A Lenten Service of Healing

Monday, April 11th, 6:30 – 7:15 or 7:30pm

Set-up. Several stations around Marquand Chapel:
- lighting candles
- haiku cubes / writing
- Bible(s) open to Road to Emmaus, and the story available on small laminated cards for people to take
- Drawing – crayons / pastels
- Food station with crackers, cheese, and matzoh
- 2 anointing stations with oil (Janet, and Sandra)
- lots of tissues

We will also have items that people will have lent us significant in their own healing, and artwork from Overseas Ministries Study Center. There will be chairs around the chancel with a small table as altar, and a large table by the entrance with water.

Order

We will gather at a table by the entrance that will have a bowl of water on it. Here we will have:

Words of Welcome
James and Laura

Opening Prayer
Dale Peterson

Procession Song
“Ubi Caritas”
Amy Spagna

(As we sing this song, we will walk up into the chancel, circling one full time around the perimeter of the space – down the center, then one rotation clockwise, then into the chancel.)
A Reading

From somewhere a calm musical note arrives
You balance it on your tongue,
A single ripe grape,
Till your whole body glistens.
In the space between breaths
You apply it to any wound
And the wound heals.
(Naomi Shihab Nye)

As this is read, a single note will play on the piano (or, possibly flute?)

Prayer of Confession
(Silently, and then aloud)

All: Loving God, we open our hearts in confession not because you need that but because we do. We need to be honest and to know ourselves as you know us; caring yet cautious, vulnerable and earnest, impassioned and somewhat imprudent, struggling and uncertain. We are complex beings, seeking to do what is right, but hesitant to risk what we have. Forgive us, O God, our failures of love and trust. Help us to listen more carefully and fully to you. So mold us and use us, O God, that your mantle of discipleship becomes us. Amen.

Scripture: Psalm 22

Chanted, congregation sings response and may sing certain verses

Response twice
Vv 1-5 Amy/Elaine
Response
Vv 6-8 Amy/Elaine
Response
Vv 9-15 Higher Voices
Response
Vv 19-22 Amy/Elaine
Response
Vv 23-4 Lower Voices
Response
Vv 25-28 Amy/Elaine
Response
Vv 29-31 Everyone
Response twice

Song: How Long O God
My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?
    Why are you so far from helping me, from the words of my groaning?

O my God, I cry by day, but you do not answer;
    and by night, but I find no rest.

Yet you are holy, enthroned on the praises of Israel.

In you our ancestors trusted; they trusted, and you delivered them.

To you they cried, and were saved;
    in you they trusted, and were not put to shame. R

But I am a worm, and not human;
    scorned by others, and despised by the people.

All who see me mock at me;
    they make mouths at me, they shake their heads;

"Commit your cause to God;
    let God deliver — let God rescue the one in whom God delights!" R

Yet it was you who took me from the womb;
    you kept me safe on my mother's breast.

On you I was cast from my birth,
    and since my mother bore me you have been my God.

Do not be far from me,
    for trouble is near and there is no one to help.

Many bulls encircle me, strong bulls of Bashan surround me;

they open wide their mouths at me,
    like a ravenous and roaring lion.

I am poured out like water, and all my bones are out of joint;
    my heart is like wax; it is melted within my breast;

my mouth is dried up like a potsherd,
    and my tongue sticks to my jaws;
    you lay me in the dust of death. R

O God, do not be far away!
    O my help, come quickly to my aid!

Deliver my soul from the sword,
    my life from the power of the dog!

Save me from the mouth of the lion!
    From the horns of the wild oxen you have rescued me.

I will tell of your name to my brothers and sisters;
in the midst of the congregation
I will praise you: \( \mathcal{R} \).

23 You who fear God, praise God!
All you offspring of Jacob, glorify God;
stand in awe of God,
all you offspring of Israel!

24 For God did not despise or abhor
the affliction of the afflicted;
God did not hide God’s face from
me, but heard when I cried to God.
\( \mathcal{R} \).

25 From you comes my praise in the
great congregation;
my vows I will pay before those
who fear God.

26 The poor shall eat and be satisfied;
those who seek God shall praise
God. May your hearts live forever!

27 All the ends of the earth shall
remember and turn to God;
and all the families of the nations
shall worship before God.

28 For dominion belongs to God,
and God rules over the nations. \( \mathcal{R} \).

29 To God, indeed, shall all who sleep in
the earth bow down;
before God shall bow all who go
down to the dust, and I shall live
for God.

30 Posterity will serve God;
future generations will be told
about God,

31 and proclaim God’s deliverance to a
people yet unborn,
saying that God has done it. \( \mathcal{R} \).

Good Friday ABC, the entire Psalm; Lent 2 B vs. 23–31;
Song: How Long, O God?

Pouring the fragrant oil

The evil lurks with in, with out,
It threatens to destroy
The fragile cords that make us one,
That bind our hearts in joy.

Your grace, O God, seems far a way;
Will healing ever come?
Our broken lives lie broken still;
Will night give way to dawn?

How can we hope/ How can we sing?
O God, set free our voice
To name the sorrows, name the pain,
That we might yet rejoice.

Repeat v. 1

This African-American spiritual has become a popular setting for Isaac Watts’ text. The harmonization by Richard Smallwood is an example of the contemporary gospel sound that he helped to pioneer with his singing group, “The Richard Smallwood Singers.”

Tune: SMALLWOOD C.M.
African-American spiritual
Arr. Richard Smallwood, 1975
Reflections / Stories about Healing

Laura and James

The Healing Stations

We will hand out the rice paper, asking people to write down something for which they are hoping for healing. We explain what the stations are and say that there will also be an opportunity to return to the stations at the end of the service. We will have ten minutes for people to visit the various stations, meditate or pray on their own, or to do whatever the spirit leads, and we will gather back in at the sound of the singing bowl.

Stations include: anointing with oil (2x), with designated people who will be there to anoint
drawing
scripture passages on laminated cards
artwork to look at
food – crackers, cheese, matzoh, water, juice
votive candles to light

Gathering: How was that experience for you? Please share with us one word that’s on your mind.

Song: Does Anybody Know Somebody

Cantor:
Does anybody know somebody who can use my help?
Does anybody know somebody who can use my help?
Who can I give my help? For I have so much myself, oh,

Refrain - All:
Does anybody know somebody?
Does anybody know somebody,
Anybody know somebody who could use my help?

Cantor:
As we do unto the least of these
As we do unto the least of these
As we do to the least of these, Jesus says that’s who he’ll be, oh, Refrain

Cantor:
We can’t save the world, but Jesus can
We can’t save the world, but Jesus can
And Jesus is our head, and we are his feet and hands, oh, Refrain

Time of Open Prayer

Janet Ruffing

For our own healing, for others’, and especially for caretakers or those who’ve been significant in our journeys

Song: Healer of our every ill (see below)

Invitation to leave rice paper in water, and to leave once we start humming stay with us
Benediction
Laura and James

May the nourishment of the earth be yours,
May the clarity of light be yours,
May the fluency of the ocean be yours
May the healing silence of this night be yours
May the protection of the ancestors be yours
And so may a slow wind work these words of love around you,
an invisible cloak to mind your life.
(ala Celtic Theologian, John O’ Donohue)

Closing Song: Stay with us (sung through several times, with several instruments. Gradually each instrument falls silent and we move from singing to humming. People may leave as we hum).