

Hands

Oil

Wine

Bread

Service of Prayer and Healing

August 17, 2023

St. John's, Powell

Laying on of Hands

Tonight, we enter a liturgy known as “A Public Service of Healing.”

In ministry with the sick or dying, the Church acts in the grace of God for the health and salvation of its members. This ministry is based on Jesus’ constant witness of concern and care for the sick. It is also shaped by the Epistle of James’ direction to call for the elders of the Church to pray over the sick and anoint them with oil in the name of Jesus Christ.

Sacramental healing is traditionally called “unction,” defined by the Prayer Book as “**the rite of anointing the sick with oil, or the laying on of hands**, by which God’s grace is given for the healing of spirit, mind, and body” (BCP p. 861).

Episcopalians distinguish between healing and curing. They see “curing” as end of disease or illness and “healing” as an experience of transformation, peace, or improved relationships with other people or God. In Episcopalian theology, the goal of healing is a return to wholeness.

This service includes readings, prayers, anointing, laying of hands, and the celebration of the Eucharist.

Healing is offered for all who feel the need for healing of spirit, mind, or body.

Sources

This service was taken from *The Book of Occasional Services* and *Enriching Our Worship 2*, resources published by the Episcopal Church.

Prelude

“Pilgrim’s Song,” The Gloaming.

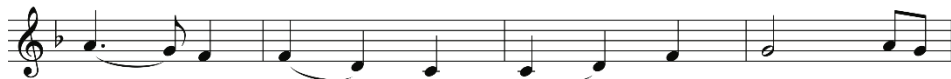
“Be Thou,” Imar.

“Be Still and Know,” LeAnn Rimes.

Hymn *There is an interlude between verses 1 and 2*



1. We can - not meas - ure how you heal Or
 2. The pain that will not go a - way, The
 3. So some have come who need your help, And



an - swer ev - 'ry suf - f'rer's prayer, Yet
 guilt that clings from things long past, The
 some have come to make a - mends, As



we be - lieve your grace re - sponds Where faith and
 fear of what the fu - ture holds, Are pres - ent
 hands which shaped and saved the world Are pres - ent



doubt u - nite to care. Your hands, though blood - ied
 as if meant to last. But pres - ent too is
 in the touch of friends. Lord, let your Spir - it



on the cross, Sur - vive to hold and heal and
 love which tends The hurt we nev - er hoped to
 meet us here To mend the bod - y, mind, and



warn, To car - ry all through death to
 find, The pri - vate ag - o - nies in -
 soul, To dis - en - tan - gle peace from



life And cra - dle chil - dren yet un - born.
 side, The mem - o - ries that haunt the mind.
 pain, And make your bro - ken peo - ple whole.

GATHERING

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

And also with you.

Let us pray.

We keep silence.

Gracious God, we commend to your loving care all who suffer, especially those who come here seeking your healing grace for themselves or others. Give them patience and hope in their distress; strengthen and uphold them in mind and body; and grant, by your intervention, that all your people may be made whole according to your desire, through Jesus Christ, in the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Psalm 42: 6-11

⁶My soul is cast down within me; therefore I remember you
from the land of Jordan and of Hermon, from Mount Mizar.

⁷ **Deep calls to deep at the thunder of your torrents;
all your waves and your billows have gone over me.**

⁸ By day the Lord commands his steadfast love,
and at night his song is with me, a prayer to the God of my life.

⁹ **I say to God, my rock, “Why have you forgotten me?
Why must I walk about mournfully because the enemy oppresses me?”**

¹⁰ As with a deadly wound in my body, my adversaries taunt me,
while they say to me continually, “Where is your God?”

¹¹ **Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you disquieted within me?
Hope in God, for I shall again praise him, my help and my God.**

WORD

A reading from Mark (14:32-26).

After the reading

Word of God, Word of hope.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

A LITANY OF HEALING

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

We audibly name those for whom we are interceding.

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.

We keep silence.

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; Creator, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and to the ages of ages. **Amen.**

CONFESSION OF SIN

Let us confess our sins to God.
God of all mercy,
we confess that we have sinned against you,
opposing your will in our lives.
We have denied your goodness in each other,
in ourselves, and in the world you have created.
We repent of the evil that enslaves us,
the evil we have done,
and the evil done on our behalf.
Forgive, restore, and strengthen us
through our Savior Jesus Christ,
that we may abide in your love
and serve only your will. Amen.

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

LAYING ON OF HANDS

The ministry of Jesus invites us to new life in God and with each other. In the laying on of hands and anointing we proclaim the Good News that God desires us to be healthy and one in the body of Christ. You are invited to offer yourself, whatever your sickness of spirit, mind, or body, and ask for healing and wholeness in the Name of the holy and undivided Trinity.

