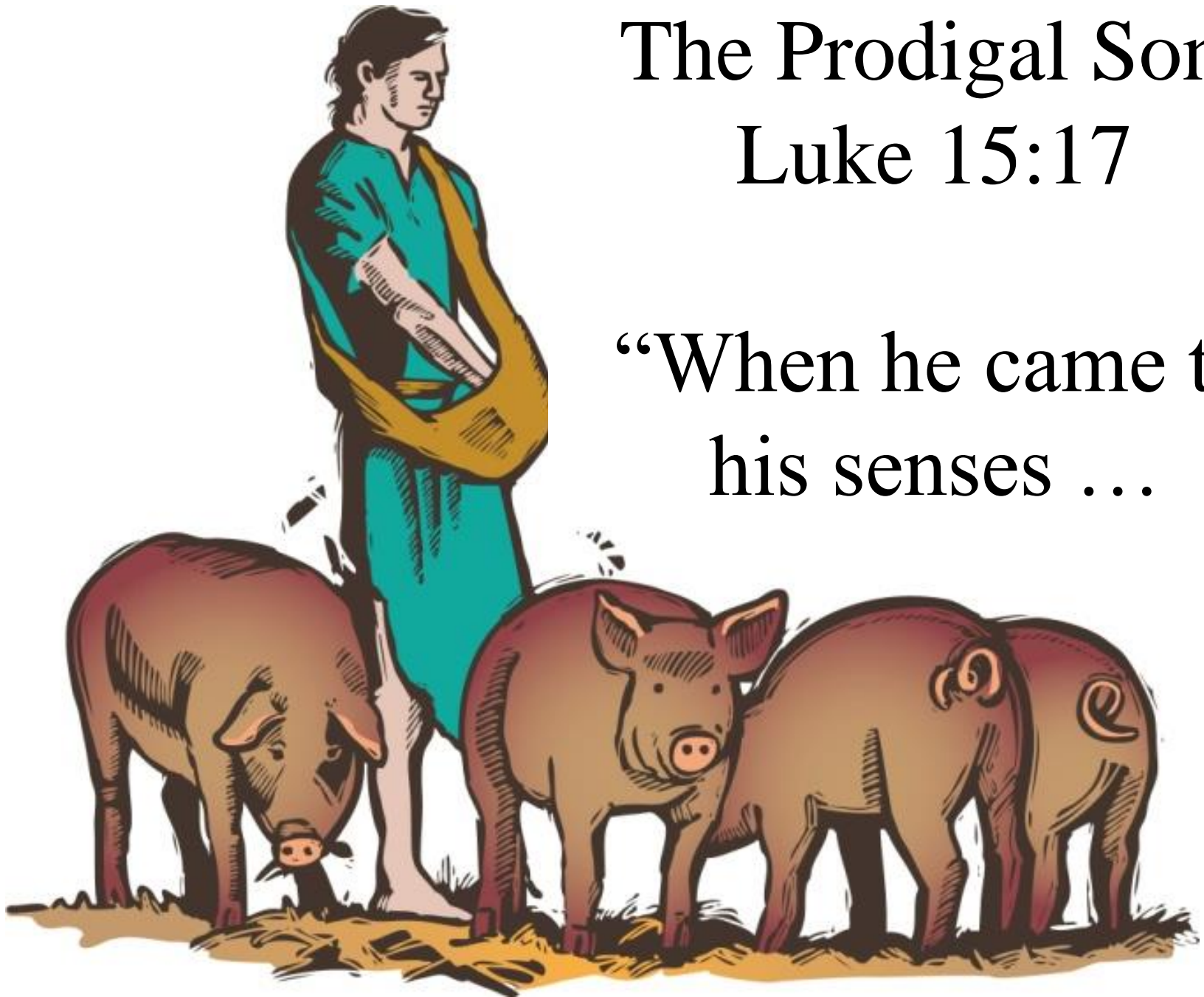
Prevenient Grace:

What's wrong with
this light bulb?



The Prodigal Son: Luke 15:17

“When he came to
his senses ...





Luke 15:17 “When he came to his senses, he said ... 18 *I will set out and go back to my father and say to him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. 19 I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me like one of your hired servants.*’ 20 *So he got up and went to his father.*

We acknowledge
God's prevenient
grace, the divine love
that surrounds all
humanity and precedes
any and all of our
conscious impulses.



Prevenient Grace

This grace prompts
our first wish to please
God, our first glimmer
of understanding
concerning God's
will, and our "first
slight transient
conviction" of having
sinned against God.



Prevenient Grace

God's grace also awakens in us an earnest longing for deliverance from sin and death and moves us toward repentance and faith



Prevenient Grace

We are not made for
the darkness. We are
made for God's power
to flow through us ...



Prevenient Grace

We are drawn to the light.
Jesus is the light
of the world.

