

4TH SUNDAY IN LENT

MEDITATION PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP:

Holy God, Prompt us to reach out in love to our siblings on earth. Help us especially to remember, that as we gather about the cross that reveals your love for everyone, we are all God's children and that Christ died to bring healing for every soul on earth. In his name, we pray. Amen.

PASTORAL WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THOUGHTS FOR THE DAY:

- ❖ Empathy is your pain in my heart.
- Halford Luccock, American Methodist minister, professor of homiletics-Yale Divinity School
- ❖ We do not have to escape our pains; we can mobilize them into a common search for life.
- Henri Nouwen (Pastor and Healer)
- ❖ To believe in God is not just to love life, but to work so that there is life.
- Jon Sobrino (Jesuit Catholic priest and Liberation Theologian)

CALL TO WORSHIP:

One: All you searching for something that lasts,

All: All you hungry for meaning,

One: All you thirsting for knowledge,

All: All you seeking a blessing,

One: Come to the cross.

All: Here, find forgiveness and healing,

One: Here, find a community of care,

All: Here, find truth that is solid,

One: come as sinners made new as saints.

All: We come to the cross.

PRAISE SONG: "God Will See Us Through" (music at end of bulletin)

THE CONFESSION:

All: Call us forth, O God, to tend the places of beauty long forgotten, to plant gardens in the deserts of hurt, to pick flowers of hope when others see only despair.

Take us deep this Lent and let us discover some boldness for action, some rest for our weariness, some healing for our wounds.

Let forgiveness flow like a gentle river, and let our tables overflow with bounty and friendship. Let memories linger like fragrant roses and our hearts be connected to the well-spring of your love and grace.

God of all life, deepen our walk with you during these days of Lent. And use us as instruments of your healing in the world. Amen.

CONFESSION RESPONSE: *“Healer” (music at end of bulletin)*

THE READING:

Mark 9: 14-29

As Mark tells the story of Jesus' life, this healing takes place after Jesus comes down from the mountain with Peter, James, and John following His transfiguration. When they meet the other disciples who were arguing with the scribes, Jesus is met by a father and son and shows to them His compassion for humanity.

When they came to the disciples, they saw a great crowd around them, and some scribes arguing with them. When the whole crowd saw him, they were immediately overcome with awe, and they ran forward to greet him. He asked them, ‘What are you arguing about with them?’ Someone from the crowd answered him, ‘Teacher, I brought you my son; he has a spirit that makes him unable to speak; and whenever it seizes him, it dashes him down; and he foams and grinds his teeth and becomes rigid; and I asked your disciples to cast it out, but they could not do so.’ He answered them, ‘You faithless generation, how much longer must I be among you? How much longer must I put up with you? Bring him to me.’ And they brought the boy to him. When the spirit saw him, immediately it threw the boy into convulsions, and he fell on the ground and rolled about, foaming at the mouth. Jesus asked the father, ‘How long has this been happening to him?’ And he said, ‘From childhood. It has often cast him into the fire and into the water, to destroy him; but if you are able to do anything, have pity on us and help us.’ Jesus said to him, ‘If you are able!—All things can be done for the one who believes.’ Immediately the father of the child cried out, ‘I believe; help my unbelief!’ When Jesus saw that a crowd came running together, he rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it, ‘You spirit that keeps this boy from speaking and hearing, I command you, come out of him, and never enter him again!’ After crying out and convulsing him terribly, the spirit came out, and the boy was like a corpse, so that most of them said, ‘He is dead.’ But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him up, and he was able to stand. When he had entered the house, his disciples asked him privately, ‘Why could we not cast it out?’ He said to them, ‘This kind can come out only through prayer.’

