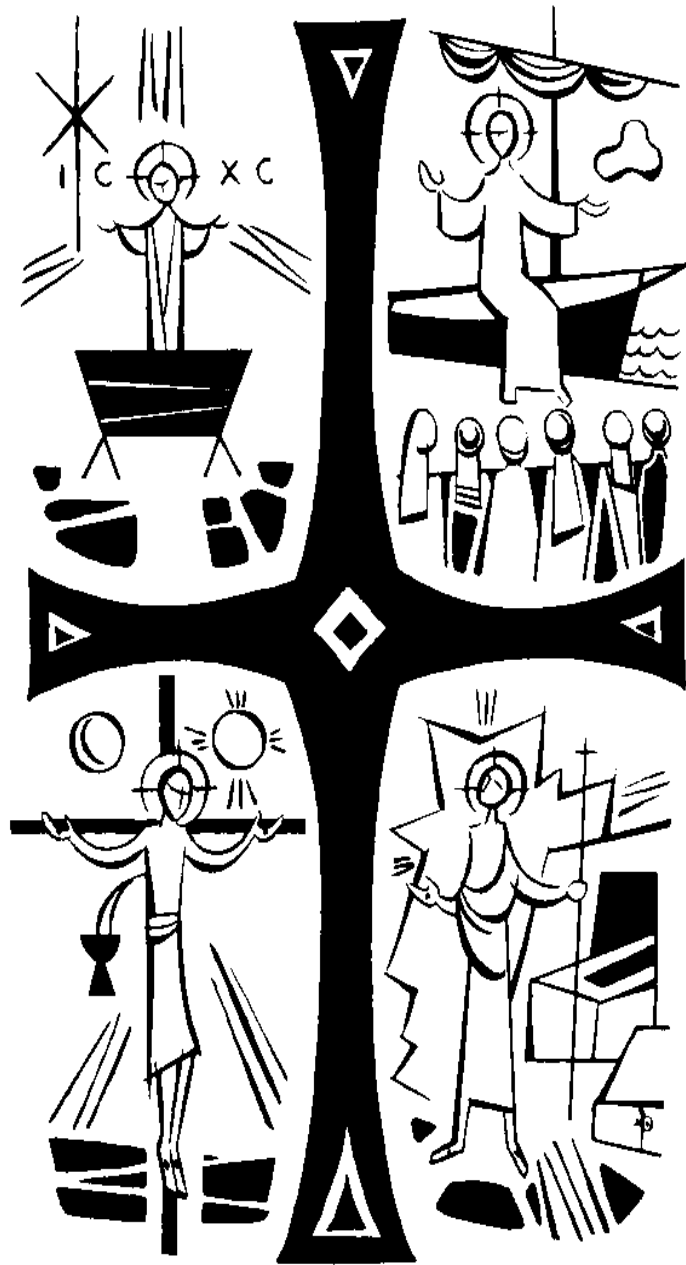


A WORSHIP LITURGY FOR HEALING

Thursday – October 23, 2008



WELCOME -We welcome all who enter here, both those familiar with this particular Christian community and those who are worshipping here for the first time.

BACKGROUND - The liturgy of healing has been guided by the Worship Books used by the ELCA: Lutheran Book of Worship (LBW-green book), With One Voice (WOV-blue book) and Evangelical Lutheran Worship. Some liturgical usages within the service come from the practices of prayer and sung prayer as practiced in the community of prayer in TAIZE, France.

The TAIZE community is organized around the belief that there are many ways of praying-as adoration, confession, thanksgiving and supplication-through song, word and silence; approaching God in unity or individually. Sung prayer in that place is offered as a beginning; leading and allowing lives to become communication with God; a prayer without ceasing. May our worship in this place join our lives to theirs in the prayers without ceasing

Worship tonight includes both the familiar and unfamiliar. This service is a service of healing and all are part of the worshipping community; The leadership's role is to be a guide through the service; leading by example as the need of the community may require and/or as noted in the worship liturgy.

Before the prayer begins liturgical directions will be clarified. Some guidance and information is also provided within the liturgy.

Symbols

☐= Pastor

☐= Leader

People = People

We invite all who gather for time of sharing after the prayers. We will gather in the Fellowship Room downstairs to allow those who wish to remain in the sanctuary a place of peace and prayer.

WE GATHER AROUND THE CROSS IN SILENCE.

GREETINGS AND LITURGICAL GUIDANCE

PREFACE

☐ We gather in the name of God, the Father, + Son and Holy Spirit.

