

Oak Grove Church of the Brethren
March 29, 2020

Prelude

What is this place? (#1)

Calling in Hymn

Come and fill our hearts

Call to Worship

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The congregation responds in bold.*

It was while we were yet far off...

Before we had hatched a plan or mapped a route back to your heart. Before we had sent a postcard to warn you of our imminent return.

While we were yet far off you could see our footprints turning in the opposite direction.

You knew that our hearts were entirely captured before we ever recognized a chink in our self-centered armor.

While we were yet far off, you had sent out the invitations and blown up the balloons.

The presents were wrapped and the chairs pushed back to make room for the dancing. As we rounded the corner we could dimly see you, craning your neck and leaping for joy. We thought then that reconciliation might be possible.

While we were yet far off, you popped the cork and added the final touches to the party.

Hymn

Blest are they

1085

Sharing our offerings and our lives

Our Lenten discipline

Response

Jesus, remember me (2x)

247

Song

Great is Thy Faithfulness

Carol Elmore, solo

Hearing from God's Word

Scripture

Luke 15:1-2, 11-32

Message

The foolish father

Pastoral Prayer, with the Lord's prayer

Our Father in heaven, holy is your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Hymn

My life flows on

580

Benediction

*God be with you till we meet again;
'neath his wings protecting hide you,
daily manna still provide you;
God be with you till we meet again.*