

# Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me

Augustus M. Toplady (1776)

## Verse 1

Rock of ages, cleft for me, let me hide myself in Thee;  
Let the water and the blood, from Thy wounded side which flowed,  
Be of sin the double cure, cleanse me from its guilt and power.

## Verse 2

Not the labors of my hands can fulfill Thy laws demands;  
Could my zeal no respite know, could my tears forever flow,  
All for sin could not atone; Thou must save, and thou alone

## Verse 3

Nothing in my hand I bring, simply to Thy cross I cling;  
Naked, come to Thee for dress; Helpless look to Thee for grace;  
Foul, I to the fountain fly; Wash me, Savior or I die.

## Verse 4

While I draw this fleeting breath,  
When mine eyelids shall close in death,  
When I soar to worlds unknown, see Thee on Thy judgment throne,  
Rock of Ages, cleft for me, let me hide myself in Thee.



### Credits

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# Old Orchard Church

— June 14, 2009 — 10:15 to 11:45 a.m.



"Healing of the Blind Man"

(from the Codex Egbert; Trier, France, 10th century)

When Jesus had called the Twelve together, he gave them power and authority to drive out all demons and to cure diseases, and he sent them out to preach the kingdom of God and to heal the sick...

So they set out and went from village to village, preaching the gospel and healing people everywhere.

Luke 9:1-2, 6

# Celebrating Jesus Christ,

## Healer of Our Bodies and Hearts

And the Commissioning of the Dominican Republic Mission Team

Sin not only breaks a law  
but it also tears the fragile fabric  
of our humanness and puts us in pain—  
Pain of broken bodies and broken spirits.  
But thanks be to God for sending his Son  
into the world to mend what is broken!

By restoring us to himself,  
to ourselves, and to one another,  
God has begun to heal us, body and soul.  
Trusting the Lord's goodness,  
and knowing him as salve for our wounds,  
we long for everything injured in us to be put right—  
partially now,  
fully in the life of the world to come.  
Alleluia!



### Scripture Readings

Old Testament Lesson: Isaiah 53:1-6

New Testament Lesson: Romans 8:18-25

### Sermon

"Zombies For Jesus"

Romans 12:1

*Mark Tucker, Associate Pastor, preaching*

We celebrate the Lord's Supper weekly—and in a circle, at the end of worship. A word of direction is given, and with this everyone stands and moves to the walls. The cup is passed in two forms: in a chalice and then in small individual cups. You are free to choose.

And as this is the Supper of the Lord Christ, please listen to the instructions we give as to what qualifies a visitor to participate. **But whether you intend to take communion or not, please join us in the circle.**

## The Church as Hospital

A pastor friend of mine once said to me that he thought every church had to choose whether it wanted to be a hospital or a mission station, and that he was opting for his to be the latter. But must we choose? Things that God has joined together must not be put asunder. God redeemed his church through the dying and rising of Jesus so that she might be **both** a hospital and a mission station. It is not only that God the Son took all our infirmities to the cross with him, as the Old Testament Lesson so wonderfully announces this morning, or that the Lord holds out the promise of “redeemed” bodies to us, as the New Testament Lesson reminds us. It's also that God expects his church to be an instrument in his hand as he works, through Christ, his healing, his restoration of our humanness.

No better definition of the church's work can be found than the one God gave to 6th century B.C. Israel when he promised to give her a leader who would do the *opposite* of what spiritual leaders are supposed to do. God did this to chastise his people for their disobedience:

**I am going to raise up a shepherd over the land who will NOT care for the lost, or seek the young, or heal the injured or feed the healthy....(Zechariah 11:16)**

A church that is not a hospital, letting God make it one through Christ's work of "**healing the injured**," is a disobedient church. The church is a hospital when it prays for physical and emotional healing for its people; it is a hospital when it organizes care and support for the physically injured, disabled, or diseased—both in the church and outside it, as we are able.

But it is also a hospital when it invites people to look to Jesus Christ for deep healing of emotional wounds that have gotten inflicted one way or another: through childhood abuse, or divorce, or war, or the trauma of great loss, or any number of other ways that sin or the effects of sin wound and scar us. And make no mistake: **all of us** are among the walking wounded. That's the Bible's teaching.

Those who have been at Old Orchard a while know about FirstLight, a ministry started 10 years ago out of this congregation that promotes Christ's power to heal men and women from the brokenness of pornography addiction and from homosexuality. Will people struggling with same-gender attraction feel welcome at Old Orchard Church? They will (and have) if they see and hear us acknowledging that we are all wounded and broken in some ways. Before the face of God all of us are morally and spiritually sick. That's the havoc—and the pain—that sin unleashed on the world.

But we have a gospel—“good news”—that sets before a hurting world a Savior who is also a Healer. “Dealing with sin” is not only a matter of coming to Christ to have its guilt atoned for; it also means coming to him so that sin's wounds—inflicted by others and self-inflicted—might be healed. That's why Jesus once said to the Pharisees:

**It's is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick....**

**For I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners.** (Matthew 9:12-13)

—Ron Lutjens