***Lenten Awakening***

**Lenten Worship Series – Week 3**

***Jesus Healing Us***

**March 3, 2024**

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| **WORSHIP SERVICE OUTLINE**S  Each worship outline contains all elements needed for your worship service. The order of each service presented is only a *suggestion*. No doubt changes will be needed to accommodate the flow and worship style of your corps. The outlines are flexible and allow opportunities to “cut and paste” as needed. If you are blessed with instrumental or vocal music resources, you may find there is more structured material here than needed. Sermon manuscripts are included as a *sample* and not to be preached verbatim. |

[*On screen as people enter or printed in program*]

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| ***Jesus Healing Us***  **5But he was pierced for our transgressions,**  **he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him,**  **and by his wounds we are healed.**  ***Isaiah 53:5* (NIV)** |

**[The Gathering] [The Word]**

**Call to Worship**

Sickness is one very helpful way to understand our sin and its consequences. It is when something in our lives isn’t healthy or working as it should.

* Soul sickness is when our spiritual life is immobilized or misdirected.
* Emotional sickness is when our emotional life is undermining our mental health.
* Relational sickness is when our relationships with others are damaging or damaged.
* Physical sickness is when some part of our body is in pain or under threat.
* Body-of-Christ sickness is when a church is not living her calling to love God, each other, and the world.

Whatever sicknesses may threaten us, Jesus invites us to bring them to him for healing. As we see in the healing miracles of Jesus, what he asks of us is faith. Jesus says, “*Your faith has made you well”* (Matthew 9:22). We hear him say this again and again. It is not magic he performs; it is healing. Magic is always fake; healing always life-changing. Today, let’s focus on Jesus as healer.

(*Lenten Awakening*, pp. 82, 84)

**[The Response]**

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| **SB#334 – Give us a day of wonders** | TB-235 – To the uttermost He saves | No HT CD |
| **Additional Optional Songs** | | |
| **SB#27/HC#231 – Guide me, O Thou great Jehovah** | TB-399 – Cwm Rhondda  HC-231 | HTD3-T7 (4 vs.)  HCD22-T11 |
| **SB#217 – Christ is alive!** | TB-47 – Truro | No HT CD |
| **SB#258/HC#264 – Jesus shall reign** | TB-11 – Duke Street  HC-264 | HTD3-T8 (4 vs.)  HCD25-T14 |
| **SB#1009 – Men of faith, rise up and sing** | TB-825 – Shout to the north | No HT CD |
| **SB#55 – Praise, my soul the King of Heaven** | TB-406 – Praise, my soul | HTD2-T12 (3 vs.) |
| **SB#56/HC#251 – Praise to the Lord, the Almighty** | TB-735 – Lobe den Herren  HC-251 | HTD4-T11 (4 vs.)  HCD24-T11 |
| **SB#89/HC#161/SS#48 – O for a thousand tongues to sing (My Great Redeemer’s Praise)** | TB-59 – Azmon  TB-75 – Grimsby  HC-161  SS-48 | HTD3-T4 (4 vs.)  No HT CD  HCD15-T11 |
| **SB#139 – He came to give us life** | TB-645 – same | No HT CD |
| **SB#734 – Precious Jesus, O to love Thee!** | TB-323 – Denmark Hill | HTD12-T4 (4 vs.) |

**[The Response]**

**Invocation**

Healing Lord, I bring to you whatever threatens my well-being as your child. I ask for your healing touch, for a better understanding of my illness, and for the faith to receive your healing and to live in it. I ask this in the name of Jesus, who gave his life so that we all can be well. Amen.

(*Lenten Awakening*, p. 84)

**[The Word]**

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| **Children’s Moment – Jesus Healing Us** |

***The Suffering and Glory of the Servant***

**[The Word]**

**Responsive Reading** (*or Scripture Reading – Isaiah 52:13-15; 53:1-6; Matthew 8:17*)**:**

**Reader 1:** Isaiah describes a very different kind of suffering. It’s the suffering of someone called a “servant,” a person who is “exalted and lifted very high” and yet now “appears disfigured, inhuman.” He will “astonish many nations” and silence kings.

