

ANTE COMMUNION HEALING SERVICE



WEDNESDAY IN THE FOURTH WEEK OF LENT

OPENING SALUTATION Blessed be God: father, Son, and Holy Spirit. *And blessed be his Kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.*

PENITENTIAL ORDER If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. 1 John 1:8,9

The Deacon or Celebrant then says: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.
Silence may be kept.

Minister and People *Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.*

The Bishop when present, or the Priest, stands and says: Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. *Amen.*

Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you. *And also with you.*

O Lord our God, you sustained your ancient people in the wilderness with bread from heaven: Feed now your pilgrim flock with the food that endures to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

FIRST READING: Isaiah 49:8–15

A reading from the Book of Isaiah

Thus says the Lord: In a time of favor I have answered you, on a day of salvation I have helped you; I have kept you and given you as a covenant to the people, to establish the land, to apportion the desolate heritages; saying to the prisoners, “Come out,” to those who are in darkness, “Show yourselves.” They shall feed along the ways, on all the bare heights shall be their pasture; they shall not hunger or thirst, neither scorching wind nor sun shall strike them down, for he who has pity on them will lead them, and by springs of water will guide them. And I will turn all my mountains into a road, and my highways shall be raised up. Lo, these shall come from far away, and lo, these from the north and from the west, and these from the land of Syene. Sing for joy, O heavens, and exult, O earth; break forth, O mountains, into singing! For the Lord has comforted his people, and will have compassion on his suffering ones. But Zion said, “The Lord has forsaken me, my Lord has forgotten me.” Can a woman forget her nursing-child, or show no compassion for the child of her womb? Even these may forget, yet I will not forget you. The Word of the Lord. *Thanks be to God.*

PSALM 145:8–19 Exaltabo te, Deus

⁸ The Lord is gracious and full of compassion, slow to anger and of great kindness.

⁹ *The Lord is loving to everyone and his compassion is over all his works.*

¹⁰ All your works praise you, O Lord, and your faithful servants bless you.

¹¹ *They make known the glory of your kingdom and speak of your power;*

¹² That the peoples may know of your power and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.

¹³ *Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom; your dominion endures throughout all ages.*

¹⁴ The Lord is faithful in all his words and merciful in all his deeds.

¹⁵ *The Lord upholds all those who fall; he lifts up those who are bowed down.*

¹⁶ The eyes of all wait upon you, O Lord, and you give them their food in due season.

¹⁷ *You open wide your hand and satisfy the needs of every living creature.*

¹⁸ The Lord is righteous in all his ways and loving in all his works.

¹⁹ *The Lord is near to those who call upon him, to all who call upon him faithfully.*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

THE GOSPEL: John 5:19-29

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

Jesus said to the Jews, “Very truly, I tell you, the Son can do nothing on his own, but only what he sees the Father doing; for whatever the Father does, the Son does likewise. The Father loves the Son and shows him all that he himself is doing; and he will show him greater works than these, so that you will be astonished. Indeed, just as the Father raises the dead and gives them life, so also the Son gives life to whomever he wishes. The Father judges no one but has given all judgment to the Son, so that all may honor the Son just as they honor the Father. Anyone who does not honor the Son does not honor the Father who sent him. Very truly, I tell you, anyone who hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life, and does not come under judgment, but has passed from death to life. “Very truly, I tell you, the hour is coming, and is now here, when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God, and those who hear will live. For just as the Father has life in himself, so he has granted the Son also to have life in himself; and he has given him authority to execute judgment,

because he is the Son of Man. Do not be astonished at this; for the hour is coming when all who are in their graves will hear his voice and will come out—those who have done good, to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil, to the resurrection of condemnation.”

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

HOMILY

A LITANY OF HEALING

Deacon: Let us name before God those for whom we offer our prayers.

The People audibly name those for whom they are interceding.

Lector: God the Father, your will for all people is health and salvation; *we praise you and thank you, O Lord.*

God the Son, you came that we might have life, and might have it more abundantly; *we praise you and thank you, O Lord*

God the Holy Spirit, you make our bodies the temple of your presence; *we praise you and thank you, O Lord.*

Holy Trinity, one God, in you we live and move and have our being; *we praise you and thank you, O Lord.*

Lord, grant your healing grace to all who are sick, injured, or disabled, that they may be made whole; *Hear us, O Lord of life.*

Grant to all who seek your guidance, and to all who are lonely, anxious, or despondent, a knowledge of your will and an awareness of your presence: *Hear us, O Lord of life.*

Mend broken relationships, and restore those in emotional distress to soundness of mind and serenity of spirit; *Hear us, O Lord of life.*

Bless physicians, nurses, and all others who minister to the suffering, granting them wisdom and skill, sympathy and patience; *Hear us, O Lord of life.*

Grant to the dying peace and a holy death, and uphold by the grace and consolation of your Holy Spirit those who are bereaved; *Hear us, O Lord of life.*

Restore to wholeness whatever is broken by human sin, in our lives, in our nation, and in the world; *Hear us, O Lord of life.*

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 pray. *A period of silence follows.*

Heavenly Father, you have promised to hear what we ask in the Name of your Son: Accept and fulfill our petitions, we pray, not as we ask in our ignorance, nor as we deserve in our sinfulness, but as you know and love us in your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

LAYING ON OF HANDS AND ANOINTING Savior of the world, by your cross and precious blood you have redeemed us. *Save us, and help us, we humbly beseech you, O Lord.*

O God, the source of all health: So fill our hearts with faith in your love, that with calm expectancy we may make room for your power to possess us, and gracefully accept your healing. Comfort and relieve all those for whom we pray, give your power of healing to those who minister to their needs, that they may be strengthened in their weakness and have confidence in your loving care; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

If you desire to receive the Laying on hands for yourself or on behalf of someone else, let us know.

N., I lay my hands upon you in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, beseeching our Lord Jesus Christ to sustain you with his presence, to drive away all sickness of body and spirit, and to give you that victory of life and peace which will enable you to serve him both now and evermore.

THE PEACE The peace of the Lord be always with you. *And also with you.*

THE LORD'S PRAYER And now, filled by the Spirit we may pray, *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, for ever and ever. Amen.*

A COLLECT FOR PEACE Almighty God, kindle, we pray, in every heart the true love of peace, and guide with your wisdom those who take counsel for the nations of the earth, that in tranquility your dominion may increase until the earth is filled with the knowledge of your love; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. *Amen.*

PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION Let us pray, *Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar. I love you above all things, and long for you in my soul. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. As though you have already come, I embrace you and unite myself entirely to you; never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.* (St. Alphonsus de Liguori, 1696-1787)

THE BLESSING May the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you and scatter the darkness from before your path; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. *Amen.*

THE DISMISSAL Go in peace to love and serve the Lord! *Thanks be to God!*