

# Holy Wednesday Healing Service

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## **HIGHWOOD LUTHERAN CHURCH**

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## THE GATHERING

ORGAN PRELUDE “Our Father, God in Heaven Above”  
arr. G. Boehm

### THE GREETING

P In the name of Christ, we welcome you. We have been called out of darkness into God’s marvellous light. Grace and peace be with you.

**C and also with you.**

### DIALOGUE

P Jesus Christ is the light | of the world,

**C the light no darkness can | overcome.**

P Stay with us, Lord, for | it is evening,

**C and the day is | almost over.**

P Let your light scatter the darkness

**C and illumine your church.**

*The assembly stands.*

*A large, lighted candle may be carried to its place.*

ENTRANCE HYMN I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light **No. 815**

### OPENING

P Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good,

**C And his mercy endures forever.**

P They cried to the Lord in their trouble,

**C And he delivered them from their distress.**

P He sent forth his Word and healed them,

**C And saved them from the grave.**

P The Lord is righteous in all his ways,

**C And loving in all his works.**

P The Lord upholds all who fall;

**C He lifts up those who are bowed down.**

P The Lord sustains them on their sickbed.

**C And ministers to them in their illness.**

P The Lord is my strength and my song,

**C And he has become my salvation.**

P Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good,

**C And his mercy endures forever.**

P God has made us his people through our Baptism into Christ.  
Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

APOSTLES' CREED

Inside Cover of Hymnal

HYMN OF PRAISE From All That Dwell (Tune Lasst Uns Erfreuen)

- 1 From all that dwell below the skies  
let the Creator's praise arise.  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
Let the Redeemer's name be sung  
through ev'ry land, by ev'ry tongue.  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
- 2 In ev'ry land begin the song,  
to ev'ry land the strains belong:  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
In cheerful sound all voices raise  
and fill the world with joyful praise.  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
- 3 Eternal are your mercies, God;  
your truth stands ever high and broad:  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
Your praise shall sound from shore to shore  
till suns shall rise and set no more.  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

THE COLLECT

P The Lord be with you.

**C And also with you.**

P We pray. Heavenly Father, you anointed your Son Jesus Christ with the Holy Spirit and with the power to bring to us the blessings of your kingdom. Anoint your Church with the same Holy Spirit, that we who share in his suffering and victory may bear witness to the gospel of salvation; through Jesus Christ, your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

**C Amen.**

## THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

*Either one or two readings from Scripture precede the Gospel reading. At the end of each, the reader may say:*

R This is the word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

*The psalm or canticle follows the first reading, and other hymns and songs may be used between the readings.*

### GOSPEL READING

P Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to *N*.

**C Glory to you, O Lord.**

*At the end*

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C Praise to you, O Christ.**

### SERMON

HYMN I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say

No. 332

### INTERCESSORY PRAYER AND PENITENCE

#### THE INTERCESSIONS

P We pray for all who suffer.

**C Merciful Lord, you sent your Son to be our peace. Help all who suffer pain or grief to find in him strength and peace, so that their trust in your promises may be renewed; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

P We pray for recovery from sickness.

**C O God, the strength of the weak and the comfort of sufferers: Mercifully hear our prayers and grant to your servants the help of your power, that their sickness may be turned into health and our sorrow into joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

P We pray for those in affliction.

**C Almighty and everlasting God, comfort of the sad and strength to those who suffer: Let the prayers of your children who are in any trouble rise to you. To everyone in distress grant mercy, grant relief, grant refreshment; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

P We pray for those who minister in healing.

**C Almighty God, source of human knowledge and skill: Guide physicians and nurses and all those you have called to**

**practice the arts of healing. Strengthen them by your life-giving Spirit, that, by their ministries, the health of all people may be promoted and your creation may be glorified; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

P We pray for the ministry of family and friends.

**C Loving God, our creator and redeemer: Give strength and gentleness, patience and faithfulness to family members and friends. Let their hope be in you, and by their ministry of love let your love be known; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

P We pray for those who desire our prayers.

**C Blessed Lord, we ask your loving care and protection for those who are sick in body, mind, or spirit and who desire our prayers. Take from them all fears and help them put their trust in you, that they may feel your strong arms around them. Touch them with your renewing love, that they may know wholeness in you and glorify your name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

P We pray for those making decisions.

**C O Lord our God, send your Holy Spirit to guide us, that we may make our decisions with love, mercy, and reverence for your gift of life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

P Praise to you, almighty God and Father. You sent your Son to live among us and to bring us salvation.

