

**Augustana**  
*where Lutherans and Anglicans worship together*  
February 7, 2021 Service of Word and Prayer for Healing  
Epiphany 5

**Welcome** to worship. ...

**Thanks** just like on a Sunday morning when we worship together there are many who make it possible for us to worship together. Look at the end of the video for all those names.

GREETING

As we begin our time of worship we ask that the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with us.

Opening Responsive Litany

We gather in your presence, God, **in our need, and bringing with us the needs of the world.**

We come to you, for you come to us in Jesus, **and you know by experience what human life is like.**

We come with our faith and with our doubts; **we come with our hopes and with our fears.**

We come as we are because you have invited us; **and you have promised never to turn us away.**

GATHERING SONG # 612 verses 1-3

Refrain:

Healer of our every ill, light of each tomorrow,  
give us peace beyond our fear,  
and hope beyond our sorrow.

You who know our fears and sadness,  
grace us with your peace and gladness,  
Spirit of all comfort, fill our hearts. (refrain)

In the pain and joy beholding  
how your grace is still unfolding,  
give us all your vision, God of love. (refrain)

Give us strength to love each other,  
Ev'ry sister, ev'ry brother,  
Spirit of compassion, fill each heart. (refrain)

## CHILDREN'S TIME

When I was very young my Great Aunt May lived with us. She was my caregiver during the day while my mother worked away from home. Aunt May had a rule: no blood, no bandaid. One day I had a desperate need for a bandaid, but no blood. So I substituted some strawberry jam and held out my finger for the bandaid. I can't remember if she feel for it and I can't remember why I needed that Bandaid. Did I have some invisible hurt that needed to be taken care of? Not all hurts or wounds show some are more invisible.

And if it is hard to explain some wounds it is even harder to explain just what healing is. This is a service of prayer for healing, but what does healing mean? Does it mean putting a bandaid on a cut? Or does it mean something more?

- I put that question out to some of the kids in our congregation ... and it was ... is ... a hard question to answer. How do we describe healing? What does it mean?
- One response touched my heart: "My little boy isn't at a stage to communicate very well yet but I do know that mommy kissing his owies makes him feel better and he falls into our arms when he doesn't feel good. His loved ones make him feel better when he doesn't feel good."
- We may not always know what is hurting us. We may not always know what healing we need. But we do know that when God holds us close we feel better.

PRAYER OF THE DAY – Dear God, watch over your all your children – no matter what age they are. And for those who need extra care, hold them close. In Jesus name we pray. Amen.

READING: Psalm 147

Praise the LORD!

How good it is to sing praises to our God;

for he is gracious, and a song of praise is fitting.

The LORD builds up Jerusalem;

he gathers the outcasts of Israel.

He heals the broken-hearted,

and binds up their wounds.

He determines the number of the stars;

he gives to all of them their names.

Great is our Lord, and abundant in power;

his understanding is beyond measure.

The LORD lifts up the downtrodden;

he casts the wicked to the ground.

Sing to the LORD with thanksgiving;  
 make melody to our God on the lyre.  
 He covers the heavens with clouds,  
 prepares rain for the earth,  
 makes grass grow on the hills.  
 He gives to the animals their food,  
 and to the young ravens when they cry.  
 His delight is not in the strength of the horse,  
 nor his pleasure in the speed of a runner;  
 but the LORD takes pleasure in those who fear him,  
 in those who hope in his steadfast love.

*Word of God, Word of life* **Thanks be to God**

#### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia. Lord to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia. Alleluia.

#### GOSPEL

The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark 1:29-39

#### **Glory to you O Lord**

As soon as they left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. Now Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told him about her at once. He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them.

That evening, at sunset, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed with demons. And the whole city was gathered around the door. And he cured many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons; and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him.

In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. And Simon and his companions hunted for him. When they found him, they said to him, 'Everyone is searching for you.' He answered, 'Let us go on to the neighbouring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also; for that is what I came out to do.' And he went throughout Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.

The Gospel of our Lord; **Praise to you, O Christ**

MEDITATION – Pastor Lynda Wowk

Musical interlude: “Change my heart O God”

### **PRAYER FOR OURSELVES**

**Worship Assistant:** Loving God, you gather us together even though we are separated physically. We come seeking your healing, strength and love. You know us God: you understand who we are, you know what troubles and puzzles us, what makes us smile and what makes us sad. You listen to our questions and our prayers.

