

GOD'S WORK. OUR HANDS.

Praying about our faithful mission together

We go forward in confident hope because our hope is grounded in Christ. We finally meet one another—not in our agreements or disagreements—but at the foot of the cross, where God is faithful, where Christ is present with us, and where, by the power of the Spirit, we are one in Christ.

Healing Service Resources from *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*

HEALING

This order may take place within Holy Communion or the Service of the Word, usually following the hymn of the day. The assembly may be seated.

INTRODUCTION

The presiding minister may address the assembly with these or similar words.

Our Lord Jesus healed many as a sign of the reign of God come near and sent the disciples to continue this work of healing—with prayer, the laying on of hands, and anointing. In the name of Christ, the great healer and reconciler of the world, we now entrust to God all who are in need of healing.

Prayers of intercession are said using one of the following forms or other appropriate prayers.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus,
and especially for all who are suffering or are in any affliction.

Silent prayer may follow.

Merciful God, you sent your Son to be our peace.
Help all those who suffer any pain or grief, hopelessness or anxiety.
In your great mercy,
hear us, O God.

Mighty God,
mercifully grant strength to the weak
and comfort to those who suffer,
that their sickness and pain may be turned into health.
In your great mercy,
hear us, O God.

God of peace and reconciliation,
bring an end to the sickness of the world,
especially violence, terrorism, war, and their causes.
In your great mercy,
hear us, O God.

Holy God, Holy One,
your Son prayed that your people may be one.
May the gift of baptism be a power
for healing the church's brokenness,
and bless all efforts for renewal and Christian unity.
In your great mercy,
hear us, O God.

Loving God,
mend broken relationships and bring peace
to our families, our congregation, this community, and the world.
In your great mercy,
hear us, O God.

Other petitions may be offered, including particular needs and requests for healing.

Eternal God, we thank you for all the faithful departed
[including *name/s* and those whom we remember before you...].
Heal the pain of all who grieve.
In your great mercy,
hear us, O God.

The presiding minister concludes the prayers.

O God, we bring these intercessions before you,
knowing that you will hear us as you have promised,
and will answer according to the mercy
shown in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

LAYING ON OF HANDS

The presiding minister may address the assembly in these or similar words.

Sisters and brothers, I invite you to come and receive a sign of healing and wholeness in the name of the triune God.

Those who wish to receive laying on of hands (and anointing) approach and, as conditions permit, they may kneel.

The minister lays both hands on each person's head and may use one of these forms or similar words. The minister may also anoint the person's forehead with oil, making the sign of the cross.

OPTION A: In the name of our Savior

Name, in the name of our Savior Jesus Christ,
be strengthened and filled with God's grace,
that you may know the healing power of the Spirit.

Response:

Amen.

OPTION B: Receive this oil

Receive this oil
as a sign of forgiveness and healing
in Jesus Christ.

Response:

Amen.

OPTION C: Father in heaven

Father in heaven, for Jesus' sake,
send your Holy Spirit upon your servant, *name*;
drive away all sickness of body and spirit;
make whole that which is broken;
deliver *her/him* from the power of evil;
and preserve *her/him* in true faith,
to share in the power of Christ's resurrection
and to serve you with all the saints
now and evermore.

Response:

Amen.

The laying on of hands may be accompanied by the singing of acclamations (#218-221), psalms, hymns, and other music.

After all have returned to their places, the assembly stands, and the presiding minister continues.

Let us pray.

Living God, through the laying on of hands [and anointing], grant comfort in suffering to all who are in need of healing. When they are afraid, give them courage; when afflicted, give them patience; when dejected, give them hope; and when alone, assure them of the support of your holy people. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

The presiding minister concludes the order for healing.

Almighty God, who is a strong tower to all, to whom all things in heaven and on earth bow and obey, be now and evermore your sure defense, and help you to know that the name given to us for health and salvation is the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Amen.

PEACE

The presiding minister and the assembly greet each other in the peace of the risen Christ.

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace and may say,

Peace be with you,

or similar words.

The assembly is seated.

The service continues with the offering.

When the service includes communion, an assisting minister may pray the following prayer after communion.

Let us pray.

Merciful God, constant source of all healing,
we give you thanks for all your gifts of strength and life,
and above all we thank you for the gift of your Son,
through whom we have health and salvation.

As we wait for that day when there will be no more pain,
help us by your Holy Spirit

to be assured of your power in our lives

and to trust in your eternal love;

through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

At the conclusion of the service, the following blessing and sending may be used.

The God of all consolation bless you in every way,

grant you hope all the days of your life,

restore you to health and grant you salvation,

fill your heart with peace,

and lead you to eternal life.

Almighty God bless you, the Father, the + Son, and the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

An assisting minister may send the assembly into mission.

Go in peace. Christ is with you.

Thanks be to God.

Attributions:

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