

Celebration of the Eucharist

Service of Healing

St. George's, Glenn Dale

April 5, 2022



At the sound of the bell, please stand as you are able.

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

People: And also with you.

Let us pray: God our healer, whose mercy is like a refining fire: by the loving-kindness of Jesus, heal us and those for whom we pray; that being renewed by you, we may witness your wholeness to our broken world; through Jesus Christ, in the power of the Spirit. *Amen.*

The people may be seated for the reading of Scripture.

James 5:14-16

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.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God**

Psalm 23

The Lord is my shepherd; **I shall not be in want.**

You Lord make me lie down in green pastures

and lead me beside still waters.

You revive my soul

and guide me along right pathways for your Name's sake.

Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, **I shall fear no evil;**

for you are with me; **your rod and your staff, they comfort me.**

You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me;

you have anointed my head with oil,

and my cup is running over.

Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,

and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew. **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Matthew 26:6-13

Now while Jesus was at Bethany in the house of Simon the leper, a woman came to him with an alabaster jar of very costly ointment, and she poured it on his head as he sat at the table. But when the disciples saw it, they were angry and said, "Why this waste? For this ointment could have been sold for a large sum, and the money given to the poor." But Jesus, aware of this, said to them, "Why do you trouble the woman? She has performed a good service for me. For you always have the poor with you, but you will not always have me. By pouring this ointment on my body she has prepared me for burial. Truly I tell you, wherever this good news is proclaimed in the whole world, what she has done will be told in remembrance of her."

The Gospel of the Lord: **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

Invitation to write prayers for Healing

Everyone who wishes is invited to write down your prayers for which you wish healing. These prayers will not be read aloud so feel free to be as personal as you like. Once you have written your prayers, you can place them on the basket on the altar. We will offer them in prayer during the prayers of the people which follow.

For those participating virtually, you are welcome to write your prayers in the chat as you feel comfortable doing so.

After we do the Prayers of the People, you will also have an opportunity to go to a Breakout Room on Zoom to speak with a member of the pastoral care team and share a moment of prayer.

The Prayers of the People

Leader: Holy One, we pray tonight for the whole human family; for the nations of the world and their leaders and for all who have authority and influence; that there may be peace, freedom and justice among all peoples everywhere. **Graciously hear us O God.**

Holy One, we pray for all who suffer; for the victims of war and violence, especially in the Ukraine and all places where there is conflict. *The people may add their own petitions.* We pray saying **Graciously hear us O God.**

Holy One, we pray for those who are homeless or hungry; we pray for refugees and asylum-seekers; we pray for those who are lonely and we pray for those who mourn, that all may find strength, hope, and healing. **Graciously hear us O God.**

Holy One, as we approach one million souls lost to covid in our country, and six million across the world, we hold up to you all who have died, and we pray for all who are grieving a loved one and for those whose lives have been affected by covid. We pray that leaders and people make decisions that protect the vulnerable from this virus. **Graciously hear us, O God.**

Holy One, we pray that you grant to all who seek your guidance, and to all who are lonely, anxious, or despondent the knowledge of your love and an awareness of your presence. **Graciously hear us O God.**

Holy One, we pray that you heal broken relationships, and restore those in emotional distress to soundness of mind and serenity of spirit. **Graciously hear us O God.**

Holy One, we pray for the sick in our community, that all may find wholeness and peace. **Graciously hear us O God.**

Holy One, we pray that we may know for ourselves and mediate to others your wholeness, healing and salvation. We offer you the prayers of our hearts, those written here and those known only to you. **Graciously hear us O God.**

Gracious God, we give you thanks for your beloved Jesus Christ, in whom you have shared the beauty and pain of human life. Look with compassion upon all for whom we pray, and strengthen us to be your instruments of healing in the world, by the power of the Holy Spirit. *Amen.*

Laying on of Hands and Anointing

Celebrant: Holy Scripture teaches us that Jesus healed many who were sick as a sign of the reign of God come near, and sent the disciples to continue this work of healing through prayer in his name. By laying hands upon the sick and anointing them, the disciples witnessed to the marvelous power and presence of God. Pray that as we follow their example, we may experience Christ's unfailing love.

We will now do a laying on of hands – both figuratively and literally to ask for healing of one another. I invite you who are present here in the Sanctuary as well as those attending by way of Zoom to extend their hands as we pray:

We lay hands upon one another in the name of Jesus, the Great Physician. May the power of the Savior who suffered for us wash over us all that we may be raised up in peace and inward strength. May we, like Jesus, experience a pouring of oil as well as the inward anointing of the Holy Spirit, so that we ourselves and we ask for healing this evening may be relieved of suffering and restored in spirit, mind and body. May all of us in the frailty of our flesh know God's healing and resurrecting power. Amen.

