

17 ANOINTING AND LAYING ON OF HANDS

The minister and his assistants lay hands on each person as they kneel at the chancel, or other convenient positions.

The minister prays

In the name of Jesus Christ who was wounded for our sake, and by whose stripes we are healed, be healed of all infirmities in your body, mind and spirit.

Amen.

- 18 *He may then anoint the forehead with oil. If the oil is not consecrated, it may be consecrated with these words:*

Consecrate this oil, Lord, which your servant is about to use for the anointing of your people. In the name of the Father, Son, and the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

- 19 *He puts his thumb into the oil and then makes a mark of the cross on the persons forehead and says:*

I anoint you with this holy oil. Receive Christ's forgiveness and healing. The power of the Saviour who suffered for you, flow through your mind and body, lifting you to peace and inward strength. **Amen.**

OR

I anoint you in the name of the Anointed One;
Receive healing, receive forgiveness, receive peace,
receive fullness of life, even eternal life.

Through the merits of our Lord Jesus
Christ the great healer and Saviour. **Amen.**

- 20 *Hymn, after which the service of Holy Communion may follow, beginning from Sharing of Peace.*

Where the service does not proceed to Holy Communion, this final prayer may be said by the minister and then end with the Blessing and recessional hymn. Provision could be made for people to share testimonies of healing.

- 21 *Minister* Almighty God, the Father of our Lord, Saviour and Healer, Jesus Christ, we thank you for your presence with us in this service; We thank you for your healing touch on distressed hearts and minds, for the healing of our physical conditions, and for the greater gift of peace and tranquillity in our minds and spirits. We thank you for carrying our cares, anxieties and all that weighs us down. Thank you for the forgiveness of sins, and for deliverance from satanic invasions. We thank you that in you we are set free and free indeed, and we can therefore praise your holy name singing:

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

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Service of Healing

- 1 *Hymn*

- 2 *The minister may read these scripture sentences: 1 Pet 5:7, Is 43:1b-3a, Ps 46:1-3, Phil 4:4-7, Is 53:4-5, Is 40:28-31, Mt 11:28-30, Ja 5:4*

- 3 *Minister* Brothers and sisters, we have come together to worship God whose hands are always stretched out in blessings and healing. This, he has shown us through his Son Jesus Christ. We come to thank him for calling us to share in this work of healing. We come to seek his grace and wisdom for a bruised and broken world. We come to give ourselves to him, that we might be instruments of his love and power to all who need his healing touch today.

- 4 *People sit or kneel for confession*

Eternal Father, God of our ancestors, before your power all things tremble, but through your Son we approach your throne. We have done wrong and neglected to do right; our sins weigh heavily on our hearts; Lord have mercy, count them not against us. Grant us the joy of forgiveness and lighten our hearts with the glory of Christ, who died and rose again for us. Amen.

Minister The God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ rejoices at repentance and declares his acceptance. The dead are alive, the lost are found. His goodness and mercy shall follow you all the days of your life, and you will live in the house of the Lord for ever. **Amen.**

- 5 *First and second readings, from these or other appropriate texts.*

Isaiah 52:13-53:5

- 6 *A prayerful chorus or hymn may be sung.*

Acts 3:1-8a, 11-16

- 7 *Hymn (in acclamation of the healing and saving power of Jesus)*

e.g. 'Would You Be Free From your Burden...'

People sit or kneel for confession

Lord Jesus Christ, we are weak but you are strong; we are poor but you are rich; we are sinful but you forgive; we are sick but you give health. Come to us through your Holy Spirit, so that we may receive all that you plan for our healing and wholeness, and may all glory and honour come back to you. Amen.

Minister Praise be to the Lord our King;
Praise be to the Lord of Lords.

He forgives sins;

He heals our ailments.

He died to give us life;

He rose to give us hope.

Christ is with us now;

He is here indeed.

The Spirit is here;
with healing in his wings.

Minister Let us pray for health and healing.

We give thanks that God longs for healing and wholeness for all people. Let us bless the Lord.

Blessed be the name of the Lord.

For the healing ministry of Jesus Christ, touching and women at the place of their deepest need.