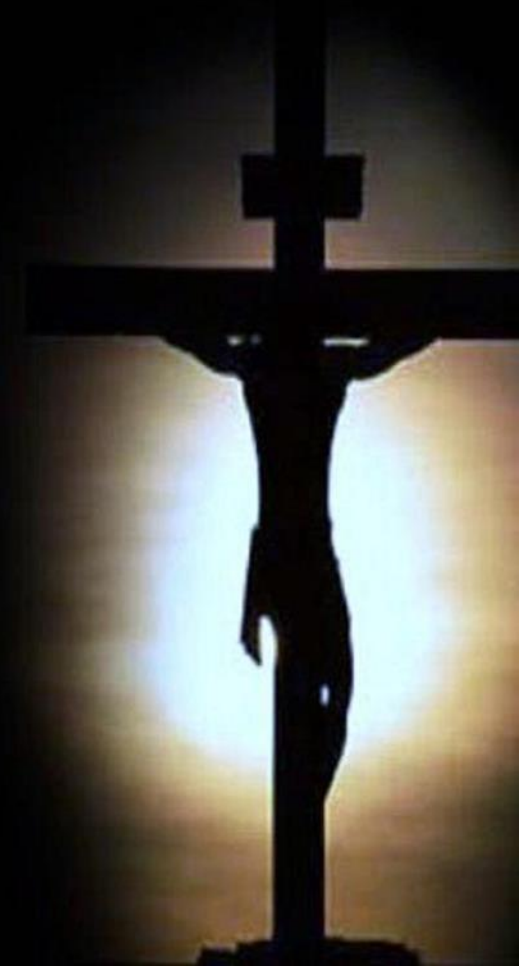


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John 12:32 and I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all men to myself."

33 He said this to show by what death he was to die.

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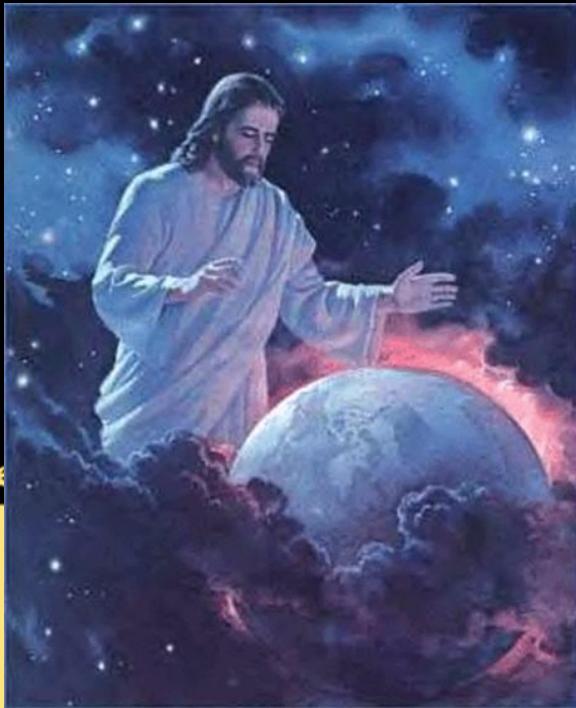


John 6:44: No one
can come to me
unless the Father
who sent me
draws him; and I
will raise him up
at the last day.

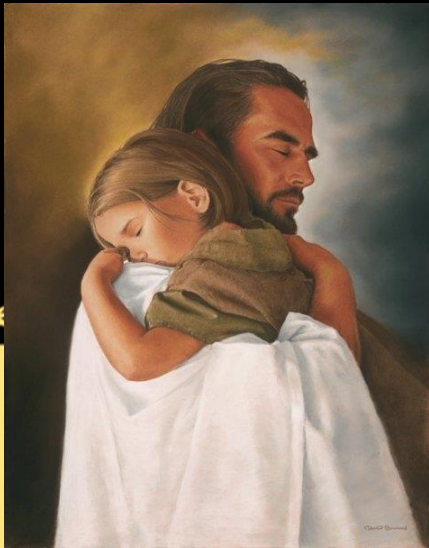
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Luke 15:4 "What man of you, having a hundred sheep, if he has lost one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness, and go after the one which is lost, until he finds it?"



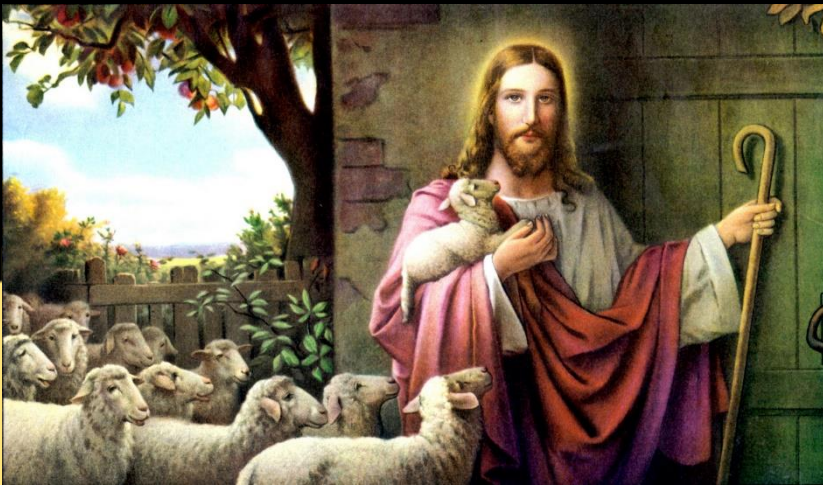
5 And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders, rejoicing. 6 And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and his neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep which was lost.'



Lord Jesus, today I am far less
than the person I want to be
or can be with your help.

Guide me to all that is good ...

Guide me to You.



Prevenient Grace