Liturgy for a Service of Healing

Adapted from the Wee Worship Book, 4th Incarnation

Opening Responses

O God who created the heavens and stretched them out,

WE PRAISE YOU!

You fashioned the earth and all that lives there,

WE PRAISE YOU!

You give breath to the people upon it, and Spirit to those who walk on it.

WE PRAISE AND THANK YOU, O GOD!

That the eyes of the blind be opened,

The broken hearted be healed,

The poor hear the good news,

The captives be brought out of darkness,

YOUR KINGDOM COME, O LORD.

YOUR WILL BE DONE.

So shall we sing a new song, O Lord,

AND PRAISE YOUR NAME FOREVER.

Prayer

Let us pray.

As if it were not enough to bring sound from silence, light from darkness, order from confusion;

As if it were not enough to make the world excellent and intricate, you gave the kiss of life to the dust of the earth.

You made male and female, me and us.

SO WE BLESS YOU.

As if it were not enough to watch the world you had created,

To admire your handwork from eternity;

As if it were not enough to care and be kind at a distance,

You sent your Son to be flesh of our flesh,

Bone of our bone,

To live and walk beside me and us.

SO WE BLESS YOU.

As if it were not enough to be looked at and listened to,

Criticised and complimented, feted and forsaken,

You stretched out your arm and held out your hand

To heal and to help me and us.

SO WE BLESS YOU.

As if it were not enough to do all this and return, triumphant, to glory,

You still hear our cries in the courts of high heaven,

And promise your Spirit for the healing of the nations and for me and for us.

SO WE BLESS YOU,

GOD OF ALL POWER,

LORD OF OUR WEAKNESS,

SPIRIT OF OUR SALVATION.

Word of God

(A scripture reading depicting an aspect of God's love or Christ's healing ministry may be read here.)

This is the Word of our Lord.

THANKS BE TO GOD

Reflection

Anyone may share at this time. What words interested you in the text just read? What challenges did it hold for you? What comfort?

Is there something on your mind that holds you away from hearing God's healing word?

Prayers for healing

O Christ our Lord,

As in times past, not all the sick and suffering found their way to your side,

But had to have their hands taken or their bodies carried,

Or their names mentioned.

So we, confident of your goodness, bring others to you.

As in times past,

You looked at the faith of friends

And let peace and healing be known.

Look on our faith,

Even our little faith,

AND LET YOUR KINGDOM COME.

We name before you those for whom pain is the greatest problem;

Who are remembered more for their distress than their potential;

Who at night cry, "I wish to God it were morning," and in the morning cry,

"I wish to God it were night."

(Here names may be said aloud.)

Lord Jesus Christ, Lover of all

BRING HEALING, BRING PEACE.

We name before you those in whose experience

Light has turned to darkness, as the end of a life or the breaking of a relationship leaves them stunned in their souls

And silent in their conversation, not knowing where to turn

Or whom to turn to

Or whether life has a purpose any more.

(Here names may be mentioned.)

And others whose troubles we do not know

Or whose names we would not say aloud,

We mention now in the silence which you understand.

(Pause)

Lord God,

You alone are skilled to know the cure for every sickness and every soul.

If by our lives, your grace may be known then in us, through us, and if need be, despite us,

LET YOUR KINGDOM COME.

On all who tend the sick,

Counsel the distressed,

Sit with the dying,

Or advance medical research

We ask your blessing,

That in caring for your people

They may meet and serve their Lord.

For those who, in this land,

Administer the agencies of health and welfare,

We ask your guidance that in all they do

Human worth may be valued,

And the service of human need be fully resourced.

This we ask in the name of him

Whose flesh and blood

Have made all God's children special

Invitation

While we cannot touch one another at this time, if we were together we would hold one another's hands, and realize the power of that connection to heal. That connection exists also in our desire to be in touch.

Prayer

Look, Lord on your children,

Who love your name and need your care.

Let your hands be known in the touch and kindness of friends.

LORD, SAY THE WORD AND WE SHALL BE HEALED.

In touching connection

SPIRIT OF THE LIVING GOD,

PRESENT WITH US NOW,

ENTER YOU, BODY, MIND AND SPIRIT,

AND HEAL YOU OF ALL THAT HARMS YOU

IN JESUS' NAME.

Prayer

Watch now, dear Lord, with those who wake or watch or weep tonight, and give your angels charge over those who sleep.

Tend your sick ones, O Lord Christ, rest your weary ones, bless your dying ones, soothe your suffering ones, pity your afflicted ones, shield your joyous ones, and all for your love's sake.

Now may the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing, that we may abound in hope in the power of the Holy Spirit.

The Grace

THE GRACE OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST,

THE LOVE OF GOD,

AND THE FELLOWSHIP OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

BE WITH US ALL,

EVERMORE.