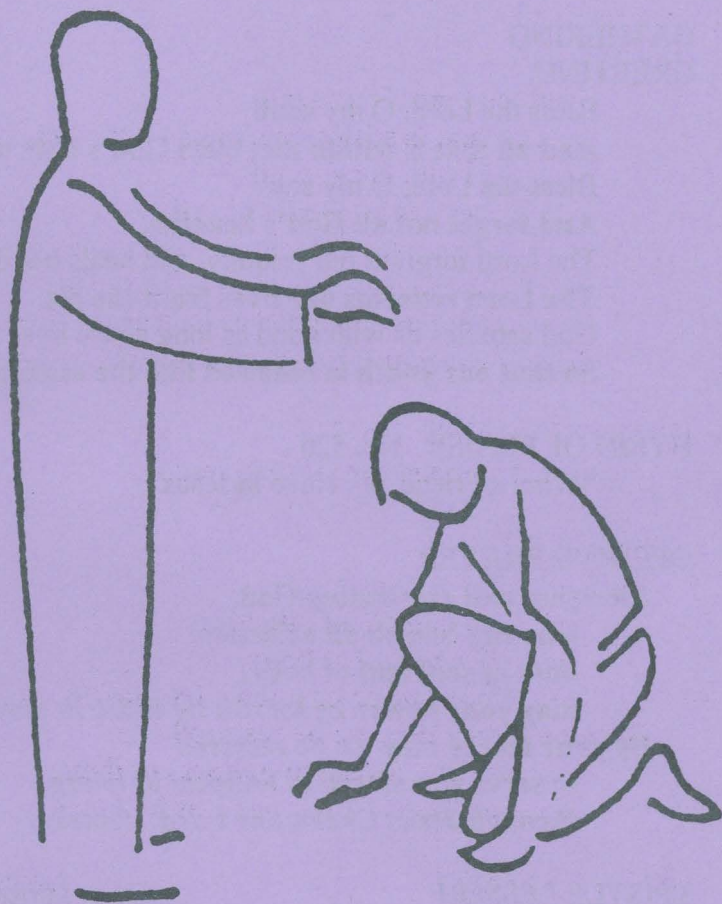


# A SERVICE OF HEALING

Duke Memorial  
United Methodist Church



SERVICE OF HEALING  
Duke Memorial United Methodist Church  
April 19, 2000  
7:00 P.M.

GATHERING  
GREETING

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 our iniquity, and heals our diseases.  
**The Lord redeems our lives from the pit.**  
God satisfies us with good as long as we live  
**So that our youth is renewed like the eagle's.**

HYMN OF PRAISE No. 526  
"What a Friend We Have in Jesus"

OPENING PRAYER

**Almighty and everlasting God,  
who can banish all affliction  
both of soul and of body,  
may your power be known by those in need.**  
**By your mercy may we be restored  
to serve you afresh in holiness of living  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

EPISTLE LESSON

James 5:14-16a



RESPONSE No. 375

There is a balm in Gilead to make the wounded whole.  
There is a balm in Gilead to heal the sin-sick soul.

GOSPEL LESSON

Mark 2:1-12

RESPONSE No. 367

He touched me. O he touched me,  
And O the joy that floods my soul!  
Something happened, and now I know,  
He touched me and made me whole.

MEDITATION

“The Healing Power of Forgiveness”

CONFESSION AND PARDON

**Holy and awesome God, we stand in your presence filled with regret for our many sins and failings. Though there is greatness in us, and a deep longing for goodness, we have often denied our better selves and refused to hear your voice calling us to rise to the full measure of our humanity. At times we choose to walk in darkness, our vision obscured. We do not care to look within, and we are unwilling to look beyond at those who need our help. O God, we are too weak to walk unaided. Be with us as a strong and wise friend, and teach us to walk by the light of your truth. Amen.**

THANKSGIVING OVER THE OIL

**PRAYERS FOR HEALING AND WHOLENESS WITH ANOINTING**

(Come forward as you feel led to request specific prayers and to receive the sign of the cross made with the oil of healing.)

**PRAYER FOLLOWING ANOINTING**

**Almighty God, we pray that all people on earth might be comforted in their suffering and be made whole.**

**When they are afraid, give them courage.**

**When they feel weak, grant them 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 and us into your eternal realm. Amen.**

**HYMN No. 377      "It Is Well with My Soul"**

**BENEDICTION AND BLESSING**

**GOING FORTH**

**Worship Leadership**

**Preacher.....Ruth Harper Stevens**  
**Liturgist.....Lisa Brown Cole**  
**Organist.....Bob Irvine**