

BY HIS WOUNDS WE ARE HEALED

Jesus is accused of associating with tax collectors and prostitutes.

WELCOME + INVOCATION + CONFESSION + ABSOLUTION

Trusting in the word of life given in Baptism, we are gathered in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **AMEN.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Kneel, stand or sit as you are able. Silence is kept for reflection

Most merciful God,

I CONFESS THAT I HAVE BROKEN YOUR COMMANDMENTS BY MY OWN THOUGHTS, WORDS AND DEEDS. I AM UNDESERVING OF YOUR LOVE; I DESERVE TO BE HELD ACCOUNTABLE FOR MY SINS. I HAVE NOT LOVED MY BROTHERS AND SISTERS AS I SHOULD, AND I HAVE NOT CARED FOR YOUR CREATION. FOR THE SAKE OF YOUR SON, JESUS CHRIST, HAVE MERCY ON ME, AND BLESS ME WITH THE HEALING POWER OF YOUR LOVE THAT I MAY WALK AGAIN IN YOUR WAYS AND LIVE TO THE GLORY OF YOUR HOLY NAME. AMEN.

God is gracious and merciful, and He desires that we be free of the burden of our sins. Through Jesus Christ, who carried the cross for our sake and for the sake of the whole world, there is healing, hope and life. Our sins are forgiven in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **AMEN.**

ENTRANCE HYMN *Just As I Am, Without one Plea (red book #592)*

CALL TO WORSHIP

Out of His anguish Christ shall see light;

HE SHALL FIND SATISFACTION THROUGH HIS KNOWLEDGE.

The righteous One, My servant, shall make many righteous,

AND HE SHALL BEAR THEIR INIQUITIES.

Christ was wounded for our transgressions,

CRUSHED FOR OUR INIQUITIES;

upon Him was the punishment that made us whole,

AND BY HIS WOUNDS WE ARE HEALED. THANKS BE TO GOD.

AMEN.

OLD TESTAMENT

Exodus 20:14

You shall not commit adultery.

The Word of the Lord. **THANKS BE TO GOD.**

EPISTLE

1 Corinthians 6:9-11

Do you not know that wrongdoers will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived! Fornicators, idolaters, adulterers, male prostitutes, sodomites, thieves, the greedy, drunkards, revilers, robbers, none of these will inherit the kingdom of God. And this is what some of you used to be. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and in the Spirit of our God.

The Word of the Lord. **THANKS BE TO GOD.**

GOSPEL (*Stand, as you are able.*)

Matthew 9:9-13

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 9th Chapter.

GLORY TO YOU, O LORD.

As Jesus was walking along, He saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax booth; and He said to him, "Follow Me." And he got up and followed Him. And as Jesus sat at dinner in the house, many tax collectors and sinners came and were sitting with Him and His disciples. When the Pharisees saw this, they said to His disciples, "Why does your Teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?" But when He heard this, Jesus said, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. Go and learn what this means, 'I desire mercy, not sacrifice.' For I have come to call not the righteous but sinners."

The Gospel of our Lord. **PRAISE TO YOU, O CHRIST.**

HYMN OF THE DAY

Softly And Tenderly (red book #608)

SERMON

The Welcome Table

OFFERING

OFFERTORY HYMN *"Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow" (red book #884)*

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray. Holy and generous host,

PREPARE ME TO BE A BLESSING TO OTHERS WITH EVERY BLESSING THAT YOU HAVE GIVEN ME, THAT ALL PEOPLE MAY KNOW YOUR GRACE, MERCY AND PEACE, THROUGH JESUS CHRIST, NOW AND FOREVER. AMEN.

INTERCESSIONS

Let us pray for the Church, for all in need, and for the whole of God's creation.

Kneel, stand or sit as you are able.

We pray, that throughout these forty days of Lent, You may give Your people hope that it is Jesus, our Lord, who leads the way and takes into His body on the cross the sins of the whole world.

HEAL US, O LORD.

That we come to the truth that all are favored in Your grace and that we are all welcomed in Your presence.

HEAL US, O LORD.

That all who have been excluded in life, those who are in prisons, those who are alone, infirm, unloved, or bullied, that they may all know that Your love is constant and will not abandon them.

HEAL US, O LORD.

That people of differing ages, genders, classes or views may put away all difference and work together for wholeness and healing in the world.

HEAL US, O LORD.

For those who are dying, that they may trust in the banquet with all the saints at the final welcome table in Your kingdom with Christ, our Lord.

HEAL US, O LORD.

Into Your healing hands, wounded for our sake, we commend all for whom we pray.

BY YOUR WOUNDS, WE ARE HEALED. THANKS BE TO GOD. AMEN.

LORD'S PRAYER

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.

BLESSING

May the healing presence of Almighty God, Father, + Son and Holy Spirit, be with us now and always.

AMEN.

CLOSING HYMN *Jesus, Keep Me Near The Cross (red book #335)*

DISMISSAL

Marked with the cross of Christ, go in peace, to love and serve the Lord.

THANKS BE TO GOD!