

The Greeting and Welcome

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.



Prayer of Approach

Compassionate God,
in a world which is broken,
in communities which are divided,
with lives that are wounded -
we turn to you for healing.
We open our hearts to you
and receive encouragement;
we listen to you word
and find meaning;
we stretch out our hands to you
and find wholeness and healing.
Amen

Hymn No. 513 (Daniel)

O Christ, the Healer, we have come
to pray for health, to plead for
friends.

How can we fail to be restored,
when reached by love that never
ends?

From every ailment flesh endures
our bodies clamour to be freed;
yet in our hearts we would confess
that wholeness is our deepest need.

How strong, O Lord, are our desires,
how weak our knowledge of
ourselves!

Release in us those healing truths
unconscious pride resists or shelves.

In conflicts that destroy our health
we recognise the world's disease;
our common life declares our ills:
is there no cure, O Christ, for
these?

Grant that we all, made one in faith,
in your community may find
the wholeness that, enriching us,
shall reach and prosper humankind.

The Penitence

Every week, as we worship together,
apart,
we have the opportunity to admit to
ourselves, to each other and to God,
that we do not always live as we are
called.

In this time of confession, this time
of opening our hearts, let us
remember that God is compassionate
and understanding,
eager to offer grace and love.

Let us pray...

[Silence]

Gracious God, source of all life,
***Lord of mercy and grace, hear our
prayer.***

We come before you in need of healing:

the healing of our bodies and souls, our hearts and our minds, the healing of our relationships, the healing of our pride and fear, and apathy.

We know that with you, nothing is impossible,

so we bring to your our brokenness,

and the brokenness of a power-hungry world;

we come seeking wholeness, healing and love,

so that we will be free and enabled

to serve and love and dream and be,

as Christ calls us. Amen.

[Silence]

Listen then to Jesus,
feel his touch, know his love,
for through him God says to us:
'Your sins are forgiven, you are loved,
you are free.'

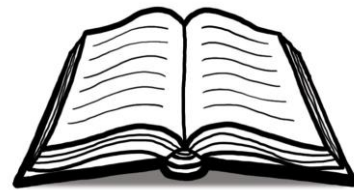
God, thank you. Amen.

The Collect of the 4th Sunday after the Epiphany

Creator God,
who in the beginning
commanded the light to shine out of
darkness:

We pray that the light of the

glorious gospel of Christ
may dispel the darkness of ignorance
and unbelief,
shine into the hearts of all your
people,
and reveal the knowledge of your
glory
in the face of Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.



[Please sit]

The Old Testament Reading - Psalm 111: 4b-10

The Lord is gracious and full of
compassion.

He gave food to those who feared
him; he is ever mindful of his
covenant.

He showed his people the power of
his works; in giving them the
heritage of the nations.

The works of his hands are truth and
justice; all his commandments are
sure. They stand fast for ever and
ever; they are done in truth and
equity.

He sent redemption to his people;
he commanded his covenant for
ever; holy and awesome is his name.
The fear of the Lord is the beginning
of wisdom; a good understanding

have those who live by it; his praise endures for ever.

This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Hymn No. 494 (Beauty for Brokenness)

[Verses 1 and 2]

Beauty for brokenness,
hope for despair,
Lord, in your suff'ring world
this is our prayer.
Bread for the children,
justice, joy, peace,
sunrise to sunset
your kingdom increase.

*God of the poor,
friend of the weak,
give us compassion, we pray:
melt our cold hearts,
let tears fall like rain;
come, change our love
from a spark to a flame.*

Shelter for fragile lives,
cures for their ills,
work for the craftsmen,
trade for their skills.
Land for the dispossessed,
rights for the weak,
voices to plead the cause
of those who can't speak.

**The New Testament Reading -
Mark 1: 21-28**

21 They went to Capernaum; and when the sabbath came, he entered the synagogue and taught. ²²They were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes. ²³Just then there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit, ²⁴and he cried out, 'What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God.' ²⁵But Jesus rebuked him, saying, 'Be silent, and come out of him!' ²⁶And the unclean spirit, throwing him into convulsions and crying with a loud voice, came out of him. ²⁷They were all amazed, and they kept on asking one another, 'What is this? A new teaching—with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him.' ²⁸At once his fame began to spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee.

This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Hymn No. 494 (Beauty for Brokenness)

[Verses 3 and 4]

Refuge from cruel wars,
havens from fear,
cities for sanctu'ry,
freedoms to share.
Peace to the killing fields,

scorched earth to green,
Christ for the bitterness,
his cross for the pain.

