



THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF SAINTS JAMES AND ANDREW

Tuesday in Holy Week

March 26, 2024

7:00 p.m.

A community service of hope and healing

In-Person and Live-streamed

Welcome to our Holy Tuesday Worship

Tonight's service, as we continue our Holy Week preparation for the transforming events of Jesus' crucifixion and resurrection, focuses on the healing of our bodies, our minds, and our spirits. Brokenness and pain in any aspect of ourselves can prevent us from fully entering into the new life of the risen Christ. Tonight we acknowledge the hurts that hold us back from fully loving ourselves, God, and one another, and we open ourselves to God's healing power through scripture, prayer, music, silence, and the laying on of hands. The prayers from this evening's service are taken from the *Iona Abbey Worship Book*, Service of Prayers for Healing, adapted for use at SsJA. Please note that our worship is live-streamed to Facebook.

Our Mission

We believe God is calling us to cultivate a community of love, joy, hope, and healing. Jesus is our model for a life of faith, compassion, hospitality and service. We strive to be affirming and accessible, welcoming and inclusive; we seek to promote reconciliation, exercise responsible stewardship, and embrace ancient traditions for modern lives.

Prelude

Piano music offered by Sheila Heffernon

Welcome

The Rev. Heather J. Blais

Opening Prayer

We gather in your presence, God,
in our need,
and bringing with us the needs of the world.

We come to you, for you come to us in Jesus,
and you know by experience what human life is like.

We come with our faith and with our doubts;
we come with our hopes and with our fears.

We come as we are, because you have invited us;
and you have promised never to turn us away.

Lift Every Voice and Sing II - #203 *There is a balm in Gilead*

The musical score is written for a piano and voice. It consists of two systems of music. The first system has a treble and bass staff. The treble staff contains a melody with lyrics underneath: "There_ is a balm in Gil-e-ad to make the wound-ed". The bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment. The second system also has a treble and bass staff. The treble staff continues the melody with lyrics: "whole; There_ is a balm in Gil-e-ad to heal the sin-sick soul." and ends with a double bar line and the word "Fine". The bass staff continues the accompaniment.

There_ is a balm in Gil-e-ad to make the wound-ed

whole; There_ is a balm in Gil-e-ad to heal the sin-sick soul. **Fine**

1. Some - times I feel dis - cour-aged, And_ think my work's in vain, _ But_

2. If you can - not preach like Pet - er, If you can - not preach like Paul, _ You can

3. Don't_ ev - er be dis - cour-aged For_ Je - sus is your friend, _ And_

1. then the ho - ly spir - it Re - vives my soul a - gain. _____

2. tell the love of Je - sus, And say He died for all. _____

3. if you lack for know - ledge, He'll ne'er re - fuse to lend. _____

D.C.

Words: Traditional. Music: American Melody; arr. Carl Haywood (b. 1949), from *The Haywood Collection of Negro Spirituals*.
Arr. Copyright © 1992 Carl Haywood.

Prayer

The Rev. Dr. Molly Scherm

Loving God,
you gather us here tonight,
here, where many have come before us
seeking your healing, strength and love.

You know us, God:
you understand who we are,
you know what troubles and puzzles us,
what makes us smile and what makes us sad.
You listen to our questions and our prayers.

You know the people we love, God,
and the people we struggle with.
Sometimes we hurt others;
sometimes we hurt ourselves.

So we bring our own hurt
asking for your healing;

and we bring the hurt we have caused others
asking for forgiveness.

Silence

Listen to these words of Jesus,
words that we can trust:
'Don't be afraid.'
'I love you.'
'Your sins are forgiven.'
'I will be with you always.'

Silence

Write these words in our hearts, loving God,
let them take root in our living. **Amen.**

Reading

Ezekiel 36:26-28 NRSV

Fred Momaney

A reading from Ezekiel:

A new heart I will give you, and a new spirit I will put within you; and I will remove from your body the heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. I will put my spirit within you, and make you follow my statutes and be careful to observe my ordinances. Then you shall live in the land that I gave to your ancestors; and you shall be my people, and I will be your God.

Psalm 13

Molly

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How long, O God?

Will you forget me for ever; *
how long will you hide your face from me?

**How long shall I have perplexity in my mind,
and grief in my heart, day after day; *
how long shall my enemy triumph over me?**

Look upon me and answer me, O God, my God; *
give light to my eyes, lest I sleep in death;

**Lest my enemies say they have prevailed over me, *
and my foes rejoice that I have fallen.**

But I put my trust in your mercy; *
my heart is joyful because of your saving help.

**I will sing to the Holy One, who has dealt with me richly; *
I will praise the Name of God Most High.**

Reading

Mark 11:20-25 CEB

Joan Pyfrom

Tonight's passage from Mark's Gospel describes the events of early Tuesday during Jesus' final week.

A reading from Mark:

Early in the morning, as Jesus and his disciples were walking along, they saw the fig tree withered from the root up. Peter remembered and said to Jesus, "Rabbi, look how the fig tree you cursed has dried up."

