

# A Public Service of Healing

*This service is suitable for use in a congregation or other church setting. It may also be adapted as needed for use in a variety of settings, e.g., hospital, nursing home, or other health care facility.*

*When unction is administered in the context of the Sunday Eucharist or a regular weekday Eucharist, the portion of this service entitled "Laying on of Hands and Anointing" is used. It is recommended that this take place immediately before the exchange of the Peace.*

## The Word of God

*The People standing, the Celebrant says this or a seasonal greeting (pages 145-146)*

Blessed be God: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

*People* **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

## The Collect for Purity

*The Celebrant prays (and the People may be invited to join)*

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## Songs of Praise and Worship

*After the music, the service may begin with the following greeting*

*Minister* The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Minister* Let us pray.

*After a period of silence, the Minister then says*

O God of peace, you have taught us that in returning and rest we shall be saved, in quietness and confidence will be our strength: By the might of your Spirit lift us, we pray, to your presence, where we may be still and know that you are God; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

*Congregation is seated.*

## The Lessons

*One or more Lessons, as appointed, are read, the Reader first saying*

**A Reading from \_\_\_\_\_.**

*A citation giving chapter and verse may be added.*

*After each Lesson the Reader may say*

*The Word of the Lord.*

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

*Silence may follow.*

*A psalm, hymn, or anthem may follow each reading.*

*All standing, the Deacon or Priest reads the Gospel, first saying*

**The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to \_\_\_\_\_.**

*People* **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

*After the Gospel, the Reader says*

**The Gospel of the Lord.**

*People* **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

## Response to the Word

### A Litany of Healing

*The Celebrant introduces the Litany with this bidding*

Let us name before God those for whom we offer our prayers.

*The People audibly name those for whom they are interceding. A Person appointed then leads the Litany*

God the Father, your will for all people is health and salvation;

*We praise you and thank you, O Lord.*

God the Son, you came that we might have life, and might have it more abundantly;

*We praise you and thank you, O Lord.*

God the Holy Spirit, you make our bodies the temple of your presence;

*We praise you and thank you, O Lord.*

Holy Trinity, one God, in you we live and move and have our being;

*We praise you and thank you, O Lord.*

Lord, grant your healing grace to all who are sick, injured, or disabled, that they may be made whole;

*Hear us, O Lord of life.*

Grant to all who seek your guidance, and to all who are lonely, anxious, or despondent, a knowledge of your will and an awareness of your presence;

*Hear us, O Lord of life.*

Mend broken relationships, and restore those in emotional distress to soundness of mind and serenity of spirit;  
*Hear us, O Lord of life.*

Bless physicians, nurses, and all others who minister to the suffering, granting them wisdom and skill, sympathy and patience;  
*Hear us, O Lord of life.*

Grant to the dying peace and a holy death, and uphold by the grace and consolation of your Holy Spirit those who are bereaved;  
*Hear us, O Lord of life.*

Restore to wholeness whatever is broken by human sin, in our lives, in our nation, and in the world;  
*Hear us, O Lord of life.*

You are the Lord who does wonders:  
*You have declared your power among the peoples.*

With you, O Lord, is the well of life:  
*And in your light we see light.*

Hear us, O Lord of life:  
*Heal us, and make us whole.*

Let us pray.

*A period of silence follows.*

*The Celebrant concludes the Prayers with one of the following or some other suitable Collect.*

Almighty God, giver of life and health: Send your blessing on all who are sick, and upon those who minister to them, that all weakness may be vanquished by the triumph of the risen Christ; who lives and reigns for ever and ever.  
*Amen.*

*or this*

Open us to your healing power, O God. We entrust ourselves to your care, knowing that you are doing for us and for all the world far better things than we can ask or imagine. With you as our companion and guide, strengthen us to hope for all that is good, and to fear no evil. For your love is stronger than death, and your faithfulness reaches to the heavens; and to you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and to the ages of ages. *Amen.*

## **Confession of Sin**

*A Confession of Sin may follow, if it has not been said at the beginning of the service.*

*The Deacon or Celebrant says*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Minister and People*

Most merciful God,  
we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed,  
by what we have done,  
and by what we have left undone.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart, we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and  
we humbly repent.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us;  
that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways,  
to the glory of your name. Amen.

*The Bishop when present, or the Priest, stands and says*

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all  
goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. *Amen.*

*Then*

Savior of the world, by your cross and precious blood you have redeemed us:  
People **Save us, and help us, we humbly beseech you, O Lord.**

*And*

The Almighty Lord, who is a strong tower to all who put their trust in him, to whom all things in heaven, on earth, and  
under the earth bow and obey; Be now and evermore your defense, and make you know and reel that the only Name  
under heaven given for health and salvation is the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

*Congregation may be invited to receive anointing with oil and the laying on of hands.*

### **Laying on of Hands and Anointing**

*The minister may invite each person to be anointed to give her or his name and any particular request for prayer. The minister then lays hands upon the  
sick person [and anoints the person], prays silently, then prays aloud using one of the following forms or similar words.*

N., I lay my hands upon you [and anoint you] in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit,  
praying that our Savior Jesus Christ will sustain you, drive away sickness of body and mind and spirit, and give you  
that victory of life and peace which will enable you to serve and rejoice in him, in this world and in the world to  
come. *Amen.*

*or this*

N., I lay my hands upon you [and anoint you] in the name of our Savior Jesus Christ, praying you will be  
strengthened and filled with God's grace, that you may know the healing power of the Spirit. *Amen.*

*The Laying on of Hands [and Anointing] may conclude with the following Collect.*

May the God who goes before you through desert places by night and by day be your companion and guide; may  
your journey be with the saints; may the Holy Spirit be your strength, and Christ your clothing of light, in whose  
name we pray. *Amen.*

**The Lord's Prayer** *Contemporary*

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.

And 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 for ever. Amen.

**Closing Prayer and Blessing**

*The Celebrant says*

Let us pray.

*Celebrant and People together say the following*

**Almighty and eternal God, so draw our hearts to you, so guide our minds, so fill our imaginations, so control our wills, that we may be wholly yours, utterly dedicated to you; and then use us, we pray, as you will and always to your glory and the welfare of your people; through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.**

*The Bishop when present, or the Priest, gives this or an alternate blessing*

May God the Father bless you, God the Son heal you, God the Holy Spirit give you strength. May God the holy and undivided Trinity guard your body, save your soul, and bring you safely to his heavenly country; where he lives and reigns for ever and ever. *Amen.*

*A hymn, psalm, or anthem may be sung after the Blessing (or following the Dismissal).*

**The Dismissal**

*The Deacon, or the Priest, may dismiss the People with these words*

*Deacon* Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

*People* **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

*Deacon* The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People* **And with your spirit. Amen.**