

**Wednesday Lent Worship  
Service of Healing**

## PRELUDE AND LIGHTING OF CANDLES

### WELCOME

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,  
the keeper of the covenant,  
the source of steadfast love,  
our rock and our redeemer.

**Amen.**

God hears us when we cry and draws us close in Jesus Christ.  
Let us return to the one who is full of compassion.

*Silence for reflection.*

Fountain of living water,  
**pour out your mercy over us.**  
**Our sin is heavy, and we long to be free.**  
**Rebuild what we have ruined**  
**and mend what we have torn.**  
**Wash us in your cleansing flood.**  
**Make us alive in the Spirit**  
**to follow in the way of Jesus,**  
**as healers and restorers of the world you so love.**  
**Amen.**

Beloved, God's word never fails.  
The promise rests on grace:  
by the saving love of Jesus Christ,  
the wisdom and power of God,  
your sins are † forgiven, and God remembers them no more.  
Journey in the way of Jesus.

**Amen.**

### HYMN *Blessed Be God, Who Forgives*

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp). The first staff contains the melody for the first line of the hymn: "Bless-ed be God, who for - gives all our sins, who". The second staff contains the melody for the second line: "heals all our ills, who crowns us with mer - cy and love." The music is written in a simple, accessible style with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp.

Text: *Life Passages*, Renewing Worship 4  
Music: Anne Krentz Organ, b. 1960  
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We gather in the name of the triune God,  
our healer, our hope, our only home.

**We come to hear the promises of God,  
to pray for healing and for one another,  
and to be sent into the world  
as wounded healers and bearers of Christ's love.**

Let us pray.  
Healer of our every ill,  
light of each tomorrow,  
give us hope beyond our fears  
and peace beyond our sorrows,  
Through Jesus Christ, our Savior.  
**Amen.**

*Brief silence for reflection.*

WORD

A reading from Luke.

One day, while Jesus was teaching,  
Pharisees and teachers of the law were sitting nearby  
(they had come from every village of Galilee, Judea, and Jerusalem);  
and the power of God was with him to heal.  
Just then some people came,  
carrying a paralyzed man on a bed.

Luke 5:17-18a

We do not have the strength to come to God.  
We are weary, afraid, and heavy laden.  
We are paralyzed and powerless.  
We need faithful friends or family members  
to carry us into the arms of hope.  
Sometimes we are those friends,  
carrying one whom we love into God's presence.

*Refrain*

Heal - er of our ev - 'ry ill, light of each to - mor - row,  
give us peace be - yond our fear, and hope be - yond our sor - row.

They were trying to bring him in and lay him before Jesus;  
but finding no way to bring him in because of the crowd,  
they went up on the roof and let him down with his bed  
through the tiles into the middle of the crowd in front of Jesus.

Luke 5:18b-19

Many barriers seem to separate us from God's love:  
painful memories, deep doubt, shame, or sorrow.  
The church itself can crowd us out,

making no room to receive us,  
pushing us to the margins.  
Even so, faith finds a way to open doors  
and break down walls,  
making clear the path to Jesus.

*Refrain*



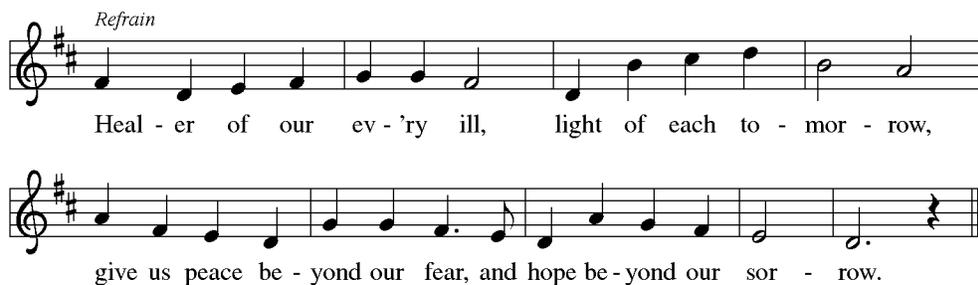
Heal - er of our ev - 'ry ill, light of each to - mor - row,  
give us peace be - yond our fear, and hope be - yond our sor - row.

When Jesus saw their faith, he said,  
“Friend, your sins are forgiven you.”  
Then the scribes and the Pharisees began to question:  
“Who is this who is speaking blasphemies?  
Who can forgive sins but God alone?”

Luke 5:20-21

We often seek healing when forgiveness is our deepest need.  
We need to be released from the burdens of the past;  
the guilt and shame that hold us fast,  
the anger and blame that bind us to pain.  
We need the mending mercy of God,  
the mercy that frees us and brings us wholeness and peace.

