

WELCOME TO...
The Presbyterian Church of
Saint David

June 28, 2015



IT'S ALL ABOUT HEALING

Call to Worship: *Sing praises to the LORD, and give thanks to God's holy name for the LORD our God has healed us when we cried for help and restored us in times of deepest despair. The LORD has turned our sorrow into dancing; taken our sackcloth from us, and clothed us with joy. Sing to the LORD without end, and give thanks to the LORD for ever.*

Hymn: When Jesus the healer (1 and 3) **203**
Confession of Brokenness: *Gracious God, You are the healer. You are the One who makes bodies whole, who mends marriages, who binds up broken hearts. Though you often heal through various means – doctors, medicines, surgeries, loving friends, forgiveness – you are still the source of all health and healing. You are the One who defines wholeness and who gives it as a gift. Lord, continue to heal me where I am broken. You see those places, Lord, even when I don't see them. Heal my fears, my sadness, my inner brokenness. Make me the whole person you have created and saved me to be. I know, Lord, that full healing doesn't come in this life. I look forward to the time when I shall stand before You completed, made perfect through Your grace. In the meanwhile, may I discover more of Your wholeness each day.* (posted on Pray the Psalms)

Hymn: When Jesus the healer (5 and 7) **203**
A reading from the scriptures Mark 5:21-43 When Jesus had crossed again in the boat to the other side, a great crowd gathered around him; and he was by the sea. Then one of the leaders of the synagogue named Jairus came and, when he saw him, fell at his feet and begged him repeatedly, "My little daughter is at the point of death. Come and lay your hands on her, so that she may be made well, and live." So he went with him. And a large crowd followed him and pressed in on him. Now there was a woman who had been suffering from hemorrhages for twelve years. She had endured much under many physicians, and had spent all that she had; and she was no better, but rather grew worse. She had heard about Jesus, and came up behind him in the crowd and touched his cloak, for she said, "If I but touch his clothes, I will be made well." Immediately her hemorrhage stopped; and she felt in her body that she was healed of her disease. Immediately aware that power had gone forth from him, Jesus turned about in the crowd and said, "Who touched my clothes?" And his disciples said to him, "You see the crowd pressing in on you; how can you say, 'Who touched me?'" He looked all around to see who had done it. But the woman, knowing what had happened to her, came in fear and trembling, fell down before him, and told him the whole truth. He said to her, "Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace, and be healed of your disease." While he was still speaking, some people came from the leader's house to say, "Your daughter is dead. Why trouble the teacher any further?" But overhearing what they said, Jesus said to the leader of the synagogue,

"Do not fear, only believe." He allowed no one to follow him except Peter, James, and John, the brother of James. When they came to the house of the leader of the synagogue, he saw a commotion, people weeping and wailing loudly. When he had entered, he said to them, "Why do you make a commotion and weep? The child is not dead but sleeping." And they laughed at him. Then he put them all outside, and took the child's father and mother and those who were with him, and went in where the child was. He took her by the hand and said to her, "Talitha cum," which means, "Little girl, get up!" And immediately the girl got up and began to walk about (she was twelve years of age). At this they were overcome with amazement. He strictly ordered them that no one should know this, and told them to give her something to eat.

Hymn: Sometimes a healing word is comfort (1-3) **768**

Conversation: *Who knows what kind of story Mark is telling here, but the enormously moving part of it, I think, is the part where Jesus takes the little girl's hand and says, "Talitha cum" - "Little girl, get up" - and suddenly we ourselves are the little girl. Little girl. Old girl. Old boy. Old boys and girls with high blood pressure and arthritis, and young boys and girls with tattoos and body piercing. You who believe, and you who sometimes believe and sometimes don't believe much of anything, and you who would give almost anything to believe if only you could. You happy ones and you who can hardly remember what it was like once to be happy. You who know where you're going and how to get there and you who much of the time aren't sure you're getting anywhere. "Get up," he says, all of you - all of you! - and the power that is in him is the power to give life not just to the dead like the child, but to those who are only partly alive, which is to say to people like you and me who much of the time live with our lives closed to the wild beauty and miracle of things, including the wild beauty and miracle of every day we live and even of ourselves.*

It is that life-giving power that is at the heart of this shadowy story about Jairus and the daughter he loved, and that I believe is at the heart of all our stories-the power of new life, new hope, new being, that whether we know it or not, I think, keeps us coming to places like this year after year in search of it. It is the power to get up even when getting up isn't all that easy for us anymore and to keep getting up and going on and on toward whatever it is, whoever he is, that all our lives long reaches out to take us by the hand.

Frederick Buechner

Hymn: Sometimes a healing word is comfort (4-5) **768**

Invitation to the Table of healing: *You who are broken, I invite you to the breaking of bread - come and eat. You who thirst for healing I invite you to come and drink. At this table find your healing and your wholeness. In the name of the One who said, "Love one another, as I have loved you," I invite you to the table of Jesus Christ. We come, for this is a table where all are invited and all are welcome.*

Hymn: Here is bread, here is wine **546**

Prayer of Thanksgiving: *The Lord is here. God's spirit is with us. Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give thanks and praise. Creator God, we give you thanks for healing and restoration (prayer continues) . Healing God, we give you thanks for all that we remember of the story of Jesus - your birth, your life, your death and resurrection. Sustaining God, we give you thanks for the eternal presence of your Spirit with us, surrounding us and filling us with Divine life. May this meal restore us to health and wholeness and inspire us to join more joyfully with you as you work for peace and justice in the world. Amen.*

Communion

Prayer following communion: *Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your spirit to give ourselves for others. We offer ourselves to you as a living sacrifice through Jesus Christ our Lord. Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work for your praise and glory.*

Hymn: Now let us from this table rise **556**

Sending: *Wait for the LORD, I wait with deep longing; and in his word I stand, waiting in hope. Hope in the LORD! For with the LORD there is steadfast love, and with the LORD is great power to save. Go into the world with assurance, hope and promise: the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ rest upon you - and even unsettle you; the love of God, creator and giver of life, embrace you - and even confront you; and the presence of the Holy Spirit encourage you - and surprise you, this day and all your days. Amen*