

**A SERVICE OF PRAYER FOR
CHRISTIAN HEALING AND WHOLENESS
January 15, 2015**

Prelude: Quiet music for quieting your spirit

WELCOME

Hymn: Spirit of God Descend Upon My Heart

GENERAL CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Leader: Let us confess our sin, in penitence and faith, firmly resolved to keep God's commandments and to live in love and peace with all men.

All: Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
we have sinned against you and against our neighbors,
in thought and word and deed,
through negligence, through weakness,
through our own deliberate fault.
We are truly sorry and repent of all our sins.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, who died for us,
forgive us all that is past;
and grant that we may serve you in newness of life
to the glory of your name. Amen.

Leader: Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy on us,
pardon and deliver us from all our sins,
confirm and strengthen us in all goodness,
and keep us in life eternal;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

COLLECT

Leader: Heavenly Father, your Son commissioned his disciples to heal the sick,
and through the Holy Spirit you bestow gifts of healing on His church.
Hear the prayers we offer in his name and grant your healing to those
for whom we intercede and those on whom we lay hands and anoint,
that together we may bear witness to the gospel of salvation and the
glory of your kingdom; we ask this through the same Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

Hymn: Day by Day and With Each Passing Moment

Scripture Reading: Psalm 37:1-8; Psalm 23

Do not fret because of the wicked; do not be envious of wrongdoers, for they will soon fade like the grass, and wither like the green herb. Trust in the Lord, and do good; so you will live in the land, and enjoy security. Take delight in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of

your heart. Commit your way to the Lord; trust in him, and he will act. He will make your vindication shine like the light, and the justice of your cause like the noonday. Be still before the Lord, and wait patiently for him; do not fret over those who prosper in their way, over those who carry out evil devices. Refrain from anger, and forsake wrath. Do not fret—it leads only to evil.

The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters; he restores my soul. He leads me in right paths for his name's sake. Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me. You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord my whole life long.

Special Music:

Scripture: Philippians 4:4-8, 11-12; John 14:27; Hebrews 12:1

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.

I have learned to be content with whatever I have. I know what it is to have little, and I know what it is to have plenty. In any and all circumstances I have learned the secret of being well fed and of going hungry, of having plenty and of being in need. I can do all things through him who strengthens me. In any case, it was kind of you to share my distress.

Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid.

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us.

Hymn: O Lord, Hear My Prayer

Time for Quiet Reflection and Meditation

Prayer:

Heavenly Father, you sent your Son to proclaim the good news of your salvation and to manifest your healing power. Continue your gracious work among us by the power of your Holy Spirit, and grant that we who have received your forgiveness and healing may live your gospel and manifest your kingdom in all that we think and say and do, now and always. Through Jesus Christ our Physician and Savior, who has taught us to pray by saying:

All: Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
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.

LAYING ON OF HANDS AND ANOINTING WITH OIL

Leader: Blessed are you, sovereign God, gentle and merciful, creator of heaven and earth. Your Word brought light out of darkness, and daily your Spirit renews the face of the earth. Your anointed Son brought healing to those in weakness and distress. He broke the power of evil and set us free from sin and death that we might praise your name forever. By the power of your Spirit may your blessing rest on those who are anointed with this oil in your name; may they be made whole in body, mind and spirit, restored in your image, renewed in your love, and serve you as sons and daughters in your kingdom. Through your anointed Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, to whom with you and the Holy Spirit we lift our voices of thanks and praise:

All: Blessed be God, our strength and our salvation, now and forever. Amen.

Those who wish to receive the ministry of anointing of oil and prayer are invited to kneel at the altar. Following this you are invited to pray and meditate at your seat or come for prayer with members of the Healing Team.

Continuous music ... during anointing and prayer

After you have finished praying, feel free to stay as long as you wish and leave as the Spirit leads, praying silently the following benediction:

Benediction:

Almighty God, so draw my heart to you, so guide my mind, so fill my imagination, so control my will, that I may be wholly yours. And then use me I pray, as you will, and always to your glory and the welfare of your people; through Jesus Christ my Lord and Savior, Amen.

We commit ourselves to God and leave in his care.

Because the Holy Spirit is continually at work in each of us, pushing us toward wholeness, the process of healing is like removing sticks and leaves from a stream until the water runs clear. If we simply get out of the way of the Lord's work in us, we can trust that we are being led to the particular kind of wholeness God wills for us.

(The readings and prayers are from Gunstone, John, *Prayers for Healing*, Highland Inter Publishing Service Ltd, 1992 ed.)