**C Blessed be God.**

P Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, incomparable son of the Father. You humbled yourself to share in our humanity, and you came to heal all our illnesses.

**C Blessed be God.**

P Praise to you, Holy Spirit, our defender and consoler. You heal our sickness with your mighty and life-giving power.

**C Blessed be God.**

*A period of silence follows.*

P O Lord our God, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of

souls, and to you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever.

**C Amen.**

PRAYERS OF PENITENCE

P The gospel calls us to turn away from sin and be faithful to Christ. As we offer ourselves to him in penitence and faith, we renew our confidence and trust in his mercy.

P Cast your burden upon the Lord

**C and he will sustain you.**

P In returning and rest

**C you shall be saved.**

P In quietness and trust

**C shall be your strength.**

**C Most merciful God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we confess that we have sinned in thought, word and deed. We have not loved you with our whole heart. We have not loved our neighbour as ourselves. In your mercy forgive what we have been, help us to amend what we are, and direct what we shall be; that we may do justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with you, our God. Amen.**

ABSOLUTION

P God, the Father of mercies, has reconciled the world to himself through the death and resurrection of his Son, Jesus Christ, not holding our sins against us, but sending his Holy Spirit to shed abroad his love among us. By the ministry of reconciliation entrusted by Christ to his Church, receive his pardon and peace to stand before him in his strength alone this day and for evermore.

**C Amen.**

HYMN      Restore in Us, O God

**No. 328**

**LAYING ON OF HANDS AND ANOINTING**

PRAYER OVER THE OIL

P Our help is in the name of the Lord

**C who has made heaven and earth.**

P Blessed be the name of the Lord:

**C now and for ever. Amen.**

P Blessed are you, sovereign God, gentle and merciful,  
creator of heaven and earth.  
Your Word brought light out of darkness,  
and daily your Spirit renews the face of the earth.  
When we turned away from you in sin,  
your anointed Son took our nature and entered our suffering  
to bring your healing to those in weakness and distress.  
He broke the power of evil and set us free from sin and death  
that we might become partakers of his glory.  
His apostles anointed the sick in your name,  
bringing wholeness and joy to a broken world.  
By your grace renewed each day  
you continue the gifts of healing in your Church  
that your people may praise your name for ever.  
By the power of your Spirit may your blessing rest  
on those who are anointed with this oil in your name;  
may they be made whole in body, mind and spirit.  
Hear the prayer we offer for all your people.  
Remember in your mercy those for whom we pray:  
heal the sick, raise the fallen, strengthen the fainthearted  
and enfold in your love the fearful and those who have no hope.  
In the fullness of time complete your gracious work.  
Reconcile all things in Christ and make them new,  
that we may be restored in your image, renewed in your love,  
and serve you as sons and daughters in your kingdom.  
Through your anointed Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord,  
to whom with you and the Holy Spirit  
we lift our voices of thanks and praise:

**C Blessed be God, our strength and our salvation, now and for ever. Amen.**

*Those who wish to receive laying of hands and anointing may come to the altar one at a time, waiting in the aisles until the person ahead is anointed. As you step forward, give your first name to the minister so that it may be included in prayer. You may kneel or stand for the anointing.*

P Father in heaven, for Jesus' sake, send your Holy Spirit upon your servant, \_\_\_\_\_; drive away all sickness of body and spirit; make whole that which is broken; deliver

him/her from the power of evil; and preserve him/her in true faith, to share in the power of Christ's resurrection and to serve you with all the saints now and evermore.

**C Amen.**

*After all have returned to their places, please stand as you are able for the closing rite.*

## THE SENDING OUT

### CLOSING RITE

**P** The almighty Lord -- a strong tower to all who put their trust in him, to whom all things in heaven, on earth, and under the earth bow and whom they obey -- be now and evermore your defense, and make you know and feel that the only name under heaven given for health and salvation is the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

**P** We pray. Merciful Lord God, constant source of all healing, we give you thanks for all your gifts of strength and life, and above all we thank you for the gift of your Son, through whom we have health and salvation. As we wait for that day when there will be no more pain, help us by your Holy Spirit to be assured of your power in our lives and to trust in your eternal love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**P** Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

**C** **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.**

### BLESSING

**P** The Lord bless you and keep you...

**C Amen.**

SENDING HYMN "Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing No. 545

### THE DISMISSAL

ORGAN POSTLUDE "Gabriel's Oboe" E. Moricone