The minister invites each person to be anointed to give her or his name and any particular request for prayer. The minister then anoints the person and lays hands upon the person and, prays silently, then prays aloud using one of the following:

N., I anoint you and lay my hands upon you in the name of God the holy and undivided Trinity. May Christ be present with you to comfort you, to guard and protect you, and to keep you in everlasting life. Amen.

–Or–

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.**

After all persons have received laying on of hands, the leader says.

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 PEACE

May the peace of Christ be always with you.

And also with you.

We may greet each other in the name of God.

Offertory

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us,
An offering and sacrifice to God.

MUSIC "Psalm 25," Poor Bishop Hooper.

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is truly right, and good and joyful, to give you thanks,
all-holy God, source of life and fountain of mercy.

You have filled us and all creation with your blessing
and fed us with your constant love;
you have redeemed us in Jesus Christ and knit us into one body.
Through your Spirit you replenish us and call us to fullness of life.
Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels
and with the faithful of every generation,
we lift our voices with all creation as we say:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life.
You formed us in your own image and called us to dwell in your infinite love.
You gave the world into our care that we might be your faithful stewards
and show forth your bountiful grace.

But we failed to honor your image in one another and in ourselves;
we would not see your goodness in the world around us;
and so we violated your creation, abused one another,
and rejected your love.

Yet you never ceased to care for us,
and prepared the way of salvation for all people.
Through Abraham and Sarah you called us into covenant with you.
You delivered us from slavery, sustained us in the wilderness,
and raised up prophets to renew your promise of salvation.

Then, in the fullness of time, you sent your eternal Word,
made mortal flesh in Jesus. Born into the human family,
and dwelling among us, he revealed your glory.
Giving himself freely to death on the cross, he triumphed over evil,
opening the way of freedom and life.

On the night before he died for us,
Our Savior Jesus Christ took bread,
and when he had given thanks to you,
he broke it, and gave it to his friends, and said:

“Take, eat:

This is my Body which is given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.”

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine,
and when he had given thanks,
he gave it to them, and said:

“Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant,
which is poured out for you and for all
for the forgiveness of sins.

Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.”

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Remembering his death and resurrection,
we now present to you from your creation this bread and this wine.
By your Holy Spirit may they be for us
the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ.
Grant that we who share these gifts may be filled with the Holy Spirit
and live as Christ's Body in the world.
Bring us into the everlasting heritage of your daughters and sons,
that with St. John and all your saints, past, present, and yet to come,
we may praise your Name for ever.
Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
to you be honor, glory, and praise,
for ever and ever. **AMEN.**

Lord's Prayer

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done, on earth as 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 for ever.
Amen.**

Breaking Bread

We break this bread
to share in the Body of Christ.

**We who are many are one body,
for we all share in the one bread.**

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

COMMUNION

Please come to the table, whether you are single, married or divorced, drinking, using or sober, abled, disabled, or ill, gay, straight, or discovering, wealthy, getting by or in debt. Christ meets us all.

We approach the altar beginning with those sitting in the last rows; they shall be first. Approach the rail from the left aisle and take a cup; used cups go on the tray on the right. You may receive only bread or only wine. Our Eucharistic bread is handmade and robust. If you prefer a wafer, please tell your server.

Receiving the bread and wine is a central act of worship in the Episcopal Church.

Music

“Precious Lord Take My Hand,” Heather Cimarrusti.

GRATITUDE

We stand.

Let us pray.

Faithful God

**in the wonder of your wisdom and love
you fed your people in the wilderness with the bread of angels,
and you sent Jesus to be the bread of life.**

We thank you for feeding us with this bread.

**May it strengthen us
that by the power of the Holy Spirit
we may embody your desire
and be renewed for your service
through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

Blessing

May the One who creates and restores everything that is,
the One who is Mary's child and child of God,
the One who is the Holy Spirit.
May this Holy One bring you compassion and peace,
and bless your lives with joy.

Amen.

Hymn



1. Peace is flow - ing like a riv - er,
2. Love is flow - ing like a riv - er,
3. Joy is flow - ing like a riv - er,
4. Faith is flow - ing like a riv - er,
5. Hope is flow - ing like a riv - er,



Flow - ing out through you and me; Flow - ing out in - to the



des - ert, Set - ting all the cap - tives free.

Text: Unknown

Tune: Unknown; acc. by Diana Kodner, b.1957

Sending

Let us bless the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Music

“Peace Is Flowing Like a River,” Stephen Petrunak.