



Fourth Sunday in  
**Lent**

YEAR C



The Church of Scotland

**WELCOME**



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# The Church of Scotland

*Auditoire de Calvin, March 30 2025*

*Fourth Sunday in Lent*

**Prelude** *O Lamm Gottes, unschuldig*

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750)

**Introit** *How blest, those whose transgressions  
have freely been forgiven (Psalm 32)*

**Welcome**

## **Call to worship**

By grace you have been saved through faith,  
and this is not your own doing;

it is the gift of God. (*Ephesians 2:8*)

**Jesus said: “I am the light of the world.**

**Whoever follows me will never walk in  
darkness but will have the light of life.”**

*(John 8:12)*

Return to the Lord your God,

for God is gracious and merciful,

slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.

*(Joel 2:13)*

**CH4 485** *Dear Lord and Father of mankind*

## **Prayer**

### **Collect**

**God of compassion,**

**slow to anger, and full of mercy,**

**you welcome all who return to you**

**in remorse or regret.**

**You rejoice in those who are content**

**to be at home with you.**

**Seat us at the table of grace,**

**that together we may feast**

**on all that satisfies our hungry hearts,**

**through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and**

**reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,**

**one God, forever and ever. Amen**

**Talk** Shocked! Shocked, I tell you!

**CH4 187** *There’s a wideness in God’s mercy*

**New Testament** *2 Corinthians 5:16-21*

So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new

creation: everything old has passed away;

look, new things have come into being! All this

is from God, who reconciled us to himself

through Christ and has given us the ministry of

reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ: be reconciled to God. For our sake God made the one who knew no sin to be sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

### **Psalm 32:1-8**

1. How happy they the Lord forgives,

Whose sin is put away;

To whom the Lord imputes no guilt,

In whom no guile holds sway!

2. I held my tongue, my bones dried up,

I groaned day in, day out;

Your hand weighed down, my flesh was dry,

As in midsummer drought.

3. Then I acknowledged all my sin,

Confessed it openly;

I said, "I will admit my sin,"

And you, Lord, set me free.

4. The faithful all will make their prayers

To you in time of woe;

The water-floods will not reach them

Although they overflow.

5. You hide me and preserve me, Lord,

In all adversity;

You strengthen me on every side

With shouts of victory.

Christopher L Webber. Tune: *Irish* (CH4 59i)

### **Gospel Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32**

Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to him. And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them."

So he told them this parable: ...

Then Jesus said, "There was a man who had two sons. 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. A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and travelled to a distant region, and there he squandered his wealth in dissolute living. When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that region, and he began to be in

need. 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. He would gladly have filled his stomach with the pods that the pigs were eating, and no one gave him anything. 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! I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, “Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands.”’ 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. 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.’ 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. And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate, for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!’ And they began to celebrate. “Now his elder son was in the field, and as he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. He replied, ‘Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf because he has got him back safe and sound.’ Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. 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. But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your assets with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!’ Then the father said to him, ‘Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. 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.’”

**CH4 198** *For everyone born, a place at the table*

**Sermon** A man had two sons

**Anthem** *God's Glory Fills the Heavens*

Carl P Daw Jr (Psalm 19)

**Offertory**

*Open Now the Gates of Beauty*

Michael Schneider (1909–1995)

**CH4 807** (as the offering is brought forward)

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow*

*praise God, all creatures here below ;*

*praise God above, you heavenly host ;*

*praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

**Prayer of dedication**

**Prayers for the world and its people**

**CH4 775** Sung while seated, as a refrain

*Jesus, remember us, when you come into your kingdom (x2)*

**The Lord's Prayer**

**CH4 519** *Love divine, all loves excelling*

**Blessing & threefold Amen**

**Postlude** *Allegro*

Domenico Zipoli (1688–1726)

*Worship Leader* Páraic Réamonn

*Welcoming elder* Lyndsey Bochaton

*Ushers* Hazel Griffith, Arthur Griffith

*Reader* Freda Craeye

*Organ* Linda Revkin

*Choir* Páraic Réamonn



*Join us upstairs for refreshments  
in the Salle Théodore de Bèze!*

**International Presbytery Bible study, April 8,  
May 6, 20, June 2, 19h30, online**

Details: [internationalpresbytery.org/events](http://internationalpresbytery.org/events)

To join: email [dlloyd@churchofscotland.org.uk](mailto:dlloyd@churchofscotland.org.uk)

**Flower rota** If you would like to donate flowers on a particular date (or dates!), please email Rosemary Hill ([hillrosemary@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:hillrosemary@yahoo.co.uk)) or fill in your name on the sheet in the Salle.

**Partage**

Collection on the first Sunday of each month. A list of suitable items can be found at the back of the church. Crates are available in the Salle for your donations. See [bit.ly/47Ln0sT](http://bit.ly/47Ln0sT)

**May 8-11**, Cursillo weekend, Le Cénacle, Promenade Charles-Martin 17, Geneva 1208. See [bit.ly/3F6URDy](http://bit.ly/3F6URDy) and (to apply) [bit.ly/3Xt5IOI](http://bit.ly/3Xt5IOI)

**June 1**, Annual Congregational Meeting

**November 22** St Andrew's Fair & Cèilidh



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