

**April 12, 2017  
Holy Wednesday  
Healing Service  
7:00 PM**



 **First Lutheran Church**  
**BOTHELL**

# FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

## *STATEMENT OF WELCOME*

We, the community of First Lutheran Church of Bothell, proclaim the message that the grace of our Lord is infinitely inclusive and that everyone is welcome. We believe that Christ calls us to reconciliation and wholeness in a world of alienation and brokenness.

As a Reconciling in Christ congregation and as disciples of Christ seeking justice and reconciliation among all peoples, we at First Lutheran Church welcome all into the fullness of God's love. **We welcome everyone, without exception and regardless of sex, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity, physical and mental ability, age, or station in life.** We recognize that each person is a unique creation of God, and through grace, a child of God.

All are welcome at First Lutheran.

All are welcome to worship, to hear the Good News, to receive the sacraments, and to share in fellowship and service. As members of First Lutheran Church, we pledge ourselves and our congregation to exercise our faith in Christ, treasuring one another's similarities while embracing our God-given differences. We pledge that we will strive to live as a reconciling people, in our life together and in our outreach to the world.

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# March 23, 2016

## Healing Service

### 7:00 pm

#### NOTES FOR WORSHIP

- + There will be moments of silence during this service.
- + At the time of laying on of hands and candle lighting, feel free to participate however you feel comfortable. There are no expectations of you other than your presence.
- + The entire service is printed in this bulletin.
- + Hearing enhancement receivers, large print bulletins are available. Feel free to ask an usher for assistance.
- + Public Wi-Fi password: MartyLuther.
- + If you would like to have a digital copy of the bulletin, go to our website and download the PDF. [www.flcbothell.org](http://www.flcbothell.org)

#### PRELUDE

#### WELCOME

#### GREETING

May grace and peace be yours in abundance in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord. (2 PETER 1:2)

**And to you.**

We have come to lift up our brothers and sisters before the Lord that they might receive healing. Let those who seek God's healing open their hearts to the Spirit of the Lord.

Bless the Lord, O my soul!

**And all that is within me, bless God's holy name!**

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all God's benefits.

**The Lord forgives all our iniquity, and heals all our diseases.**

The Lord redeems our lives from the pit, and crowns us with steadfast love and mercy.

**God satisfies us with good as long as we live so that our youth is renewed like the eagle's.**

## GATHERING HYMN: *O Christ, the Healer, We Have Come* (ELW 610)



- 1 O Christ, the heal - er, we have come to pray for health, to plead for friends.
- 2 From ev - 'ry ail - ment flesh en - dures our bod - ies clam - or to be freed;
- 3 In con - flicts that de - stroy our health we rec - og - nize the world's dis - ease;
- 4 Grant that we all, made one in faith, in your com - mu - ni - ty may find



How can we fail to be re - stored when reached by love that nev - er ends?  
yet in our hearts we would con - fess that whole - ness is our deep - est need.  
our com - mon life de - clares our ills. Is there no cure, O Christ, for these?  
the whole - ness that, en - rich - ing us, shall reach the whole of hu - man - kind.

### INTRODUCTION

Our Lord Jesus healed many as a sign that the reign of God has come near and sent the disciples to continue this work of healing—with prayer, the laying on of hands, and anointing. In the name of Christ, the great healer and reconciler of the world, we now entrust to God all who are in need of healing.

### OPENING PRAYER

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

God, our source of all healing, we come before you this night to offer our sorrows, our pains, our brokenness, our sins, our depression, and our failing spirit to you. We trust in your unfailing grace and love for us, for you have shown us, through your son Jesus Christ, the length you will go to save your people. With hope we pray, Amen.

### HEARING THE WORD

#### FIRST READING: *Ecclesiastes 3:1-15*

For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven:  
a time to be born, and a time to die;  
a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted;  
a time to kill, and a time to heal;  
a time to break down, and a time to build up;  
a time to weep, and a time to laugh;

a time to mourn, and a time to dance;  
a time to throw away stones, and a time to gather stones together;  
a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing;  
a time to seek, and a time to lose;  
a time to keep, and a time to throw away;  
a time to tear, and a time to sew;  
a time to keep silence, and a time to speak;  
a time to love, and a time to hate;  
a time for war, and a time for peace.

What gain have the workers from their toil? I have seen the business that God has given to everyone to be busy with. He has made everything suitable for its time; moreover he has put a sense of past and future into their minds, yet they cannot find out what God has done from the beginning to the end. I know that there is nothing better for them than to be happy and enjoy themselves as long as they live; moreover, it is God's gift that all should eat and drink and take pleasure in all their toil. I know that whatever God does endures forever; nothing can be added to it, nor anything taken from it; God has done this, so that all should stand in awe before him. That which is, already has been; that which is to be, already is; and God seeks out what has gone by.

*(Silence)*

## **SECOND READING: *Psalms 42***

As a deer longs for flowing streams, so my soul longs for you, O God.