Members of the Pastoral Care Team who are laying on hands and anointing take their places. As people who are present in the Sanctuary come forward for anointing with oil, those laying on hands say:

N., I lay my hands upon you in the name of Jesus. May this oil be a balm to give you peace, comfort and wholeness, in Christ's name, we pray. Amen.

Those participating via Zoom who wish to pray aloud with a member of the Pastoral Care team may join a breakout room.

During the Laying on of Hands and Anointing the choir anthem is played

Anthem: *Heal Us Now* by Leon Sher Sung by an Interfaith Virtual Choir

St. George's Choir and Kol Rinah from Chizuk Amuno Congregation of Baltimore. Cantor Randy Herman, Solo. Joshua Fishbein, Piano. Mark Jackson, Audio Editor

*We pray for healing of the body; we pray for healing of the soul.
For strength of flesh and mind and spirit,
we pray to once again be whole.*

Please heal us now.

We pray for healing of our people.

We pray for healing of the land.

*And peace for every race and nation,
every child, every woman, every man.*

Hebrew Prayer: Heal us, Eternal God, and we will be healed; save us, and we will be saved. God is near to all who seek God. Surely, help is near for those who revere God. Please God, grant healing, healing of the soul, healing of the body, complete healing. Save Your people, bless Your inheritance, care for them, and exalt them forever. You, who blessed our fathers and our mothers, O please, help us, God.

The Peace

Celebrant The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

The Great Thanksgiving

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right and good to give you thanks, Almighty God, through Jesus Christ your Son, who desires wholeness and healing for every person and creature. We bless you for your grace and mercy as we join with broken saints and redeemed sinners across time and space, forever praising you and saying:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,

heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

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

Hosanna in the highest.

The Celebrant continues:

You are holy O God of majesty, creator of the universe. You made an everlasting covenant with us, though we forsook your way. Yet still you call the thirsty to come to the waters and you invite the poor and hungry to come and eat.

In the fullness of time you sent us Jesus, who healed the sick, fed the hungry, and cast out demons, seeking to gather your children as a hen shelters her brood beneath her wings. He wept over Jerusalem when we rejected his saving love.

Yet like a gardener Jesus tends to us with loving care, waiting patiently for our lives to bear the fruit of his grace. And so we remember that on the night that Jesus was betrayed, he gathered with his faltering friends for a meal that tasted of freedom. Calling them to his table, he took bread, gave thanks, broke it and said: "This is my body, which is given for you. Do this to remember me." In the same way after supper he took the cup, saying: "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, whenever you drink it, to remember me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

And now, gracious God, we pray that in your goodness and mercy your Holy Spirit may descend upon us and upon these gifts, sanctifying them and showing them to be holy gifts for your holy people, the bread of life and the cup of salvation, the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ.

Teach us to know the surpassing grace of Jesus our Lord, that sharing in his suffering and rejoicing in the power of his resurrection we may press on toward the wholeness to which he calls us.

Through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, O Holy One, now and forever. *Amen.*

The Lord's Prayer

Celebrant: And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say;

**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.
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,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

The Breaking of the Bread

The bread is broken and, after a period of silence, all say:

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy upon us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy upon us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: grant us your peace.**

Celebrant: Mindful that not all are present physically to receive the sacrament, we pray with those who receive spiritual Holy Communion this day:

Lord Jesus, in union with your faithful people, we offer to you our praise and thanks. Since we cannot receive you today in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, we pray that you come spiritually into our hearts. Strengthen us with your grace, O Lord, and let us never be separated from you. May we live in you, and you in us, in this life and in the life to come. Amen.

Celebrant: The gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ lived, died, and rose again for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

The Communion

Wherever you are on your journey, whatever you believe or don't believe, know that you are welcome at this table. For this is Christ's table, and all are welcome.



If you would like to receive the Eucharist, you may choose to receive both the bread and wine or only one of them. If you receive the wine, please drop your empty cup into the recycling bin at the door. Note that hand sanitizer is available as you exit. Please follow the arrows to go through the narthex (hallway) and back into the Sanctuary and on to your seat.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Celebrant Let us pray together: **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 be healed and renewed for your service through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

Concluding prayers

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 bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

