

#### BLESSING

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, wholeness, and salvation is the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Amen.



# A Brief Order of Healing and Anointing

The order for healing is an expression of the church's ministry of healing. Here all who sense the need for God's healing in any aspect of their lives may join in prayer for others and themselves. Here each person may come to receive a word of blessing and prayer. Here each one may also receive a physical gesture of healing: the laying on of hands, which may be accompanied by anointing with oil. These signs, first given in baptism, tell us again that we are sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked forever with the cross of Christ, who is health and salvation for the whole world.

This ministry of healing does not replace the gifts of God that come through the scientific community nor does it promise a cure. Rather, the church offers and celebrates gifts such as these: God's presence with strength and comfort in time of suffering, God's promise of wholeness and peace, and God's love embodied in the community of faith.

**WELCOME** — 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.

#### INVOCATION

Like the first disciples before the coming of God's power at Pentecost, we wait in faith, and we pray...

Be with us, Holy Spirit; nothing can separate us from your love. Be with us as of old, fill us with your power, direct all our thoughts to your goodness. Be present, Holy Spirit; bring faith and healing and peace. Amen.

The Lord is here. God's Spirit is with us.



#### **PRAYERS FOR HEALING**

Each petition ends: "Lord Jesus Christ, lover of all..." Response: "... bring healing, bring wholeness, bring peace."

#### LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

### WORD

"Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective." -James 5:13-16

#### LAYING ON OF HANDS AND ANOINTING

All who wish to come forward to receive the laying on of hands and the anointing with oil may come forward to kneel or stand and receive these embodied graces. Come forward on your own time and return at your own time, doing all you do in prayer. The words below may be used.

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. **Amen** 

## **HEALING PRAYER**

#### 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**