**Reader 2:** ***13****See, my servant will act wisely;  
      he will be raised and lifted up and highly exalted.* ***14****Just as there were many who were appalled at him—  
     his appearance was so disfigured beyond that of any human being  
     and his form marred beyond human likeness—* ***15****so he will sprinkle many nations,   
     and kings will shut their mouths because of him.  
 For what they were not told, they will see,  
     and what they have not heard, they will understand.* (Isaiah 52:13-15, NIV)

**Reader 1:** Israel will see in this servant “what they haven’t seen before.” It will cause them to “ponder.” This suffering servant will grow up in their midst, an expression of “the Lord’s arm.” And yet, because he has no hint of “splendor” or attractiveness, he will be “avoided by others,” and people will hide their faces from him, despise him, and try to get him off their minds.

**Reader 2:** ***1*** *Who has believed our message  
     and to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed?* ***2****He grew up before him like a tender shoot,  
     and like a root out of dry ground.  
 He had no beauty or majesty to attract us to him,  
     nothing in his appearance that we should desire him.* ***3****He was despised and rejected by mankind,  
     a man of suffering, and familiar with pain.  
 Like one from whom people hide their faces  
     he was despised, and we held him in low esteem.* (Isaiah 53:1-3, NIV)

**Reader 1:** This suffering servant will carry their sickness and bear their sufferings, even though they “thought him afflicted, struck down by God and tormented.” This suggests that the person Isaiah is describing will take upon himself their pain and sufferings, their unwellness. He does this because of their “rebellions and…crimes.” He’s a kind of scapegoat, carrying their sins well into the wilderness of their forgetfulness.

**Reader 2:** ***4****Surely he took up our pain  
     and bore our suffering,  
 yet we considered him punished by God,  
     stricken by him, and afflicted.* (Isaiah 53:4, NIV)

**Reader 1:** The prophet doesn’t stop there. He now plunges forward with the preposterous claim that the servant will bear their punishment and by doing so, make them whole. His wounding will bring their healing. Not only does the servant suffer for them, his suffering actually heals them.

**Reader 2:** ***5****But he was pierced for our transgressions,  
     he was crushed for our iniquities;  
 the punishment that brought us peace was on him,  
     and by his wounds we are healed.* ***6****We all, like sheep, have gone astray,  
     each of us has turned to our own way;  
 and the Lord has laid on him  
     the iniquity of us all.* (Isaiah 53:5-6, NIV)

**Reader 1:** Centuries later, the early Christians came to see that this prophecy described their savior, Jesus.

**Reader 2:** ***17****This was to fulfill what was spoken through the prophet Isaiah:*

*“He took up our infirmities  
     and bore our diseases.”* (Matthew 8:17, NIV)

(Excerpts from *Lenten Awakening*, pp. 81-82)

**[The Response]**

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| **SB#243/HC#164 – Before the throne of God above** | TB-52 – same  HC-164 | No HT CD  HCD15-T14 |
| **Additional Optional Songs** | | |
| **HC#226 – I Worship You** | HC-226 | HCD21-T16 |
| **SB#311 – Spirit divine, come as of old** | TB-110 – Spirit Divine | No HT CD |
| **SB#327 – Thou, whose almighty word** | TB-198 – Moscow | HTD2-T2 (4 vs.) |
| **SB#720 – Lord, here today my great need I am feeling** | TB-939 – Wonderful Healer | No HT CD |
| **SB#739 – Touch me with Thy healing hand, Lord** | TB-339 – In me, Lord | No HT CD |
| **SB#742 – When shall I come unto the healing waters?** | TB-564 – At Thy feet I fall | No HT CD |
| **SB#770 – Lord, I come to Thee beseeching** | TB-391 – None of self | HTD12-T14 (4 vs.) |
| **SB#353/HC#49/SS#67 – Be still, for the presence of the Lord** | TB-566 – same  HC-49  SS-67 | No HT CD  HCD3-T19 |

**Leader:**

Jesus is not a fixer or a fix. He doesn’t fix us, he frees us. He releases and empowers us to become who God create us to be. He is interested in far more than our illnesses, whatever they are. He is interested in the kind of health that makes us holy persons—even if we don’t get physically well, even if we still have to grapple with some painful memories, even if we can’t “fix” all the damaged relationships in our lives. Jesus came to us to penetrate our suffering by pouring out his life into them and taking away their power over us.

