

By His Wounds We Are Healed

A Series of Services for the Season of Lent

Week 4: The Wounds of Adultery Order of Service

Jesus is accused of associating with tax collectors and prostitutes.

Opening Hymn ... "Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed"

Alas! And did my Savior bleed and did my sov'reign die?
Would he devote that sacred head for sinners such as I?

Was it for sins that I had done he groaned upon the tree?
Amazing pity, grace unknown, and love beyond degree!

Well might the sun in darkness hide and shut its glories in
When God, the mighty maker, died for his own creatures' sin.

Thus might I hide my blushing face while his dear cross appears,
Dissolve my heart in thankfulness, and melt my eyes to tears.

But tears of grief cannot repay the debt of love I owe;
Here, Lord, I give myself away; it's all that I can do.

Response

P In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P Out of his anguish Christ shall see light;

C he shall find satisfaction through his knowledge.

P The righteous one, my servant, shall make many righteous,

C and he shall bear their iniquities.

P Christ was wounded for our transgressions,

C crushed for our iniquities;

P upon him was the punishment that made us whole,

C and by his wounds we are healed.

Confession and Forgiveness

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

C Most merciful God, we confess to you that we have broken your commandments by our own thoughts, words, and deeds. We are undeserving of your presence; we deserve to be shunned for the impurity within us. We have not loved our brothers and sisters as we ought, and we have not cared for your creation. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us, and give us the healing power of your love that we may walk again in your ways and live to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

P God is gracious and merciful, and he desires that we be made free of the burden of our sins. Through Jesus Christ, who bore the cross for our sake and for the sake of the whole world, there is healing, hope, and life. Your sins are forgiven in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Hymn ... "A Lamb Goes Uncomplaining Forth"

A Lamb goes uncomplaining forth to save a world of sinners.

He bears the burden all alone, dies shorn of all his honors.

He goes to slaughter, weak and faint, is led to die without complaint;

His spotless life he offers.

He bears the shame, the stripes, the wrath; his anguish, mockery, and death

For us he gladly suffers.

This Lamb is Christ, our greatest Friend, the Lamb of God, our Savior,

The One, his only Son, God sent to win us rebels over.

"Go down, my child," the Father said, "and free my children from their dread

Of death and condemnation.

The painful stripes are hard to bear, but by your death they all can share

The joy of your salvation."

Old Testament Reading ...

You shall not commit adultery.

Exodus 20:14

Epistle Reading ...

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.

1 Corinthians 6:9-11

Gospel Reading ...

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 he 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, he 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.'

Matthew 9:9-13

Sermon Hymn ... "By Your Wounds We All Are Healed"

Jesus, Savior of the people, giver of unending grace,
Heal our lives that now are feeble; bless us in this holy place.
You have come to earth convicted as a child of gentle reign.
By your wounds we all are heal-ed; sing the song of glad refrain!
Jesus, by your teaching, healing, sharing meal with one and all,
You invite all those believing, everyone who hears your call,
Warming hearts in hope unbounded, spreading love throughout the plain.
By your wounds we all are heal-ed; sing the song of glad refrain!
When the cries to crucify you were the wounding words to hear,
Even then, you made all things new with forgiveness, love, and cheer!
By our sin you were afflicted, on the cross you bore death's pain,
By your wounds we all are heal-ed; sing the song of glad refrain!

Sermon

Offering

Prayers of the People

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

C Heal us, O God.

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

C Heal us, O God.

P 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.

C Heal us, O God.

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

C Heal us, O God.

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

C Heal us, O God.

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

C By Christ's wounds, we are healed. Amen.

Lord's Prayer

Blessing

P May the healing presence of almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, be with you now and always.

C Amen.

Closing Hymn ... "There's a Wideness in God's Mercy"

There's a wideness in God's mercy, like the wideness of the sea;
There's a kindness in God's justice, which is more than liberty.
There is no place where earth's sorrows are more felt than up in heav'n.
There is no place where earth's failings have such kindly judgment giv'n.
There is welcome for the sinner and a promised grace made good;
There is mercy with the Savior; there is healing in his blood.
There is grace enough for thousands of new worlds as great as this;
There is room for fresh creations in that upper home of bliss.