People: AMEN

BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS (Green Hymnal/LBW) pg 56

GATHERING LITANY

☐ Give thanks to the Lord for He is good,

People: and his mercy endures forever.

Ⓛ they cried to the Lord in their trouble,
People: and he delivered them from their distress.

Ⓛ He sent forth His Word and Healed them,
People: and saved them from the grave.

Ⓛ The Lord is righteous in all his ways,
People: and loving in all his works.

Ⓛ The Lord upholds all who fall,
People: He lifts up all those who are bowed down.

Ⓛ The Lord sustains them on their sickbed,
People: and ministers to them in their illness.

Ⓛ The Lord is my strength and my song,
People: and he has become my salvation.

Ⓛ Give thanks to the Lord for He is good,
People: and His mercy endures forever.

GATHERING SONG (*Kumbaya*)

Come by Here, My Lord, Come by Here
Come by Here, My Lord, Come by Here
Come by Here, My Lord, Come by Here
O Lord, Come by Here

Verse 2 Someone's crying Lord, Come by Here
Verse 3 Someone's suffering Lord, Come by Here
Verse 4 Someone's praying Lord, Come by Here

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Holy God, Daily your mercy surprises us with everlasting forgiveness, Strengthen our hope in you and grant that all the peoples of the earth may find healing in you, through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. AMEN

THE WORD

SUNG PREFACE TO READINGS - instrument first time/ People 2 x's

In the Lord I'll be ever thankful,
In the Lord I will rejoice!
Look to God, do not be afraid;
Lift up your voices, the Lord is near.
Lift up your voices, The Lord is near.

A NOTE ON READING SCRIPTURE -

Reading Scripture is a way of going to the "inexhaustible wellspring by which God gives himself to thirsting human beings" - Origen, 3rd Century Christian. The Bible is a "letter from God to creatures" that enable them "to discover God's heart in God's words" - Gregory the Great, 6th Century Christian.

THE SCRIPTURE READINGS

Isaiah 43:8-13/Psalm 124/2 Timothy 4:5-11/ Gospel Luke 1:1-4, 24:44-53

MEDITATION (words of guidance from the Taize community)

Upon completion of the reading an extended period of silence for contemplation will be observed. Although God never stops trying to communicate with us, this is never in order to impose. The voice of God is often heard only in a whisper, in a breath of silence. Remaining in silence in God's presence, open to the Holy Spirit, is prayer. If with a childlike trust we let Christ pray within us, then one day we shall discover that the depths of our being is inhabited by God's presence.

SUNG RESPONSE TO READING AND MEDITATION - People 2 X's

In the Lord I'll be ever thankful,
In the Lord I will rejoice!
Look to God, do not be afraid;
Lift up your voices, the Lord is near,
Lift up your voices, the Lord is near.

APOSTLE'S CREED (Green Hymnal/LBW) pg 65

SUNG PREFACE TO PRAYERS

"O LORD HEAR MY PRAYER" (Blue Hymnal/WOV) #772

O, Lord, hear my prayer, O, Lord, hear my prayer, When I call answer me.
O, Lord, hear my prayer, O, Lord, hear my prayer, Come and listen to me.

PRAYERS FOR HEALING

- ☞ Almighty God, your Son, Jesus Christ healed many as a sign that your reign has come near. As his disciples we are called to continue his ministry of healing and reconciliation with prayer, the laying on of hands and anointing. Now in prayer we entrust to you, in the name of Christ, all those who are in need of healing and reconciliation.
- ☞ God of the Nations, we ask for the healing of all strife in the world between nations, communities and individuals that all peoples may walk in your ways of righteousness and live in your peace. In your great mercy....

People: Hear us, O God

- ☞ Strong and abiding God, give comfort to those who suffer, grant relief, grant refreshment; in your great mercy

People: Hear us, O God

- ☞ Heavenly Father, have mercy on all your children who live in mental distress. Restore them to strength of mind and cheerfulness of spirit; in your great mercy,

People: Hear us, O God

- ☞ Merciful God, you do not willingly afflict or grieve your children, Look with pity on the sorrows of your children. Remember your children with mercy, strengthen them with patience and comfort them with memories of your goodness; in your great mercy,

People: Hear us, O God

- ☞ God of Power, Grant that all those who suffer illness feel the help of your power that sick-

ness may turn to health and sorrow into joy; in your great mercy,

People: Hear us, O God

℣ Patient God, look with compassion upon all who through addition have lost their health and freedom. Remove their fears and strengthen their recovery. For those who care for them grant understanding and persevering love; in your great mercy,

People: Hear us, O God

℣ Ageless God, for those increasing in years and infirmities we ask for homes of dignity and peace, helpers and a willingness to accept help. Increase their faith and assurance of your love; in your great mercy,

People: Hear us, O God

℣ God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, Father of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, we pray for families. Grant that all in families will come to truly be brothers and sisters with Jesus Christ, following his example of truth and love. May our families become safe harbors. May the love of God and love for one another guide their lives; in your great mercy,

People: Hear us, O God.