(*Lenten Awakening*, pp. 83-84)

**[The Response]**

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| **HC#133 – Breath on Me** | HC-133 | HCD12-T13 |
| **Additional Optional Songs** | | |
| **SB#178/SS#95 – Jesus, keep me near the cross** | TB-238 – Near the cross  TB-237 – Healing Stream  SS-95 | HTD2-T5 (3 vs.)  HTD5-T8 (3 vs.) |
| **HC#226 – I Worship You** | HC-226 | HCD21-T16 |
| **HC#170/SS#60 – There is None Like You** | HC-170  SS-60 | HCD15-T20 |

**[The Response]**

**Intercessory Prayers**

**[The Response]**

**Pastoral Prayer**

**[The Response]**

**Offering**

**[The Response]**

**Testimony of Faith –** [*Choose someone from the congregation who can testify on this theme.*]

**[The Word]**

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| **Drama – About Last Night** |

**[The Word]**

**Message – Jesus Healing Us**

**[The Response]**

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| **SB#503/SS#96 – Just as I am, without one plea** | TB-424 – Just as thou art  SS-96 | HTD1-T15 (4 vs.) |
| **Additional Optional Songs** | | |
| **SB#79 – I know Thee who Thou art** | TB-199 – Brantwood | HTD7-T4 (4 vs.) |
| **SB#178/SS#95 – Jesus, keep me near the cross** | TB-238 – Near the cross  TB-237 – Healing Stream  SS-95 | HTD2-T5 (3 vs.)  HTD5-T8 (3 vs.) |
| **SB#514 – O the bitter shame and sorrow** | TB-391 – None of self | HTD12-T14 (4 vs.) |
| **SB#720 – Lord, here today my great need I am feeling** | TB-939 – Wonderful Healer | No HT CD |
| **SB#739 – Touch me with Thy healing hand, Lord** | TB-339 – In me, Lord | No HT CD |
| **SB#742 – When shall I come unto the healing waters?** | TB-564 – At Thy feet I fall | No HT CD |
| **SB#770 – Lord, I come to Thee beseeching** | TB-391 – None of self | HTD12-T14 (4 vs.) |
| **SB#736/HC#102/SS#115 – Tell me what to do to be pure** | TB-932 – Whiter than the snow  HC-102  SS-115 | HTD9-T19 (3 vs.)  HCD9-T12 |

**[The Sending]**

**Benediction:**

Healing Lord, we are HEALED PEOPLE because your healing touch frees us. You release and empower us to become who God created us to be. You are interested in the kind of health that makes us holy people and for the faith to receive your healing and to live in it. I ask this in the name of Jesus, who gave his life so that we all can be well. Amen.

(*Lenten Awakening*, p. 84, adapted)

**[The Sending]**

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| **SB#734 – Precious Jesus, O to love Thee!** | TB-323 – Denmark Hill | HTD12-T4 (4 vs.) |
| **Additional Optional Songs** | | |
| **HC#309 – Go in Peace, Go in Love** | HC-309 | HCD29-T19 |
| **HC#198 – In Jesus’ Name** | HC-198 | HCD18-T18 |
| **SB#1031/HC#283 – Lord, if your presence** | TB-740 – same  HC-283 | No HT CD  HCD27-T13 |

**[The Sending]**

**Announcements**

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| **Lent 2024 – Week 3** | |
| **DRAMA**  **About Last Night**  **By Martyn Scott Thomas**  © Copyright 2023 by Martyn Scott Thomas. All rights reserved. Used by permission. | |
| **Topic:** | Healing |
| **Scripture:** | Mark 2:1-12 |
| **Synopsis:** | A man tries to explain the previous evening’s festivities to his neighbor |
| **Characters:** | Saul – a Jewish homeowner  Thaddeus – his neighbor |
| **Props/Costumes:** | Biblical or modern dress. Two chairs or a bench. |
| **Setting:** | In front of Saul’s house. |
| **Running time:** | 3 minutes |

