



Healing Prayer Service

March 21st, 2020

Officiant: 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.**

Officiant: Let Us Pray

Loving God, the comfort of all who sorrow, the strength of all who suffer accept our prayers, and to those who seek healing, grant the power of your grace, that the weak may be strengthened, sickness turned to health, the dying made whole, and sorrow turned into joy; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

The Lessons

Lector: A Reading from Paul's Letter to the Romans (Romans 8: 31-39)

What can we say about all this? If God is on our side, can anyone be against us? God did not keep back his own Son, but he gave him for us. If God did this, won't he freely give us everything else? If God says his chosen ones are acceptable to him, can anyone bring charges against them? Or can anyone condemn them? No indeed! Christ died and was raised to life, and now he is at God's right side, speaking to him for us. Can anything separate us from the love of Christ? Can trouble, suffering, and hard times, or hunger and nakedness, or danger and death? It is exactly as the Scriptures say,

"For you we face death all day long. We are like sheep on their way to be butchered."

In everything we have won more than a victory because of Christ who loves us. I am sure that nothing can separate us from God's love—not life or death, not angels or spirits, not the present or the future, and not powers above or powers below. Nothing in all creation can separate us from God's love for us in Christ Jesus our Lord!

Lector: The Word of the Lord

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Response: Psalm 131: 1-17

¹You have looked deep into my heart, LORD, and you know all about me.

²You know when I am resting or when I am working, and from heaven you discover my thoughts.

³You notice everything I do and everywhere I go.

⁴Before I even speak a word, you know what I will say,

⁵and with your powerful arm you protect me from every side.

⁶I can't understand all of this! Such wonderful knowledge is far above me.

⁷Where could I go to escape from your Spirit or from your sight?

⁸If I were to climb up to the highest heavens, you would be there. If were to dig down to the world of the dead, you would also be there.

⁹Suppose I had wings like the dawning day and flew across the ocean.

¹⁰Even then your powerful arm would guide and protect me.

¹¹Or suppose I said, "I'll hide in the dark until night comes to cover me over."

¹²But you see in the dark because daylight and dark are all the same to you.

¹³You are the one who put me together inside my mother's body,

¹⁴and I praise you because of the wonderful way you created me. Everything you do is marvelous! Of this I have no doubt.

¹⁵Nothing about me is hidden from you! I was secretly woven together deep in the earth below,

¹⁶but with your own eye you saw my body being formed. Even before I was born you had written in your book everything I would do.

¹⁷Your thoughts are far beyond my understanding, much more than I could ever imagine.

Second Reading

Lector: A Reading from the Gospel According to Matthew (5:2-10)

5 When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up on the side of a mountain and sat down. Jesus' disciples gathered around him, 2 and he taught them:

3 God blesses those people who depend only on him. They belong to the kingdom of heaven!

4 God blesses those people who grieve. They will find comfort! 5 God blesses those people who are humble. The earth will belong to them! 6 God blesses those people who want to obey him more than to eat or drink. They will be given what they want!

7 God blesses those people who are merciful. They will be treated with mercy!

8 God blesses those people whose hearts are pure. They will see him!

9 God blesses those people who make peace. They will be called his children!

10 God blesses those people who are treated badly for doing right. They belong to the kingdom of heaven.

The Homily: Nathan Harpine (Intern)

The Litany for Healing

The Celebrant introduces the Litany with this bidding

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

*The People audibly name those for whom they pray silently, out loud, or in the comments.
A Person appointed then leads the Litany*

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 Officiant 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.

The Prayers

Officiant: Let Us Pray

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.

Officiant: Let us Pray

Officiant and People: **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.**

Officiant: May the God who goes before you through desert places by night and by day be your companion and guide; may your journey be with the saints; may the Holy Spirit be your strength, and Christ your clothing of light, in whose name we pray. **Amen**