

**A SERVICE OF PRAYER FOR
CHRISTIAN HEALING AND WHOLENESS
Healing Through Trust and Patience
September 18, 2014 7:30 pm**

Prelude: Quiet music for quieting your spirit

WELCOME:

OPENING: INVOCATION (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: Send Us Your Spirit

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: I Am Trusting Thee, Lord Jesus

Scripture Reading: Psalm 16 A Psalm of Trust and Security in God

Leader: Protect me, O God, for in you I take refuge. I say to the LORD, "You are my Lord; I have no good apart from you.

All: As for the holy ones in the land, they are the noble in whom is all my delight. Those who choose another god multiply their sorrows; their drink offerings of blood I will not pour out or take their names upon my lips.

Leader: The LORD is my chosen portion and my cup; you hold my lot. The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places; I have a goodly heritage.

All: I bless the LORD who gives me counsel; in the night also my heart instructs me. I keep the LORD always before me; because he is at my right hand, I shall not be moved.

Leader: Therefore my heart is glad, and my soul rejoices, my body also rests secure.

All: For you do not give me up to Sheol, or let your faithful one see the Pit. You show me the path of life. In your presence there is fullness of joy; in your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

Special Music:

Scripture: Psalm 37: 1-9 A Psalm of Patience and Trust

Leader: 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.

All: 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.

Leader: 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.

All: 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.

Leader: Refrain from anger, and forsake wrath. Do not fret—it leads only to evil. For the wicked shall be cut off, but those who wait for the LORD shall inherit the land. He rescues them from the wicked, and saves them, because they take refuge in him.

Testimony by Myra Arnold and Time for Quiet Reflection and Meditation

(Suggestion: Reread the two readings from Psalms slowly and meditatively, see what verse or phrase speaks especially to you right now. Let this word from God dwell in your heart and mind.)

Hymn: Deep Within

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 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.)

* *A Prayer for healing* by Avery Brooks from *All Will Be Well: A Gathering of Healing Prayers*, edited by Lyn Klug, Augsburg 1998.