

Nurture Good News

"For all of you share in God's grace." (Philippians 1:7)



INDEPENDENCE PRESBYTERIAN

THE OLD STONE CHURCH OF INDEPENDENCE

FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

March 30, 2025



C.J. Briggs, Music Director
Nicolette Cindric, Church Secretary

Sue Saunders, Liturgist
Rev. David B. Wigger, Pastor

And they were grumbling, saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them."

~ Luke 15:2

~ *GATHERING TOGETHER* ~

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS (*Luke 15; Philippians 1*)

Get the fatted calf, and let us eat and celebrate
For all of us share in God's grace.

*GATHERING	LET US COME TO WORSHIP GOD	GTG #387
	by I-to Loh	HIAO HOIAN

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

You are invited to the feast of plenty. Let every soul join in the circle!
The bread of life satisfies our hunger and thirst.
Wear whatever you have. You are welcome as you are!
The bread of life loves us and knows our needs.
At this celebration, no one is turned away. There is a place for you!
The bread of life has come to sustain us.
Believing this promise, let us worship together!

*HYMN	COME, BEHOLD! THE FEAST OF HEAVEN	GTG #511
	by John F. Underwood	LLANFAIR

POURING THE BAPTISMAL WATERS

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

God of extravagant feasts and open invitations, we confess our tables are often small and exclusive. When we should stretch our welcome to others, we limit seats to those we find useful, acceptable, or entertaining. We choose a shallow sense of peace rather than the deep peace that comes after hard, healing conversations. You call us to welcome people. Give us good discernment to include those who challenge us and expand our capacity for compassion so we might love our neighbors as you love us. Amen. [*Silent Confession*]

*RESPONSE	CREATE IN ME A CLEAN HEART	GTG #422
	PSALM 51	CREATE IN ME (Capers)

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Receive God's pardon and be at peace. **In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!**

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

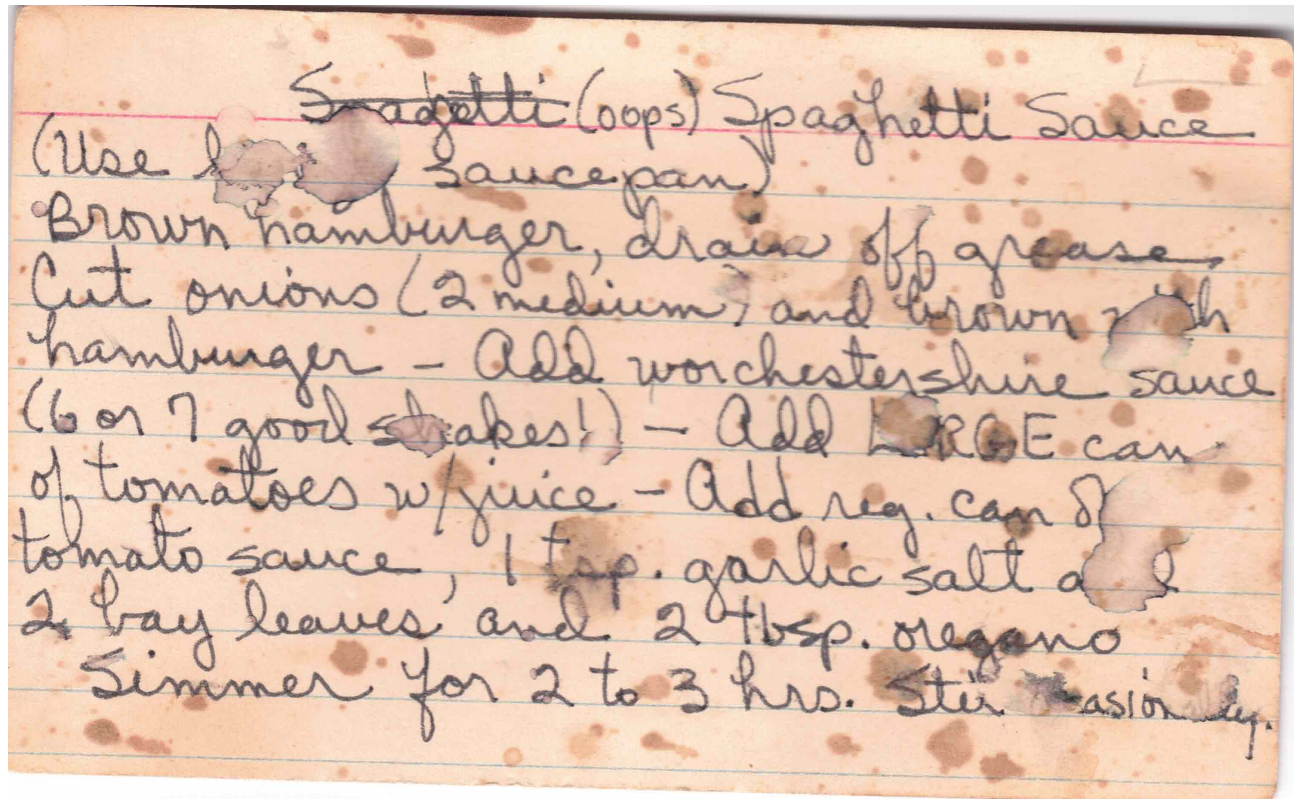
SPREAD THE WORD

OUTREACH TEAM

SACRED RECIPES

SPAGHETTI SAUCE

SHARON CORE



~ SHARING IN THE GOSPEL ~

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

HEBREW BIBLE

JOSHUA 5:9-12

Pew Bible p.188(OT)

HYMN

WHY SHOULD I FEEL DISCOURAGED?

GTG #661

by Civilla Durfee Martin

SPARROW

GOSPEL LESSON

LUKE 15:1-3, 11B-32

Pew Bible p.73(NT)

Hear what the Holy Spirit is telling God's people.

For all of us share in God's grace.

SERMON

MAKING ROOM AT THE TABLE

REV. SHARON CORE

General Presbyter, Presbytery of the Western Reserve

~ ***TENDING THE GOOD NEWS*** ~

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *(from A Brief Statement of Faith)*

We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God.

Jesus proclaimed the reign of God:

**preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives,
teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the
sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts,
forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel.**

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

RESPONSE

**GLORY TO GOD,
WHOSE GOODNESS SHINES ON ME**

**GTG #582
by Paul M. Vasile**

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

~ ***GOING FORTH TO NURTURE*** ~

***HYMN**

**AMAZING GRACE, HOW SWEET THE SOUND
by John Newton**

**GTG #649
AMAZING GRACE**

***BENEDICTION** *(from John 6:58, Philippians 1:7)*

This is the bread that came down from heaven.

For all of us share in God's grace.

POSTLUDE

NEXT SUNDAY: CELEBRATION OF JAKE AND BAPTISM OF NEVAEH

Pieces of today's liturgy are from *Bread of Life Liturgy* (Illustrated Ministry)

6624 Public Square; Independence, Ohio 44131

ipcusa.org ~ (216) 524-6307 ~ office@ipcusa.org