Jesus responded to them, "Have faith in God! I assure you that whoever says to this mountain, 'Be lifted up and thrown into the sea'—and doesn't waver but believes that what is said will really happen—it will happen. Therefore I say to you, whatever you pray and ask for, believe that you will receive it, and it will be so for you. And whenever you stand up to pray, if you have something against anyone, forgive so that your Father in heaven may forgive you your wrongdoings."

Prayers for Healing

Heather

Let us name before God those for whom we offer our prayers.

The people offer names either silently or aloud.

From deep within our being
we call upon you, God,
for through you all can be made whole.
Hear us as we raise to heaven
our concerns for the people of the earth.

We pray for those who cry out in physical pain
or who suffer silently
and who long for the healing
that human hands alone cannot offer.
Loving God,
hear and have mercy.

We pray for those who suffer mental anguish,
who worry, feel anxiety, fear the future
who at night cry, 'I wish to God it were morning,'
and in the morning cry, 'I wish to God it were night.'
Loving God,
hear and have mercy.

We pray for those who mourn
who grieve the loss of love or a loved one,
and for those who know within themselves,
or see in others
a loss of ability or agility

a loss of choice or independence
or a dimming of the light.
Loving God,
hear and have mercy.

We pray for those who are near death or fear death,
and for those who have made the last journey
from life to greater life.
Loving God,
hear and have mercy.

And we pray for communities in which people
deal with disaster or terror,
hunger or poverty,
not knowing how or when their misery will end.
Loving God,
hear and have mercy.

In silence we remember
those who are victimized
because of their race, background or history,
because of their gender or sexuality,
because they are different;
and for all who are abused, abandoned or degraded.
Loving God,
hear and have mercy.

And remembering others in our minds
whose deepest needs may be known to God alone,
we commend them to the affirming and restoring
grace of God.
Loving God,
hear and have mercy.

Loving Jesus,
your hands are strong
to hold and heal,
to wipe away tears and protect in danger.
So, hear our prayers.
Protect all those who care for our safety
and bless all those who continue your holy work of healing
in surgeries, hospitals, hospices,
in counseling rooms and around kitchen tables.
We ask these things for the good of your world
and in your strong name. **Amen.**

Laying on of Hands

Heather

The ministry of Jesus invites us to new life in God and with each other. In the laying on of hands we proclaim the Good News that God desires us to be healthy and one in the body of Christ. You are invited to offer yourself, whatever your sickness of spirit, mind, or body, and ask for healing and wholeness in the Name of the holy and undivided Trinity.

If you wish to receive the laying on of hands and prayer for healing for yourself or for a loved one, please come to one of our healing stations led by our clergy and pastoral care leaders.

During the Laying on of Hands:

Musical Offering

Piano music offered by Sheila Heffernon

Questions for Reflection

Where do we need forgiveness and healing?

The Lord's Prayer

Molly

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

The Prayer of St. Augustine

Heather

Watch now, dear Lord,
with those who wake or watch or weep tonight;
and give your angels charge over those who sleep.

**Tend your sick ones, O Christ,
rest your weary ones,
bless your dying ones,
sooth your suffering ones,
shield your joyous ones,
and all for your love's sake. Amen.**

Closing Prayer

Molly

May the mind of God,
ever wiser than our minds,
search us deeply
and open us to the truths
that make for our healing.

May the ears of God
ever open to our prayers,
listen for us deeply
and hear, beneath our words,
our honest yearnings.

May the heart of God,
ever filled with costly love,
cherish us deeply,
mending any brokenness
and affirming our worth.

**May God keep us company this night
and bring us joy in the morning. Amen.**

Postlude

Piano music offered by Sheila Heffernon

*This concludes this evening's service.
Thank you for your presence and blessings on your journey through Holy Week.*

Journey through Holy Week

All services are in-person and live streamed to Facebook.

Holy Wednesday—March 27 at 7:00 p.m.

Tenebrae comes to us out of the Monastic tradition of the Daily Office for Holy Week from the Middle Ages. It is a liturgy of sung Lessons and Psalms, with the gradual extinguishing of candles, that invites us into the mystery of the Triduum.

Maundy Thursday—March 28 at 7:00 p.m.

This service features music, the ceremony of the foot washing, anointing oil, a celebration of the institution of the Eucharist, and the stripping of the altar.

Good Friday—March 29 at 7:00 p.m.

This service commemorates the crucifixion of Jesus, and includes a reading of the Passion gospel, music, and solemn prayers.

Easter Vigil—March 30 at 7:00 p.m.

This service is the primary celebration of Easter, beginning in darkness. The worship features the kindling of new fire, lighting the Paschal candle, the Exsultet, music, readings from the Hebrew Scriptures, the renewal of our baptismal vows, and the Eucharist.

Easter Sunday—March 31 at 10:00 a.m.

A celebration of Christ's resurrection with music and Holy Eucharist, followed by an Easter egg hunt on the lawn.

The Episcopal Church of Ss. James & Andrew

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Clergy

The Rt. Rev. Dr. Douglas J. Fisher, Bishop

The Rev. Heather J. Blais, Rector

The Rev. Jimmy Pickett, Missioner

Office Hours: Tuesdays, Thursdays & Fridays from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. (Closed Holidays)