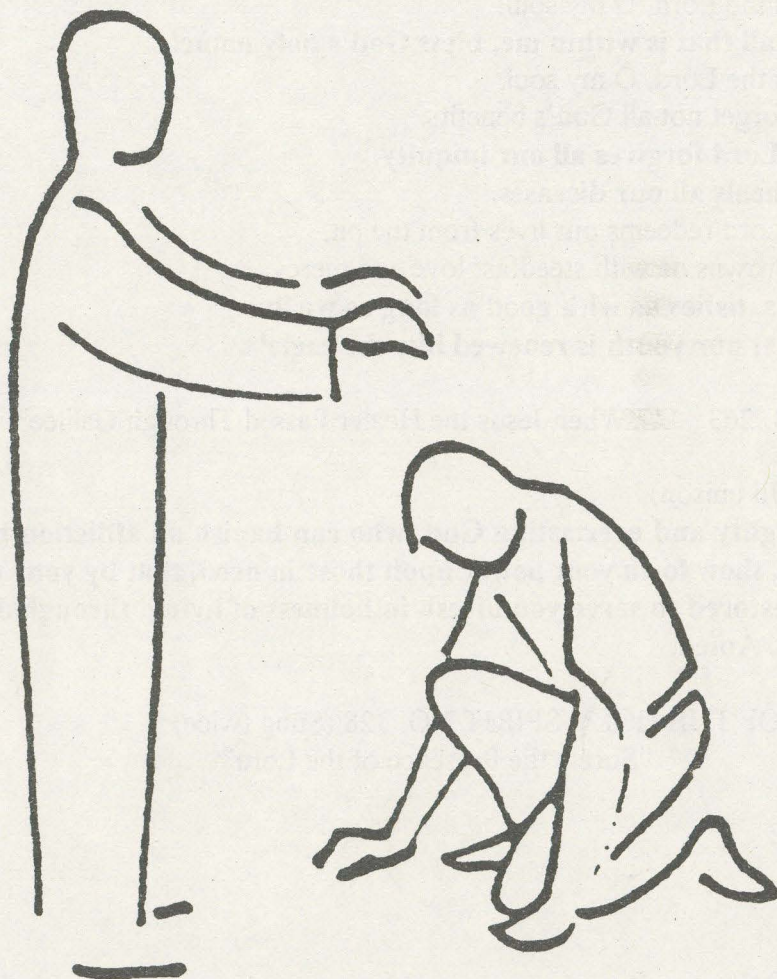


A SERVICE OF HEALING

Duke Memorial

United Methodist Church



A SERVICE OF HEALING
April 8, 1998

GATHERING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING VOLUNTARY “Elevation for the Paschal Time” Dom P. Benoit

*** 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 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.**

***HYMN NO. 263** “When Jesus the Healer Passed Through Galilee” **HEALER**

***PRAYER (In unison)**

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

IN PRAISE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT NO. 328 (Sung twice)
“Surely the Presence of the Lord”

WOLFE

SCRIPTURE

Psalm 23
James 5:13-16
Mark 6:7,12-13

MEDITATION

Mark W. Wethington

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

CONFESSION AND PARDON

Call to Confession:

Hear the good news: Christ died for us while we were yet sinners; that proves God's love toward us. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

Glory to God. Amen.

THE PEACE

(All are invited to stand and exchange the peace of Christ.)

THANKSGIVING OVER THE OIL

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

THE ANOINTING WITH OIL (With prayers of Healing and Wholeness)

(As you feel led, you are invited to come forward and kneel at the communion rail to receive anointing with oil upon your forehead. You may remain in prayer at the altar as long as you desire. Following the solo, "There Is a Balm in Gilead," the congregation is invited to join repeatedly in singing Hymn No. 393.)

PRAYER AFTER ANOINTING

*HYMN NO. 377

"It Is Well with My Soul"

VILLE DU HAVRE

DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

*CLOSING VOLUNTARY

"Elevation Pro Defunctis"

Dom P. Benoit

Our service of worship has ended. Our worship through service begins.

*Congregation is invited to stand.

SERVICE NOTES:

Anointing with oil plays a central role in the healings recorded in the New Testament. Jesus often touched others - blessing children, washing feet, healing injuries or disease, and raising people from death. Biblical precedent combines with our natural desire to reach out to persons in need in prompting us to touch gently and lovingly those who ask for healing prayers. Such an act is a tangible expression of the presence of the healing Christ, working in and through those who minister in his name.

Anointing the forehead with oil is a sign-act involving the healing love of God. The oil points beyond itself and those doing the anointing to the action of the Holy Spirit and the presence of the healing Christ, who is God's anointed one.

The oil which is used tonight is oil from the Holy Land which was brought back to us by Bob Irvine from his recent trip there.

WORSHIP LEADERS FOR THIS EVENING:

Preacher: Mark W. Wethington
Liturgist: Lisa Brown Cole
Organist: Robert J. Irvine
Soloist: Maureen Oakes