You know the people we love, God, and the people we struggle with. Sometimes we hurt others; sometimes we hurt ourselves.

So, we bring our own hurt asking for your healing; and we bring the hurt we have caused others asking for forgiveness.

**Pastor Marilyn:** Listen to these words of Jesus, words that we can trust:

“Don’t be afraid.”

“I love you.”

“Your sins are forgiven.”

“I will be with you always.”

Write these words in our hearts, loving God, let them take root in our living. **Amen.**

HYMN Take, oh, take me as I am # 814

Take, oh take me as I am; summon out what I shall be;

set your seal upon my heart and live in me. (X 2)

### **PRAYER FOR OTHERS**

**Pastor Marilyn:** People came to Jesus when they were in trouble or pain. Friends carried them, strangers told you about them; some invited you into their homes or met you walking on the road. You listened to them, you prayed with them and you brought hope and healing into their lives. So today we bring before you those who are in need of your healing care.

**Worship Assistant:** Let us join hearts and voices together in prayer. Each prayer will end with the phrase “Lord in your mercy.” You can make the prayer your own by responding “Hear our prayer.”

*(a brief silence)*

From deep within our being we call upon you, God, for through you all can be made whole.  
Hear us as we raise to heaven our concerns for the people of earth.

We pray for those who cry out in physical pain or who suffer silently and who long for the healing that human hands alone cannot offer especially Elsie, Audrey, Orville and Carol, Bruce, Gloria, Anna Marie, Marcus, Brodie, Karin, Anthony, Robert, Curtis, Linda, Marci, Gayle, Evelyn, Lisa, Danielle, Deanna, Ron, Marlene, Mildred, Gordon, and all those we name aloud or in the silence of our hearts .....*(a pause to offer time to name others)*.

May God's hope and healing surround them;

**Lord in your mercy; hear our prayer**

We pray for those who suffer mental anguish, who worry, feel anxiety, fear the future, who at night cry, "I wish to God it were morning," and in the morning cry, "I wish to God it were night."

**Lord in your mercy; hear our prayer**

We pray for those who mourn who grieve the loss of love or of a loved one, for those who know within themselves, or see in others a loss of ability or agility ... a loss of choice or independence ... or a dimming of the light.

**Lord in your mercy; hear our prayer**

We pray for those who are near death or fear death, and for those who have made the last journey from life to greater life.

**Lord in your mercy; hear our prayer**

We pray for the healing of creation. That air, earth, water and creatures may live in harmony.

**Lord in your mercy; hear our prayer**

And we pray for communities in which people deal with disaster or terror, hunger or poverty, not knowing how or when their misery will end.

**Lord in your mercy; hear our prayer**

We remember those who are victimized because of their race, background or history, because of their gender or sexuality, because they are different; and for all who are abused, abandoned or degraded.

**Lord in your mercy; hear our prayer**

And remembering others in our minds whose deepest needs may be known to God alone, we commend them to the affirming and restoring grace of God.

**Lord in your mercy; hear our prayer**

Loving Jesus, your hands are strong to hold and heal, to wipe away tears and protect in danger. So hear our prayers. Protect all those who care for our safety and bless all those who continue your holy work of healing: in clinics, hospitals, hospices, in counselling rooms, and around kitchen tables. For those who are working to immunize the world from covid 19. We ask these things for the good of your world and in your strong name. AMEN.

**LORD'S PRAYER**

Knowing how God loves us as a Mother and a Father we pray in the words Jesus taught us:

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,  
     your kingdom come, your will be done,  
     on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

**BLESSING AND DISMISSAL**

God the Creator strengthen you

Jesus the beloved fill you

And the Holy Spirit, the comforter, keep you in peace. **AMEN**

God in peace. Be the light of Christ.

**THANKS BE TO GOD**

Choir Anthem: This Little Light of Mine

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**THANKS**

Guest Preacher: Pastor Lynda Wowk

Worship Assistant: Greg Fowlie-Neufeld

Musicians: Deborah Buck, Augustana St. Timothy Choir

Technicians: Bryan Tastad & Greg Fowlie-Neufeld

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