[*Saul is seated with his head in his hands, obviously tired.*]

**Thaddeus:** [*enters and walks up to Saul*] Rough night, my friend?

**Saul:** [*looking up*] I surprised you didn’t hear all the commotion.

**Thaddeus:** Oh, I did. I was ready to call the authorities, but I saw that they were already here.

**Saul:** I’m so sorry. I didn’t think things would get so out of hand.

**Thaddeus:** I don’t know you to be the kind to encourage that sort of ruckus, Saul.

**Saul:** It was definitely not what I had envisioned.

**Thaddeus:** I guess it’s all in the company you keep.

**Saul:** That’s the thing. The guest that I invited shouldn’t have attracted such a disturbance.

**Thaddeus:** And who was this guest?

**Saul:** Jesus of Nazareth.

**Thaddeus:** [*surprised*] You mean that Jesus? The miracle worker?

**Saul:** The one and only. I bumped into him near the market yesterday and he said he wanted to come and stay at my house.

**Thaddeus:** That seems a bit odd. Had you met him before?

**Saul:** No, but I’ve heard all the stories. So, I figured, what’s the harm?

**Thaddeus:** [*looking around and pointing*] This.

**Saul:** [*puts his head back in his hands*] I don’t know how things could’ve gone so wrong.

**Thaddeus:** [*sits next to Saul and puts his arm around him*] Why don’t you tell me what happened? Start from the time Jesus came to your house.

**Saul:** [*looking up*] Well, we got here, and Martha got us a little snack.

**Thaddeus:** [*remarking*] She is such a good hostess.

**Saul:** Then as we started talking, all these people started showing up.

**Thaddeus:** What people?

**Saul:** Sick people.

**Thaddeus:** Sick people?

**Saul:** Yes, they came to be healed.

**Thaddeus:** How did they know he was here?

**Saul:** Word spreads quickly, I guess. And soon, there wasn’t any more room in the house.

**Thaddeus:** That would explain the large crowd outside. When did all the big shots get here?

**Saul:** As soon as the crowds showed up, the religious leaders were right behind them. It’s almost like they all follow him around.

**Thaddeus:** Okay, I know there were a lot of people, but if Jesus is healing them, when did things get out of hand?

**Saul:** Well, these four guys showed up late carrying a paralyzed friend on a mat and didn’t want to wait to see Jesus.

**Thaddeus:** Tough luck. They should’ve just waited their turn.

**Saul:** Apparently, they had a different idea.

**Thaddeus:** Like what?

**Saul:** [*points back at house*] Like I didn’t need a roof anymore.

**Thaddeus:** [*shocked*] They didn’t.

**Saul:** Then they lowered him right down in front of Jesus.

**Thaddeus:** And did Jesus heal him?

**Saul:** Sort of.

**Thaddeus:** What do you mean, sort of?

**Saul:** Well, that’s where things went off the rails.

**Thaddeus:** How?

**Saul:** Because of his friends’ faith, Jesus told the paralyzed man that his sins were forgiven.

**Thaddeus:** [*astounded*] Can he do that?

**Saul:** The religious leaders didn’t think so. They accused him of blasphemy.

**Thaddeus:** How did Jesus respond?

**Saul:** He asked them if it was easier to say, “Your sins are forgiven” or “Stand up, pick up your mat, and walk?

**Thaddeus:** And . . .

**Saul:** And he told the man to pick up his mat and walk.

**Thaddeus:** And did he?

**Saul:** The man jumped up, took his mat, and walked out right through the crowd.

**Thaddeus:** No way! What did the religious leaders say?

**Saul:** Well, that’s where things got out of hand. There was some celebration, some arguing, some pushing and shoving, [*pause*] and well, you know the rest.