℣ Eternal God, as we have gathered in this time and place, we remember all those who are in need of your healing touch. We offer those names and petitions both with our lips and with the sighs of hearts that are too deep for words. We remember especially...; in your great mercy,

People: Hear us, O God.

℣ God of Heaven and Earth, we remember before you all our dearly departed. Keep us in union with them through faith and love toward you, that in the fullness of your time we may enter into your kingdom where all tears will be wiped away and all sorrow will turn to joy; in your great mercy,

People: Hear us, O God.

℣ Generous God, We offer our thanks and praise to the God who listens when we call out. Grant us grace to trust your mercy for all for whom we pray.

People: AMEN

LAYING ON OF HANDS and ANOINTING FOR HEALING

℟/℣: In the name of our Savior Jesus Christ, be strengthened and filled with God's grace, that you may know the healing power of the Spirit.

℟ AMEN

You are invited to come forward to pray at the foot of the cross. If you also wish to be anointed please kneel or stand at the chancel rail on either side of the cross.

SONGS FOR HEALING

Song I—Come and Fill (A Song from Taize)

℣ Come and fill our hearts with your peace, You alone, O Lord are Holy.
Come and fill our heart with your peace, Alleluia.

**People 4 x's: Come and fill our hearts with your peace.
You alone, O Lord are Holy.
Come and fill our heart with your peace, Alleluia.**

Song II—Jesus Remember Me (Blue Hymnal/WOV) #740

(Instrument Introduction) People 4 x's

Jesus remember me, when you come into your kingdom.

Jesus remember me, when you come into your kingdom.

Song III—Dona Nobis Pacem (Blue Hymnal/WOV) #774

CLOSING OF THE LITURGY OF HEALING

(After all have returned to their seats, the People stand as they are able)

- ☐ Let us pray,
Living God through the laying on of hands and anointing, grant comfort in suffering to all who are in need of healing: when they are afraid, give them courage; when afflicted, give them patience; when dejected, give them hope; and when alone, assure them of the support of your holy people. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

People: AMEN

BLESSING

- ☐ Almighty God, who is a strong tower to all, to whom all things in heaven and on earth bow and obey, be now and evermore your sure defense and help you to know that the name given to us for health and salvation is the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

People: AMEN

SHARING OF THE PEACE

- ☐ The peace of Christ be with you always

People: And also with you.

At this time you may share the Peace with one another.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY PRAYER

(Green Hymnal/LBW) pg 67

THE MEAL

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

(Green Hymnal/LBW) pg 68

THE LORD'S PRAYER

(Green Hymnal/LBW) pg 71

COMMUNION

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

(Green Hymnal/LBW) pg 74

BLESSINGS

- ☐ Praise to you, Almighty God and Father. You sent your Son to live among us and to bring us your salvation

People: Blessed be God.

- ☐ Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, incomparable Son of the Father. You humbled yourself to share in our humanity and you came to heal all our illnesses.

People: Blessed be God.

☞ Praise to you Holy Spirit, our defender and consoler. You heal our sickness with your mighty and life-giving power.

People: Blessed be God.

☞ Holy and blessed Trinity sustain your servants with your presence; drive away the sickness of body and spirit and give a victory of life and peace which will enable them to serve you now and evermore.

People: AMEN

☞ May the Lord of Salvation, Jesus Christ, guide us all our days, until we come into the joys of Your eternal kingdom.

People: AMEN

BENEDICTION

☞ Almighty God, Father, + Son and Holy Spirit bless us now and forever.

People: AMEN

CLOSING HYMN **“Precious Lord Take My Hand”** (Blue Hymnal/WOV) #731

POSTLUDE

You are invited to remain and continue your prayers and meditation as long as needed. As you leave the sanctuary, we ask consideration for those who are continuing to pray and meditate.

