

**A HEALING SERVICE TO  
RESTORE, REPLENISH, AND RENEW  
HONORING CAREGIVING AND CAREGIVERS**

*Prelude:* Quiet music for quieting your spirit

*Words of Welcome*

*Call to Worship*

**Leader:** Holy ground! We are standing on holy ground.

**All:** For where God is, the ground is holy.

**Leader:** Holy hands! God works through our hands

**All:** So they are holy.

**Leader:** Holy words! God speaks through our words.

**All:** So they become holy.

**Leader:** Holy thoughts! God moves through our prayers, ideas, and dreams.

**All:** So they are holy.

**Leader:** Holy songs! God prays in our songs.

**All:** So they are holy. Therefore let us joyfully sing.

*Hymn: Jesu, Fill us with Your Love*

*General Confession and Absolution*

**Leader:** Let us confess our sin, in penitence and faith, firmly resolved to keep God's commandments and to live in love and peace with all men.

**All:** Almighty God, our heavenly Father,  
we have sinned against you and against our neighbors,  
in thought and word and deed,  
through negligence, through weakness,  
through our own deliberate fault.  
We are truly sorry and repent of all our sins.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, who died for us,  
forgive us all that is past;  
and grant that we may serve you in newness of life  
to the glory of your name. Amen.

**Leader:** Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. Amen.

***Scripture readings to help us find balance and harmony in our lives***

**Body** ~ I Corinthians 6:12, 19-20

**Mind** ~ Philippians 4:4-9

**Spirit** ~ Galatians 5:22-25, Romans 8:14-16

**Relationship** ~ Romans 12:9-21

**Special Music:**

**Meditation:** Our Caregiving stories

**Hymn:** Won't You Let Me Be Your Servant

***Litany of Blessing***

**Leader:** Lord, speak to us of your compassion and strength for all that we do and encourage us in our calling to be your servants.

**All:** **We come from various walks of life, yet together we long for quiet and for calm.**

**Leader:** Jesus said, "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you, not as the world gives do I give to you; let not your hearts be troubled neither let them be afraid."

**All:** **We have brought with us a variety of feelings and emotions, yet together we seek love and joy and peace.**

**Leader:** Jesus said, "Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart and you will find rest for your souls."

**All:** **Empower us to be instruments of Your love.**

**Leader:** Gracious God, bless the hands of those who provide care in their various roles. Bless these hands that have embraced with compassion. Through your son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, on God, now and forever.

**All:** **Amen.**

**Hymn:** Holy Ground

***Responsive Reading ~ Blessing of the Hands***

**Leader:** Lord, to the sick and those hurting in body, mind and spirit

**All:** **You call us to use our hands**

**Leader:** To the old and lonely

**All:** **You call us to use our hands**

**Leader:** To the dying and the least of us

**All:** **You call us to use our hands.**

**Leader:** To the children and the weak,

**All:** **You call us to use our hands.**

**Leader:** To clap for joy, to reach out to a stranger, to mend a heart, to lift a spirit, and to touch a life.

**All:** **You call us to use your hands.**

**Leader:** Lord, You call us to be your hands and to use our hands to bring You with us to each and every person. Blessed be the works of your hands, O Holy One.

### **ANOINTING OF THE HANDS WITH OIL**

**Leader:** Blessed are you, sovereign God, gentle and merciful, creator of heaven and earth.

Your Word brought light out of darkness, and daily your Spirit renews the face of the earth.

Your anointed Son brought healing to those in weakness and distress.

He broke the power of evil and set us free from sin and death that we might praise your name forever. By the power of your Spirit may your blessing rest on those who are anointed with this oil in your name; may they be made whole in body, mind and spirit, restored in your image, renewed in your love, and serve you as sons and daughters in your kingdom. Through your anointed Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, to whom with you and the Holy Spirit we lift our voices of thanks and praise:

**All: Blessed be God, our strength and our salvation, now and forever. Amen.**

**Leader:** May the joy of the Lord be your strength.  
May the love of God empower you.  
May God increase your faith and fill you with hope.  
May you walk in God's peace with a heart at peace.  
In Jesus' name

**All:** **Amen**

Those who wish to receive the ministry of anointing of hands with oil and prayer are invited to come kneel at the altar. Hold out your hands with palms up and open to receive the blessing.

**Continuous music...during anointing**

**Benediction:**

Almighty God, so draw our hearts to you, so guide our minds, so fill our imaginations, so control our wills, that we may be wholly yours. And then use us we pray, as you will, and always to your glory and the welfare of your people. Through Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior, Amen.

Let us commit ourselves to God and leave in his care

Now may the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing through the power of the Holy Spirit.

**AMEN**

*You are invited to come up for prayer with members of the prayer team, meditate and pray in the pew, and leave as the Spirit leads.*

*Because the Holy Spirit is continually at work in each of us, pushing us toward wholeness, the process of healing is like removing sticks and leaves from a stream until the water runs clear. If we simply get out of the way of the Lord's work in us, we can trust that we are being led to the particular kind of wholeness God wills for us.*

(The confession and absolution are adapted from Gunstone, John, *Prayers for Healing*, Highland Inter Publishing Service Ltd, 1992 ed., pp.164-165)