**Thaddeus:** Unbelievable.

**Saul:** And the worst part is, I have a huge hole in my roof. Who’s going to fix that?

**Thaddeus:** [*defensive*] Don’t look at me. I’m a farmer, not a roofer.

**Saul:** In that case, it may take a miracle to get this done.

**Thaddeus:** If only you knew someone.

[*Blackout*]

***Lenten Awakening***

**Children’s Moment – Week 3**

***Jesus Healing Us***

**March 3, 2024**

**By Katie Laidlaw**

**Synopsis:** *Lenten Awakening* series focuses on the life and teaching of Jesus in such a way to awaken us and encourage us to see ourselves through his eyes. Superhero, “The Awakening,” introduces each week’s topic to children.

**Costume:** Superhero cape, mask, etc. (anything to look like a superhero).

**Intro/Outro:** Play superhero-type music as “The Awakening” enters and exits. *For Superhero Royalty-Free Music, go to:* <https://www.storyblocks.com/audio/search/superhero?sort=most_relevant>

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| **Week 3 – Jesus Healing Us** |

[*Play intro superhero music as you enter the chapel. Invite children to come to the front, having them stand for the lesson.* (Standing keeps the children attentive, engaged and involved in the lesson as the congregation “watches them.” Sitting creates a more relaxed/informal mindset, allowing children to potentially disengage.)]

**Props:** Write 1 Peter 5:7 (NIRV)–one word on each card—and invite individuals to hold a word/s from the verse. Read the verse, removing a word or two each round, so that kids and congregation learn the verse together.

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| **Turn** | **all** | **your** | **worries** | **to him.** | **He** | **cares** | **about** | **you.** | **1 Peter 5:7** |

**Script:**

Hello friends! *The Awakening* is going to teach you an important message for mission. Please help me by holding the message for all to see and read.

[*Distribute cards and read message together*.]

Let’s remove a couple of words and see if we can remember it! [*Take some words away, then repeat the message together.*]

Are you using your superhero memory? I hope so, because we’re going to remove a few more words! [*REPEAT until all words are gone.*]

You are ALL superheroes for memorizing this important message! Well done!

Why do you think this message is so important? [*Allow responses.*]

Believe it or not, even superheroes like me worry about things, or get scared. When I don’t understand what is happening or am afraid, I am reminded of the fact that Jesus is wants us to trust him and give him our worries. Why? Because he cares about me and you!

Don’t forget to talk with God and let him handle your problems. He loves you and cares about all that you are going through.

*Dear Jesus,*

*Thank you for your words of love and comfort that we learned today. Help us to remember that promise as we go through tough times and are worried or anxious about something. We trust you and love you, and we know that you care deeply for us. Thank you, Jesus. Amen.*

We’ll see you next week!

[*Play outro superhero music as children go back to their seats and you leave the chapel.*]

***Lenten Awakening***

**Lenten Sermon – Week 3**

***Jesus Heals Us***

**March 3, 2024**

**By Major Catherine Mount**

**TITLE: Jesus Heals Us**

**SCRIPTURE: Isaiah 53:1-6; Mark 2:1-12**

**INTRODUCTION:** How do you feel about miracles? [*Share your own point of view of personal experience with miracles*.] Jesus performed every miracle recorded in the Bible, and possibly thousands, if not millions, more that were never written down. Jesus works through the Holy Spirit, and people, and medicine and science to HEAL physically and mentally, AND God is absolutely STILL doing the unexplainable . . . the miraculous . . .His divine work in and around us. And that thought leads us to another question: **Why are we so desperate for a Jesus that heals?**

**CONTEXT:** Why do we **need** a Jesus who heals? Because there is suffering—physical, emotional, mental, relational, and spiritual suffering. Why do we have suffering? There’s suffering because we have free will, and there are consequences in our world and in our lives because of generations of sin *and* personal sin. There are also consequences and situations that we live with that have NO reason, other than the fact we live in a broken world. Friends, we need a Jesus who heals because although God is sovereign and Jesus has defeated sin and death, WE are human. And *until* we are reunited with Christ in heaven in our glorified and restored bodies, We. Need. Jesus.