*Refrain*



Heal - er of our ev - 'ry ill, light of each to - mor - row,  
give us peace be - yond our fear, and hope be - yond our sor - row.

So that the people would know that Jesus  
had the authority to forgive sins,  
he said to the one that was paralyzed,  
“I say to you, stand up and take your bed and go to your home.”  
Immediately he stood up before them,  
took what he had been lying on,  
and went to his home, glorifying God.  
Amazement seized all of them.

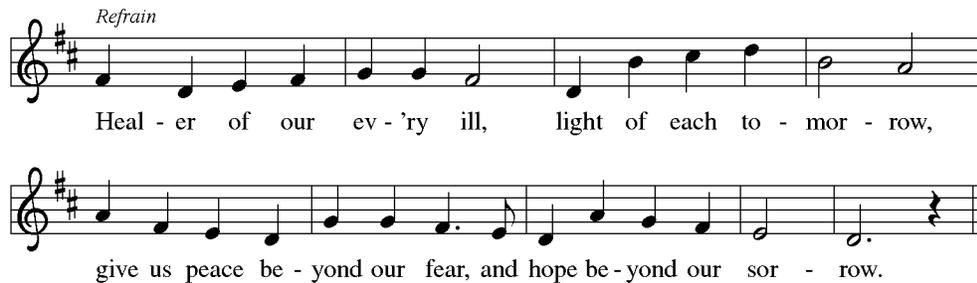
Luke 5:24-25

This is healing:  
We, paralyzed, broken, and afraid,  
are carried by others into the presence of God,  
who welcomes and receives us in Christ Jesus.

This is the miracle:  
Christ forgives us and sets us free,  
raises us to newness of life, and sends us home.

This is the promise:  
Christ, our wounded healer, goes home with us,  
bringing God's healing, forgiveness, and joy.

*Refrain*



Heal - er of our ev - 'ry ill, light of each to - mor - row,  
give us peace be - yond our fear, and hope be - yond our sor - row.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950  
Music: HEALER OF OUR EVERY ILL, Marty Haugen  
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*Brief silence for reflection.*

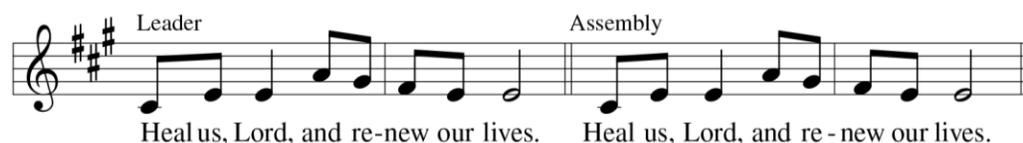
Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name,  
thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those  
who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom,  
and the power, and the glory,  
forever and ever. Amen.**

*Our direction turns toward the cross of Christ and the light emanating from it. We invite you to light a candle in your home. As we gaze upon the cross, we will sing the hymn "Heal Us, Lord" to assist us in our time of reflection and prayer. Following each spoken petition, you are invited to join in singing both parts of the refrain below.*



Leader Assembly  
Heal us, Lord, and re-new our lives. Heal us, Lord, and re - new our lives.

Text: Marty Haugen and Tom Witt  
Music: Marty Haugen, from *Gift of God, O Emmanuel*  
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*A moment of silence is held. Those gathered are invited to name those people, places, and areas in their lives in need of God's care, renewal, and healing.*

#### CLOSING PRAYER

Gathering our many prayers into one, let us pray.

**You are gracious and merciful, O God,**

**slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.**

**You draw near to those who call upon you,**

**crying out from their hearts.**

**Hear our cries, receive our prayers,**

**and fill us with your blessing,**

**until needy no longer,**

**your whole creation sings your praise,**

**through your Son, Jesus Christ.**

**Amen.**

#### BLESSING

God all mighty, God most merciful

bless us, keep us, and grant us peace.

**Amen.**

#### HYMN *Christ, Our Peace (Sing 2 times)*

Christ, our peace, you break down the walls that di - vide us;

Christ, our peace, come, make us one bod - y in you.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950

Music: CHRIST, OUR PEACE, Marty Haugen

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Thank you for worshipping with us!  
May the healing presence of Christ sustain you during your Lenten journey!

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*Christ, Our Peace (SOP 5)*; Text and Music © 2007 GIA Publications, Inc. All rights reserved. Used by permission under OneLicense.net A-726405 streaming license.

Liturgy contained in the section centered on the hymn *Healer of Our Every Ill* from: *Healer of Our Every Ill*; A liturgy of healing prayer based on Luke 5. Located in *Holden Prayer Around the Cross Handbook to Liturgy*; Susan Briehl and Tom Witt; © 2009 Augsburg Fortress, Minneapolis. All rights reserved. Used by permission of Augsburg Fortress under license # SB135727.

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