MESSAGE: *“I’m a ... Not a Healer!”*

- Pastor David Schoob

THE MESSAGE RESPONSE: *“Beauty for Brokenness (vs. 1-3)”*
(music at end of bulletin)

THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

THE LORD’S PRAYER:

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 and 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 SENDING OUT:

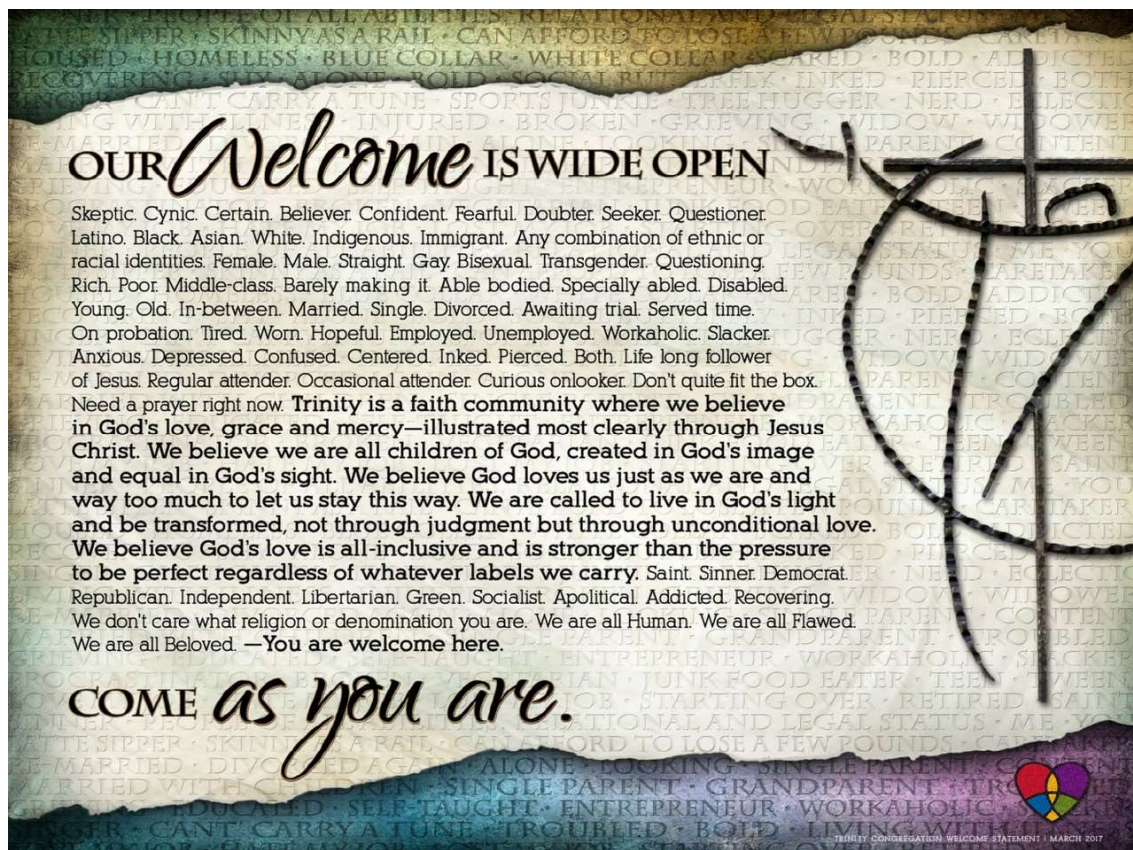
Leader: Let us go forth as workers together with God proclaiming the Good News, performing deeds of mercy and kindness and giving evidence of Christ's love in all that we do. And may the grace of God be with us all. **Amen.**

THE SENDING SONG: *“Leaning In” (music at end of bulletin)*

THE DISMISSAL:

Leader: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.



God Will See Us Through. Lyrics by Bryan Sirchio. Music by Emma Ceurvels. Lyrics and Music © 2017 Convergence Music Project. Reprinted with permission. All rights reserved.

Healer. Words and Music by Larry Olson. © 2009 Dakota Road Music. Reprinted with permission under One License #A-714192. All rights reserved.

Beauty for Brokenness. Lyrics and music by Graham Kendrick. Lyrics and music © 1993 Graham Kendrick/Make Way Music, Ltd. Reprinted with permission under CCLI license #230769. All rights reserved.

Leaning In. Lyrics and tune by Christopher Grundy. Piano arrangement by Christopher Grundy and Paul Cecchitti. © 2013 Hand and Soil Music. Reprinted with permission under CCLI license #230769. All rights reserved.

