

A SERVICE OF PRAYER AND THANKSGIVING FOR HEALING AND WHOLENESS

Prelude: Quiet music for quieting your spirit

WELCOME AND OPENING PRAYER:

LEADER: Almighty God, you are the source of health and healing, the spirit of calm, and the central peace of the universe. We ask that you would fill us with such an awareness of your presence within that we may have complete confidence in you. In all pain and weariness and anxiety may we rest in your protecting care; may we know ourselves to be encircled by your loving power so that we may allow you to give us health and strength and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. *

All: **Amen**

Hymn Thanks to God for My Redeemer

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 on 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: Give Thanks with a Grateful Heart

Scripture Reading: Psalm 139: 1-14

This Psalm reminds us of our inescapable God, who knows us completely, who formed us in our mothers womb. We are indeed fearfully and wonderfully made.

You have searched me, LORD, and you know me. You know when I sit and when I rise; you perceive my thoughts from afar.

You discern my going out and my lying down; you are familiar with all my ways.

Before a word is on my tongue you, LORD, know it completely.

You hem me in behind and before, and you lay your hand upon me. Such knowledge is too wonderful for me, too lofty for me to attain.

Where can I go from your Spirit? Where can I flee from your presence?

If I go up to the heavens, you are there; if I make my bed in the depths, you are there.

If I rise on the wings of the dawn, if I settle on the far side of the sea, even there your hand will guide me, your right hand will hold me fast.

If I say, "Surely the darkness will hide me and the light become night around me," even the darkness will not be dark to you; The night will shine like the day, for darkness is as light to you.

For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb.

I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well.

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God

RESPONSIVE SCRIPTURE READING

Leader: O give *thanks* to the Lord, call on his name, make known his deeds among the people. (I Chronicles 16:8)

All: O give *thanks* to the Lord, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever.
I Chronicles 16:34

Leader: I will give to the Lord the *thanks* due to his righteousness, and sing *praise* to the name of the Lord, the Most High. (Psalm 7:17)

All: I will give *thanks* to you, O Lord, among the peoples, and I will sing *praises* to you among the nations. (Psalm 108:3)

Leader: The Lord is my strength and my shield; in him my heart trusts; so I am helped, and my heart exults, and with my song I give *thanks* to him. (Psalm 28:7)

All: Enter his gates with *thanksgiving*, and his courts with *praise*. Give *thanks* to him, bless his name. (Psalm 100:4)

Leader: But thanks be to God, who in Christ always leads us in triumphal procession, and through us spreads in every place the fragrance that comes from knowing him. (II Corinthians 2:14)

All: Give *thanks* in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

(1 Thess 5:18)

Leader: Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with *thanksgiving* let your requests be made known to God. (*Philipp 4:6*)

All: "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and *thanksgiving* and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen." (*Revelation 7:8*)

Special Music:

Meditation and sharing your healing blessings

Hymn: I Will Give Thanks to God

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 this day our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation but 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 come 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.)