



**SERVICE OF
HEALING**

Duke Memorial United Methodist Church

Service of Healing

Holy Wednesday

April 16, 2003

7:00 p.m.

GATHERING

Be in silence and in an attitude of contrition.

*HYMN #295

"In the Cross of Christ I Glory"

RATHBUN

OPENING PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O God of the ages and of this present hour, hear our prayer and forgive our sins; heal us we pray. We confess that we have hoarded our love, giving but the smallest portion. We confess, O God, that we have not always loved our neighbors as we ought. Too easily we grow impatient with them, too easily we dismiss them, too easily we turn a deaf ear to them. Forgive us, and heal us.

We confess, O God, that we have not always loved ourselves as we ought. Too quickly we give up on ourselves, and too long we remember our failures. We try to be more – and less – than You created us to be. Forgive us, and heal us.

We confess, O God, that we have not always loved You as we ought. We have hid from You in our shame; we have ignored You in our indifference. Too often we run here and there trying to give You everything except that which You most desire – our love. Forgive us, heal us, and free us, O Lord, to love you with all that we are and to love our neighbors as ourselves. Amen.

What won-drous love is this, O my soul, O my soul, what
 won-drous love is this, O my soul! What won-drous love is
 this that caused the Lord of life to lay a-side his crown for my
 soul, for my soul, to lay a-side his crown for my soul.

EXPLANATION OF THE HEALING SERVICE

ANTHEM

"There Is a Balm in Gilead"

arr. Bruce Greer

There is a balm in Gilead to make the wounded whole; there is a balm in Gilead to heal the sin-sick soul. Sometimes I feel discouraged, and think my work's in vain, but then the Holy Spirit revives my soul again. Don't ever feel discouraged, for Jesus is your friend, and if you look for knowledge he'll ne'er refuse to lend. If you can't preach like Peter, if you can't pray like Paul, just tell the love of Jesus and say he died for all.

SCRIPTURE READING

John 8:1-11
 Luke 13:10-13

MEDITATION

Lisa Brown Cole

ANTHEM

"Precious Lord, Take My Hand"

Thomas Dorsey

Precious Lord, take my hand, lead me on, let me stand, I am tired, I am weak, I am worn; through the storm, through the night, lead me on to the light: Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home. When my way grows drear, precious Lord, linger near, when my life is almost gone, hear my cry, hear my call, hold my hand lest I fall: Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home. When the darkness appears and the night draws near, and the day is past and gone, at the river I stand, guide my feet, hold my hand: Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.

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.

ANTHEM

“Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee”

Dale Wood

Jesus, the very thought of thee with sweetness fills my breast; but sweeter far thy face to see, and in thy presence rest. No voice can sing, no heart can frame, nor memory find a sweeter sound than thy blest Name, O Savior of humankind! O hope of every contrite heart, O joy of all the meek, to those who fall, how kind thou art, how good to those who seek! But what to those who find? Ah, this nor tongue nor pen can show; the love of Jesus, what it is, none but his loved one know. Jesus, our only joy be thou, as thou our prize wilt be; Jesus, be thou our glory now, and through eternity.

*HYMN #298

“When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”

HAMBURG

*BENEDICTION AND BLESSING

*GOING FORTH

Participants:

Preacher: Rev. Lisa Brown Cole

Liturgist: Rev. Ruth Harper Stevens

Pianist: Rev. R. Julian Irvine

Soloists: Maureen Oakes, Ruth Harper Stevens