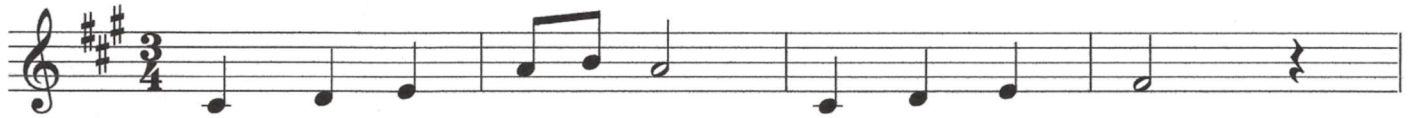
God Will See Us Through

In times of bro-ken-ness, in ev-'ry wil-der-ness, God has seen us through.
 Times when our strength was gone, some-how we car-ried on, God has seen us
 through. Look be-hind and see through-out his-to-ry, God has nev-er let us
 down. Lean a-head and trust God is guid-ing us, God is with us here right
 now. God will see me through, God will see you through, God will see us through some-
 how. Step by step we'll be, gi-ven all we need, God will see us through this now.

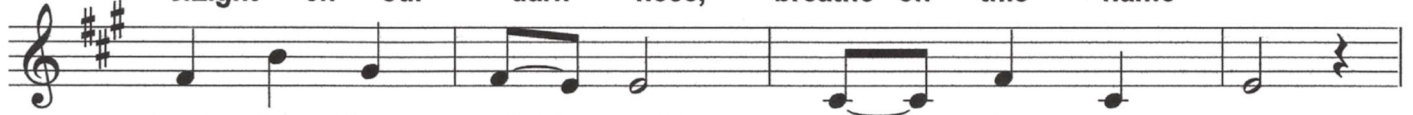
Healer

1. Heal-er, heal-er, come and heal this world. world.
 2. May we all of-fer up our hands. May we
 2. May we all lay our weap-ons down. May we
 all to-gether stand.
 all find our com-mon ground.

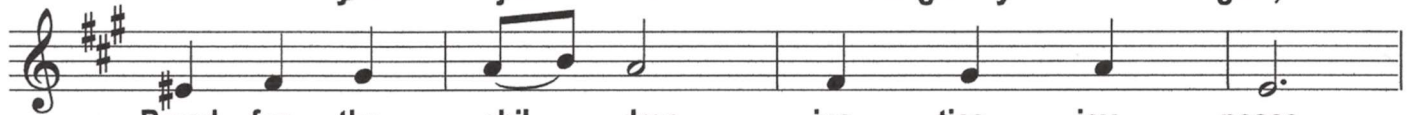
Beauty for Brokenness



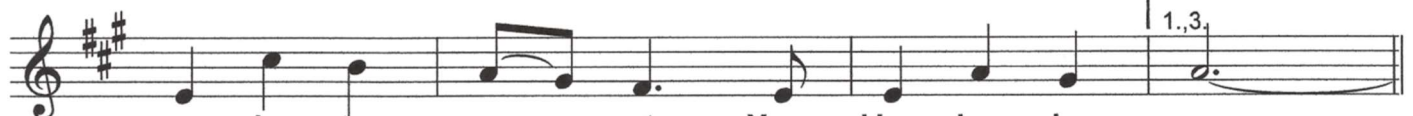
1. Beau - ty for bro - ken - ness, hope for des - pair;
 2. Shel - ter for fra - gile lives, cures for their ills,
 3. Ref - uge from cru - el wars, ha - vens from fear,
 4. Rest for the rav - aged earth, o - ceans and streams,
 5. Light - en our dark - ness, breathe on this flame



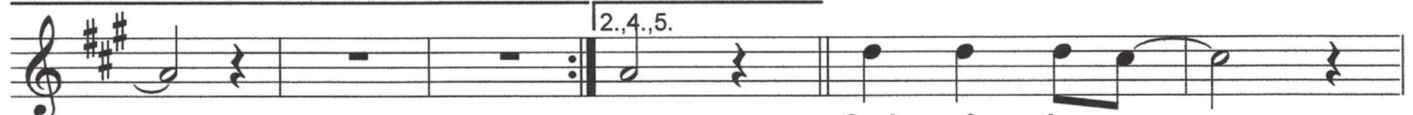
Lord, in Your suff - 'ring world, this is our prayer.
 work for the crafts - men, trade for their skills,
 cit - ies for sanc - tu - 'ry, free - doms to share.
 plun - dered and poi - soned, our fu - ture our dreams.
 un - til your jus - tice burns bright - ly a - gain,