**TRANSITION & SCRIPTURE:** Let’s be reminded of WHO our God is. For those who might be unaware, this is an Old Testament prophecy about Jesus the Messiah:

**READ Isaiah 53:1-6 (NIV):**

***1*** *Who has believed our message*

*and to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed?*

***2*** *He grew up before him like a tender shoot,*

*and like a root out of dry ground.*

*He had no beauty or majesty to attract us to him,*

*nothing in his appearance that we should desire him.*

***3*** *He was despised and rejected by mankind,*

*a man of suffering, and familiar with pain.*

*Like one from whom people hide their faces*

*he was despised, and we held him in low esteem.*

***4*** *Surely he took up our pain*

*and bore our suffering,*

*yet we considered him punished by God,*

*stricken by him, and afflicted.*

***5*** *But he was pierced for our transgressions,*

*he was crushed for our iniquities;*

*the punishment that brought us peace was on him,*

*and* ***by his wounds we are healed****.*

***6*** *We all, like sheep, have gone astray,*

*each of us has turned to our own way;*

*and the Lord has laid on him*

*the iniquity of us all.*

**GOD IS ABLE TO HEAL**

*“By his wounds we are healed”* (v. 5). This isn’t about our physical, or emotional, or relationship problems; this is about our sin. Your sin. My sin. This Messianic prophecy declares the POWER of JESUS the Messiah to HEAL YOU from your sin. To REUNITE you with God. As it says in verse 5 – to bring PEACE to your life.

It reminds us that when it comes to healing, our God is ABLE and WILLING, and that our suffering is NOT FOREVER! If He can do that for your SIN NATURE, don’t you think God wants to work miracles in *every* area of your life? In your mind? In your relationships? In your body?

Heed this warning: when you let Jesus work His healing power in your life, it’s going to be different than you imagined. Think about the story found in Mark chapter 2, imagining the experience of the homeowner who watched the paralyzed man lowered through the roof by friends. In that setting, we see that healing can affect MORE than the person being healed! It has a “domino effect” on others. Here are some other truths about healing:

1. **Healing builds other people’s faith.** When we see God work, others are inspired and pointed towards Him.
2. **Healing is painful**. Anyone who has ever had to do physical therapy after surgery knows this to be true.
3. **Healing is participatory**. Those friends carried their friend, cut a hole in the roof, and lowered him down. My guess is that even before they heard of Jesus’ visit they were caring for and being present for their friend. (Luke 5:17-39)
4. **Healing is not yours to determine.** God’s timing, God’s purposes, and God’s will are always first, and yet it is possible. The hard truth is that sometimes there is suffering we are appointed to carry on this side of heaven. Does it seem fair? No. But sometimes it is necessary to shape us like Christ, to testify to His strength in our weakness.

**GOD IS WILLING TO HEAL**

When you let God work in your life, He WILL do something. It could be a miracle. It could be a promise. It could be clarity. It could simply be, NO. It could miraculously be HIS PRESENCE. How God works in your life and how Jesus heals in your life may not be what you expected, but He will do something. We have a God who is STILL working. Do you believe in the Jesus who Heals us?

**ILLUSTRATION:** Just about a year ago, on February 8, 2023, there was chapel service at Asbury University—an awakening, if you will—that spread quickly through social media and different news outlets. Students and faculty, and then other seekers traveled to experience something miraculous. [*Show* ***ASBURY OUTPOURING (aka Asbury Revival)| Documentary Film*** *video**by Sojourner Films* – (8 min.)] [**https://youtu.be/fJwQSEihmhQ**](https://youtu.be/fJwQSEihmhQ)

**CHALLENGE:** In the CALL TO worship that we heard at the beginning of the service, it reminded us that there is all kinds of sickness that need healing (Needham, pg. 82).

* Soul sickness is when our spiritual life is immobilized or misdirected (or not connected at all!).
* Emotional sickness is when our emotional life is undermining our mental health.
* Relational sickness is when our relationships with others are damaging or damaged.
* Physical sickness is when some part of our body is in pain or under threat.
* Body-of-Christ sickness is when a church is not living her calling to love God, each other, and the world.

Will you believe? Will you let the **Jesus who Heals** work in your life?