The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

[Now] all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to Jesus. And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, “This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.”

So Jesus told them this parable:...

“...There was a man who had two sons. The younger of them said to his father, ‘Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.’ So he divided his property between them.

A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need.

So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his farm to feed his swine.

And he would gladly have filled himself with the carcases of the swine. But no one gave him anything.

Then he came to his senses. And he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired servants have bread enough and to spare, but I perish with hunger! I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, “Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I will be your servant, forever.”’

And he arose and went to his father. But while he was still a great way off, his father saw him and was moved with pity and ran and embraced him and kissed him.

And the son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I will be your servant, forever.’

But his father said to his servants, ‘Quickly bring out the best robe and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand and shoes on his feet.’

And he gave the fatted calf a feast.

But when the older son heard it, he was angry and did not want to go in. So the father said to him, ‘Son, you always with me, and all that is mine is yours. But it was right for us to make merry and be glad, for your brother has come, who is dead and is alive, and was lost and is found.’

And he said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I will be your servant, forever.’ And he said to him, ‘My son, your sins are forgiven you.’ And all his neighbors and the chief of the Pharisees answered him, ‘He has treated his Son recklessly.’

But he said to them, ‘You do not know the spirit of the law. For the Son of man came to save that which was lost.’
i-zens of that coun-try, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. 16 He would gladly have filled him-self with the pods that the pigs were eat-ing; and no one gave him an-y-thing. 17 But when he came to him-self he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired hands have bread e-nough and to spare, but here I am dy-ing of hun-ger! 18 I will get up and go to my fa-ther, and I will say to him, “Fa-ther, I have sinned a-gainst heav-en and be-fore you; 19 I am no lon-ger wor-thy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands.” 20 So he set off and went to his fa-ther. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with com-pas-sion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. 21 Then the son said to him, ‘Fa-ther, I have sinned a-gainst heav-en and be-fore you; I am no longer worthy to be called your
son.’  22 But the father said to his slaves, ‘Quick-ly, bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet.  23 And get the fat-ted calf and kill it, and let us eat and cel-e-brate;  24 for this son of mine was dead and is a-live a-gain; he was lost and is found!’ And they began to cel-e-brate.  25 ‘Now his el-der son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and danc-ing.  26 He called one of the slaves and asked what was go-ing on.  27 He re-plied, ‘Your broth-er has come, and your fa-ther has killed the fat-ted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.’  28 Then he became angry and re-fused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him.  29 But he an-
swered his fa-ther, ‘Lis-ten! For all these years I have been work-ing 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. 30 But when this son of yours came back, who has de-
voured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!’ 31 Then the father said to him, ‘Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. 32 But we had to cele-
brate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost has been found.’”


Prepared by the Rev. William G. Gartig on February 15, 2010 and corrected March 6, 2010