Bread for the chil - dren, jus - tice, joy, peace,
 land for the dis - pos - sessed. Rights for earth, the weak,
 Peace to the kill - ing fields, scorched earth to green.
 Lord end the mad - ness, care - less - ness, greed,
 un - til the na - tions learn of your ways,

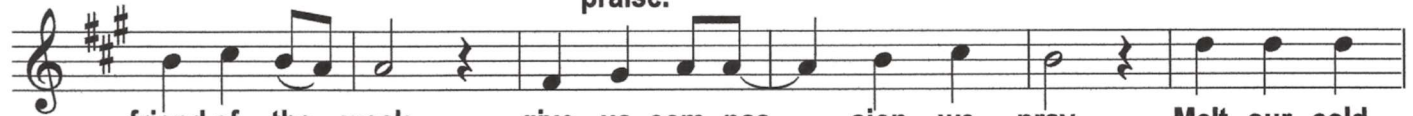


sun - rise to sun - set, Your king - dom in - crease _____
 voic - es to plead the cause of those who can't _____
 Christ for the bit - ter - ness, His cross for the pain. _____
 make us con - tent with the things that we
 seek your sal - va - tion and bring you their



God of the poor,
 speak.

need.
 praise.



friend of the weak, give us com - pas - sion we pray. Melt our cold



hearts, let tears fall like rain. Come change our love

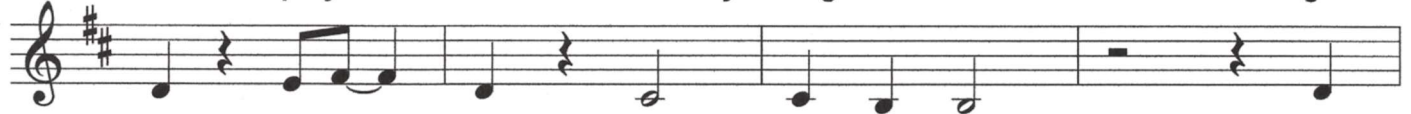


from a spark to a flame.

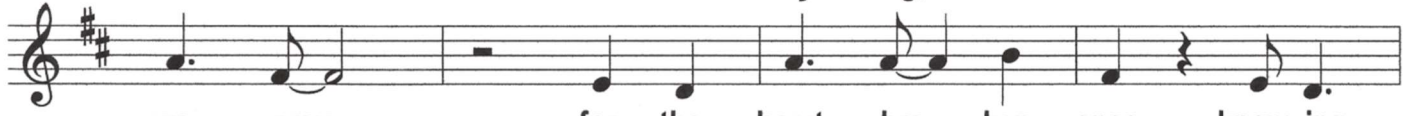
Leaning In - A Prayer of Intention



We pray for the lone - ly ones know - ing
We pray for the wound - ed ones know - ing
We pray for the starv - ing ones know - ing
We pray for the dy - ing ones know - ing



that some of us are lone - ly, and
that some of us are wound - ed, and
that some of us are starv - ing, and
that some of us are dy - ing, and



we pray for the heart - bro - ken ones know - ing
we pray for the re - gret - ful ones know - ing
we pray for the im - pris - oned ones know - ing
we pray for the new - ly born ones know - ing



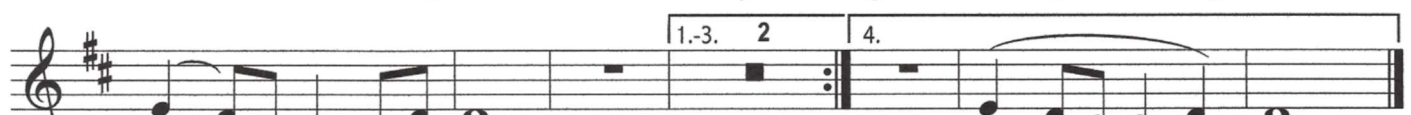
that some of us are heart - bro - ken.
that some of us are re - gret - ful.
that some of us are im - pris - oned.
that some of us are ar - riv - ing.



All - - our hearts and minds are lean - ing in with



clear in - ten - tion, join - ing in your way of



love in the world.
heal - ing in the world.
jus - tice in the world.
love in the world.

1.-3. 2

4.

A - - - men.