My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When shall I come and behold the face of God?

My tears have been my food day and night, while people say to me continually, "Where is your God?"

These things I remember, as I pour out my soul: how I went with the throng, and led them in procession to the house of God, with glad shouts and songs of thanksgiving, a multitude keeping festival.

Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you disquieted within me?

Hope in God; for I shall again praise him, my help and my God. My soul is cast down within me; therefore I remember you from the land of Jordan and of Hermon, from Mount Mizar.

Deep calls to deep at the thunder of your cataracts; all your waves and your billows have gone over me.

By day the LORD commands his steadfast love, and at night his song is with me, a prayer to the God of my life.

I say to God, my rock, "Why have you forgotten me? Why must I walk about mournfully because the enemy oppresses me?"

As with a deadly wound in my body, my adversaries taunt me, while they say to me continually, "Where is your God?"

Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you disquieted within me? Hope in God; for I shall again praise him, my help and my God.

*(Silence)*

### **THIRD READING: *Romans 8:22-27***

We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience. Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

*(Silence)*

### **FOURTH READING: *Matthew 11:25-30***

At that time Jesus said, "I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him. "Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

*(Silence)*

### **MEDITATION**

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Let us pray.

Loving God, our source and our final home, we give you thanks for the gifts of life on earth, for our human bodies and all you have created.

In your great mercy,

**hear us, O God.**

Merciful God, by the wounds of your Son we are healed. Bring your saving health to all people. We name before you those in our congregational family who are struggling with cancer: Paul Aldrich, Carol Angello, Michele Berger, Danna, Neal Beachinor, Owen Carter, Lynn Crutcher, Joyce Daily, Janice Davidson, Pam Davis, Patricia Dwonch, Mason Gordon, Jan Gregersen, Cami Grillo, Phyllis Hoefer, Tao Hong, Bernie Jenkins, Lee Larson, Marcella, Tom McMaster, Mark Nesse, Bruce Niermeyer, Marvin Richter, Audrey Sheffler, Heather Smith, Sylvia Stevens, Dan Thomson, Roger Tuck, Kip Van Alstine, Joanne Wejak and Michael Wilson. In your great mercy,

**hear us, O God.**

Holy God, your Spirit came upon us in the waters of baptism and brought us into the communion of saints. Renew in us the grace of baptism, by which we share in Christ's death and resurrection. In your great mercy,

**hear us, O God.**

Mighty God, your Son Jesus brought healing and wholeness to all. Bring your healing presence now to all who are sick or in pain. We remember those in our congregational family who struggle with ongoing illness: Jay Arndtson, Margie Benson, Isabel de Jesus Congdon, Jacquie & Dick Craft, Cathy Edwards, Sherri Gordon, Marge Gonyea, Jeff, Keith Hood, Buck Kelly, Mary Lou, Melissa, Bill O'Neill, John Peterson, Shirley Peterson, Michael Preston, Sarah, Karishma Skjonsby, Gordon Tibbetts, Heidi Van Doren, Jeff Ward, and Phyllis Watters. In your great mercy,

**hear us, O God.**

Compassionate God, the strength of those who suffer, bring hope and peace to all who are in mental, physical, or spiritual distress. We remember those who are homebound and cut off from their family and friends: Perdy Carlson, Vivian Carlton, Claire, Phyllis Enger, Ardyce Johnson, Carol Nelson, Erik Olson, Arlene O'Neill, Lillian & Lawrence Romaniuk, Joyce Sullivan and Fran Tazuma. In your great mercy,

**hear us, O God.**

Almighty God, source of human knowledge, give skill, wisdom, and compassion to all who provide medical care. In your great mercy,

**hear us, O God.**

Loving God, our creator and redeemer, give gentleness and courage to family members, friends, and caregivers of those who suffer. In your great mercy,

**hear us, O God.**

God of great and abundant mercy, with your presence sustain all for whom we pray. Drive away their suffering, give them firm hope, and strengthen their trust in you; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

### **LAYING ON OF HANDS/CANDLELIGHTING**

Sisters and brothers, I invite you to come and receive a sign of healing and wholeness or to light a candle in the name of the triune God.

### **MEDITATION SONGS:**

*Healer of Our Every Ill (ELW 612)*

*There is a Balm in Gilead (ELW 614)*

### **PRAYER AFTER ANNOINTING**

Almighty God, we pray that our brothers and sisters may be comforted in their suffering and made whole.

When they are afraid, give them courage;  
when they feel weak, grant them your strength;  
when they are afflicted, afford them patience;  
when they are lost, offer them hope;  
when they are alone, move us to their side;  
when death comes, open your arms to receive them.

In the name of Jesus Christ we pray.

**Amen.**

### **BLESSING**

The God of all consolation bless you in every way, grant you hope all the days of your life, restore you to health and grant you salvation, fill your heart with peace, and lead you to eternal life. Almighty God bless you, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

### **SILENT DISMISSAL**

*We leave in silence. You may remain as long as you like.*