We bless the name of the Lord.

For the work of the Holy Spirit, who empowers us this ministry today.

We bless the name of the Lord.

For the Gospel of Christ, which embraces the who person: body, mind, and spirit.

We bless the name of the Lord.

Minister We bring before you Lord, those we know who need your healing touch, the sick, the lonely, the bereaved those enslaved by drugs, the displaced, the confused the hungry, those who have wandered away from home.

Reach out and touch them now O Lord.

Bless all in the medical profession who work to bring health to others.

Sustain those who care for the sick in their homes.

Give special grace to those who minister to the dying.

Bless and empower.

Guide those who suffer from Aids in the way they should live. Lead us to show them your love.

We pray for hope and courage.

Bring healing in every family where there there is stress and conflict.

We pray for healing and reconciliation.

Minister Bring about a healing of relationships in this church. Bring reconciliation, bring harmony, bring peace. bring unity. Just as the Father is one with the Son and the Holy Spirit. may your people, though many. enjoy that unity of purpose which the Holy Spirit alone enables and facilitates. Grant us the privilege of meeting with you today and enjoying your presence in this service as we wait with expectancy for the great things you are going to do for your people. We pray this in the name of our Lord and healer, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

10 *Notices*

11 *Sermon*

12 *Offertory*

13 *A short relevant chorus may be sung during which people seeking to be prayed for with anointing and laying on of hands come forth and stand or sit or kneel depending on provisions. Names of people afflicted by various conditions may be mentioned where desired.*

14 *All* **Come Holy Spirit, we wait for you. Our lives are needy, our hearts are open. Bring to us the healing touch of Jesus. Move among us in your power and grant us healing and wholeness. In Jesus name we pray. Amen.**

Silence may be kept and then the minister continues:

15 *Minister* We bring to you Lord, people with diseases that doctors have described as terminal;

We bring to you Lord, people whose diseases have not yet been diagnosed;

We bring to you Lord people who have been diagnosed as HIV positive;

We bring to you Lord people who have been maimed through road accidents;

We bring to you Lord, people who have been deprived of love and friendship and are in a state of deep loneliness,

We bring to you Lord those who are suffering from numerous other conditions and who need your healing,

We bring before you those who are sick and require healing, but would rather their names are not mentioned.

For all these people Lord:

All **Bring healing, bring wholeness.**

16 *The minister may (or in addition) use this alternative general prayer.*

God the Father, God the Son, God the Holy Spirit

Sanctify this hour as we stand before your holy presence, lifting our hearts and waiting in faith and hope for the opening of your healing springs. Open them now Lord as we stand in awe of your sovereign majesty, and heal these your people of all that weighs them down, physically, emotionally, and psychologically.

Release those whom Satan has held captive, comfort the disturbed and the distressed in spirit: heal those who may be nursing deep hurts arising from separation, divorce and failed or strained relationships; those deeply devastated by the loss of loved ones: heal and forgive those that may be suffering from restlessness and guilt due to unrepented sins.

O Sovereign Lord, look upon all who are involved in the rigorous work of medical research. Grant them perseverance and renewed energy in their crucial service to humanity: Bless and keep all who a involved in the care of the sick and the dying both at home and in the hospices and hospitals; fill them with love, patience and courage.

In simple faith we come to you, to draw from your healing strength. We ask this trusting in the name of him who lives and reigns for ever, Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour. **Amen.**

NOTES

This service is to be conducted in church as a service on its own. It may also be conducted in the context of regular morning or Evening Worship, or Holy Communion.

It is assumed that this type of service caters not only for those sick in body but also those suffering **from mental** distress, depression, sin and guilt, and those living under harsh **circumstances arising from** social or other ills.

- When it is in the context of Holy Communion, the service may precede the sermon.
- Seats should be provided at the front for those sick people who may want to **sit**. Where need be the sick should be accompanied by relatives, friends, or ushers for support both physical and moral.
- Laying on of hands may also be accompanied by anointing with oil.
- The service is to be conducted with softness of voice and with pauses where necessary.
- The service also provides for a time of repentance and forgiveness.