

SAVIOR  
SERVANT  
FRIEND



HEALER

Mid-Week Lenten Service

March 12<sup>th</sup>, 2025

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Christ Lutheran Church

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# MID-WEEK LENTEN SERVICE—WEEK TWO

Savior, Servant, Friend—Healer

March 12, 2025

## AS WE GATHER

In this service for Week 2 of Lent, we consider the fact that Jesus is our Healer. In word and song, we will remember that Jesus heals us of the sickness of our sin through His death on the cross and makes us well again in our very souls.

*“I have called you friends, for all that I have heard  
from my Father I have made known to you.” ~ John 15:15*

## INVOCATION AND CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: We gather together as friends in the healing presence of the Triune God. We gather together in the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

**All: Amen.**

Pastor: Be gracious to me, O Lord,

**All: For I am languishing; heal me, O Lord, for my bones are troubled. (Psalm 6:2)**

Pastor: O Lord my God, I cried to You for help,

**All: And You have healed me. (Psalm 30:2)**

Pastor: He sent out His word and healed them,

**All: And delivered them from their destruction. (Psalm 107:20)**

Pastor: Praise the Lord! For it is good to sing praises to our God;

**All: For it is pleasant, and a song of praise is fitting. (Psalm 147:1)**

Pastor: He heals the brokenhearted

**All: And binds up their wounds. (Psalm 147:3)**

## OPENING HYMN

“Come to Calvary’s Holy Mountain”

*LSB 435*

**Come to Calv’ry’s holy mountain, sinners, ruined by the fall;  
Here a pure and healing fountain flows for you, for me, for all,  
In a full, perpetual tide, opened when our Savior died.**

**Come in poverty and meanness, come defiled, without, within;  
From infection and uncleanness, from the leprosy of sin,  
Wash your robes and make them white; ye shall walk with God in light.**

**Come in sorrow and contrition, wounded, impotent, and blind;  
Here the guilty, free remission, here the troubled, peace may find.  
Health this fountain will restore; they that drink shall thirst no more.**

**They that drink shall live forever; ’tis a soul-renewing flood.  
God is faithful; God will never break His covenant of blood,  
Signed when our Redeemer died, sealed when He was glorified.**

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Pastor: Be gracious to us, O Lord, hear our confession and heal our iniquity.

**All: My thoughts have veered away from Your paths of righteousness.**

Pastor: My ways have departed from Your ways.

**All: My seeking to gain control has made me a slave to sin.**

Pastor: My desires have brought disease into my heart and life.

**All: My sin makes me waste away from within.**

Pastor: My heart cries out for forgiveness and healing.

**All: Lord, have mercy! Christ, have mercy! Lord, have mercy!**

*(Please silently reflect on the fact that Jesus heals us from the rot and disease of sin.)*

Pastor: Your Healer, Christ Jesus, has good news for you! The healing mercy of Jesus is stronger than the disease of sin. Your Savior, Servant, Friend brings healing to you through the cross and the empty tomb.

Jesus forgives you of all your sins, and He applies a healing balm to your heart, soul and all of your life.

Because of your Friend, Jesus, you are forgiven. Amen.

**All: What a Friend we have in Jesus.**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

### † GOD'S WORD †

#### OLD TESTAMENT READING

Malachi 4:1-3

*(ESV page 955)*

<sup>1</sup>“For behold, the day is coming, burning like an oven, when all the arrogant and all evildoers will be stubble. The day that is coming shall set them ablaze, says the LORD of hosts, so that it will leave them neither root nor branch. <sup>2</sup>But for you who fear my name, the sun of righteousness shall rise with healing in its wings. You shall go out leaping like calves from the stall. <sup>3</sup>And you shall tread down the wicked, for they will be ashes under the soles of your feet, on the day when I act, says the LORD of hosts.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

#### EPISTLE READING

1 Peter 2:23-25

*(ESV page 1200)*

<sup>23</sup>When he was reviled, he did not revile in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but continued entrusting himself to him who judges justly. <sup>24</sup>He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed. <sup>25</sup>For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL READING

Matthew 8:14-17

(ESV page 966)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 8<sup>th</sup> chapter.

**All: Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>14</sup> And when Jesus entered Peter's house, he saw his mother-in-law lying sick with a fever. <sup>15</sup> He touched her hand, and the fever left her, and she rose and began to serve him. <sup>16</sup> That evening they brought to him many who were oppressed by demons, and he cast out the spirits with a word and healed all who were sick. <sup>17</sup> This was to fulfill what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah: "He took our illnesses and bore our diseases."

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**People: Praise to You, O Christ.**

## PREPARATION HYMN

"When Peace like a River"

LSB 763

When peace, like a river, attendeth my way; when sorrows, like sea billows, roll;  
Whatever my lot, Thou hast taught me to say, it is well, it is well with my soul.  
It is well (it is well) with my soul, (with my soul), it is well, it is well with my soul.

Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come, let this blest assurance control,  
That Christ hath regarded my helpless estate and hath shed His own blood for my soul.  
It is well (it is well) with my soul, (with my soul), it is well, it is well with my soul.

He lives—oh, the bliss of this glorious thought; my sin, not in part, but the whole,  
Is nailed to His cross, and I bear it no more. Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!  
It is well (it is well) with my soul, (with my soul), it is well, it is well with my soul.

And, Lord, haste the day when our faith shall be sight, the clouds be rolled back as a scroll,  
The trumpet shall sound and the Lord shall descend; even so it is well with my soul.  
It is well (it is well) with my soul, (with my soul), it is well, it is well with my soul.

## SERMON

"Healer"

Matthew 8:14-17

**OFFERING** *(You are invited to place your financial gifts to the Lord in the offering plates as they are passed through the pews. You can also give your one-time or recurring gifts to the Lord through the "Vanco Mobile" app for your phone or by clicking on the "Give" tab on our website.)*

## OFFERTORY

[Piano Solo]

## PRAYERS

*Each petition concludes with the following response:*

Pastor: Lord,

**All: Hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Jesus, heal us by means of Your body and blood.

**All: Jesus, place Your healing hands on all our hurts. Amen.**

## LORD'S PRAYER

Pastor: Hear us as we pray in Jesus' name and as He has taught us:

**All: 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.**

## BENEDICTION

Pastor: Go now into this world of hurts knowing what a Healer you have in Jesus! May the healing power of Jesus bless you and keep you; may the healing hands of Jesus be placed upon you in faith and give you peace. Amen.

**All: What a Friend we have in Jesus!**

## CLOSING HYMN

“Jesus, Grant That Balm and Healing” (vs. 1-4)

*LSB 421*

**Jesus, grant that balm and healing in Your holy wounds I find,  
Ev'ry hour that I am feeling pains of body and of mind.  
Should some evil thought within tempt my treach'rous heart to sin,  
Show the peril, and from sinning keep me from its first beginning.  
Should some lust or sharp temptation fascinate my sinful mind,  
Draw me to Your cross and passion, and new courage I shall find.  
Or should Satan press me hard, let me then be on my guard,  
Saying, “Christ for me was wounded,” that the tempter flee confounded.  
If the world my heart entices with the broad and easy road,  
With seductive, sinful vices, let me weigh the awful load  
You were willing to endure. Help me flee all thoughts impure  
And to master each temptation, calm in prayer and meditation.  
Ev'ry wound that pains or grieves me by Your wounds, Lord, is made whole;  
When I'm faint, Your cross revives me, granting new life to my soul.  
Yes, Your comfort renders sweet ev'ry bitter cup I meet;  
For Your all-atoning passion has procured my soul's salvation.**

## SERVICE NOTES

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