*God of the poor,
friend of the weak,
give us compassion, we pray:
melt our cold hearts,
let tears fall like rain;
come, change our love
from a spark to a flame.*

Rest for the ravaged earth,
oceans and streams,
plundered and poisoned –
our future, our dreams.
Lord, end our madness,
carelessness, greed,
make us content with
the things that we need.

The Sermon

[Please stand]

Affirmation of Faith

Let us confess the faith of the Church.

***We believe in God the Father,
who made the world.***

***We believe in Jesus Christ, his
Son,
who redeemed humankind.***

***We believe in the Holy Spirit,
who gives life to the people of
God. Amen.***

Hymn No. 494 (Beauty for Brokenness)

[Verse 5]

Lighten our darkness,
breathe on this flame,
until your justice burns
brightly again;
until the nations
learn of your ways,
seek your salvation
and bring you their praise.

*God of the poor,
friend of the weak,
give us compassion, we pray:
melt our cold hearts,
let tears fall like rain;
come, change our love
from a spark to a flame.*

[Please sit or kneel]

Intercessions

Prayers for the healing of...

- *the world*
- *nations*
- *international relations*
- *governance and leadership*
- *those who are sick*
- *those who are affected by
COVID-19*
- *those on our Healer Prayer List*
- *ourselves*

Musical Reflection – Be Still for the Presence of the Lord

The Lord's Prayer

Hymn No. 514 (Ye banks and braes)

We cannot measure how you heal
or answer every sufferer's prayer;
yet we believe your grace responds
where faith and doubt unite to care.
Your hands, though bloodied on the
cross,
survive to hold and heal and warn,
to carry all through death to life
and cradle children yet unborn.

The pain that will not go away,
the guilt that clings from things long
past,
the fear of what the future holds,
are present as if meant to last.
But present too is love which tends
the hurt we never hoped to find,
the private agonies inside,
the memories that haunt the mind.

So some have come who need your
help,
and some have come to make amends,
as hands which shaped and saved the
world
are present in the touch of friends.
Lord, let your Spirit meet us here
to mend the body, mind and soul,
to disentangle peace from pain
and make your broken people whole.

The Blessing

God Sends Us Out

God sends us out into the world -

not to build walls
but to dismantle barriers

not to load on chains
but to liberate the oppressed.

not to close our doors
but to welcome in the stranger.

not to further fragment the body of
Christ
but to re-imagine it.

God sends us out into the world
to live as a sign
of the justice and peace
of his kingdom.

Meditation

*When I fell, I grazed my knee
or banged my head
or hurt my arm.*

*You put on a plaster
or rubbed it better
and told me it would be all right.
You touched me then
and as you did, so did Christ.*

*When I was in pain,
you used your skill
and applied your fingers
and manipulated my body
until you made it right.*

*You touched me then
and as you did, so did Christ.*

*When there was something wrong and
part of my body would not work
or was causing distress,
you tested and probed
and used your skill with a scalpel.
With my body in your hands
you touched me then
and as you did, so did Christ.*

*When I was depressed
and life was dark and empty,
you put your arms around me
and told me you loved me
and kindled a light within my soul.
You touched me then
and as you did, so did Christ.*

*When I was in anguish,
watching a loved one suffer,
stunned by disappointment,
expecting bad news,
you sat with me holding my hand,
supporting me with your silent touch,
and told me it would be all right.
You touched me then
and as you did, so did Christ.*

*When grief was raw
and my life blown apart,
you held me while I cried a river
of tears into your shoulder
till I could weep no more.
You touched me then
and as you did, so did Christ.*

*When life was a burden
and work was stressful,
or things had not worked out as
planned,*

*or my body was never going to work
properly again,
or grief and disappointment still
nagged,
you touched my shoulder,
letting me know that you understood.
You touched me then
and as you did, so did Christ.*

*When I come to worship
bringing all my needs and concerns,
which you may or may not know,
you take my hands in yours.
You say, 'The peace of the Lord',
God's healing shalom.
you touched me then
and as you did, so did Christ.*

*When I come to your sanctuary,
with my worries, my concerns,
with my illness, my anxiety,
with the names of friends and precious
ones,
and others whom I do not really
know,
written in my heart, silently upon my
lips,
and ask for your healing,
you touch me, O Christ.
When others touched me, so you did
then.
As hands upon me now,
you touch me,
O Christ, and make me whole.*

**MIDWEEK
PRAYER AND CHAT**

WEDNESDAY

10.30-11.00

via Zoom

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82865214531?pwd=Z0hoeVNFWXI1TVZMVVI2a3h5d3Z3Zz09>