

Wednesday of Holy Week
Healing Service
April 8, 2020
7:00 pm

WELCOME

INTRODUCTION

Jesus filled his ministry with healing and lifting up the lowly. We gather this evening to call on Jesus for healing and encouragement. We are reminded that in our darkest of times that God promises to be with us and Jesus promises to send us the Holy Spirit, our advocate. Let us now enter into this time of prayer in silence.

Short silence to prepare.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

God in heaven, for Jesus' sake, send your Holy Spirit upon your servants gathered this evening; drive away all sickness of body and spirit; make whole that which is broken; deliver us from the power of evil; and preserve us in true faith, to share in the power of Christ's resurrection and to serve you with all the saints now and evermore.

Amen.

THE WORD: *Mark 8:22-37*

They came to Bethsaida. Some people brought a blind man to him and begged him to touch him. He took the blind man by the hand and led him out of the village; and when he had put saliva on his eyes and laid his hands on him, he asked him, "Can you see anything?" And the man looked up and said, "I can see people, but they look like trees, walking." Then Jesus laid his hands on his eyes again; and he looked intently and his sight was restored, and he saw everything clearly. Then he sent him away to his home, saying, "Do not even go into the village." Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi; and on the way he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that I am?" And they answered him, "John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets." He asked them, "But who do you say that I am?" Peter answered him, "You are the Messiah." And he sternly ordered them not to tell anyone about him. Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things." He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what

will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life?

Word of God.

Word of life.

REFLECTION

AN AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We are not alone, we live in God's world.

We believe in God:

**who has created and is creating,
who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new,
who works in us and others by the Spirit.**

We trust in God.

We are called to be the Church:

**to celebrate God's presence,
to live with respect in Creation,
to love and serve others,
to seek justice and resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope.**

In life, in death, in life beyond death,

God is with us.

We are not alone. Thanks be to God.

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. 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. Grant hope to all who are discouraged or in despair. 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. 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.

TIME OF INDIVIDUAL PRAYERS

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.

LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**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

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.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is with you.

Thanks be to God.