



A service asking for God's healing, wholeness & peace

Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light. (Matthew 11:28-30.)

We live in a beautiful yet broken world. That was not God's intention for us, and he longs for us to feel his healing, wholeness and peace. And we long for it too, don't we, deep down? We long for healing and peace for ourselves, or for others that we know and love, or even for strangers. We long for healing and peace for places and for situations nearby and far away. We long to be whole again: for the things of ourselves, of others and of the world to be restored, to be made new. And, now, in this time of pandemic, this longing is greater than ever.

*Please join in with the words in **bold** type*

Opening

We come in this service to God

In our need, and bringing with us the needs of the world

We come to God, who comes to us in Jesus

And who knows by experience what human life is like

We come with our faith and with our doubts

We come with our hopes and with our fears

We come as we are, because it is God who invites us to come

And God has promised never to turn us away

Prayers of Penitence

In your presence we remember our sin and our failure,

All that damages our lives

All that damages the lives of others

All that damages the world you have created

Silence

We ask you to forgive us in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ

Who loves us and gave himself for us. Amen

Jesus said: 'Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.'

Prayers of Thanksgiving

You have loved us from the beginning of time and remembered us when we were in trouble.

We thank you, gracious God.

You have come to us in Jesus Christ, who heals us and saves us from sin.

We thank you, redeeming God

You have sent us your Holy and life giving Spirit, to comfort us and lead us into all truth.

We thank you, holy God.

**Gracious, redeeming and holy God,
glory and praise be yours,
now and for ever. Amen.**

A reading, reflection or testimony

Prayers for Healing and Wholeness

O Christ our Lord, as in times past, not all the sick and suffering found their own 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. You looked at the faith of friends and let peace and healing be known. Look on our faith and let your kingdom come.

We bring before you those who bear physical illness today; those who are awaiting or receiving treatment or results; those who are in acute pain; those who are bearing chronic conditions; those who are remembered more for their distress than their potential; Those who at night cry, 'I wish to God it were morning'; and in the morning cry 'I wish to God it were night.'

Names may be spoken aloud or brought silently to God

Lord Jesus Christ, Lover of all **Bring healing, bring peace.**

We bring before you those whose problem is psychological; those haunted by the nightmares of their past or the fears of their future; those struggling with mental illness, depression, anxiety or fear; those who do not know what is wrong or simply don't know what to pray.

Names may be spoken aloud or brought silently to God

Lord Jesus Christ, Lover of all **Bring healing, bring peace.**

We bring 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.

Names may be spoken aloud or brought silently to God

Lord Jesus Christ, Lover of all **Bring healing, bring peace.**

We bring before you all your children across the world. Those who are hungry or thirsty, imprisoned or persecuted, silence or dispossessed. And we pray for all with authority and influence in the world, that together we might work for peace, justice and freedom.

Places and situations may be spoken aloud or brought silently to God

Lord Jesus Christ, Lover of all **Bring healing, bring peace.**

We bring ourselves before you in all of our own broken humanity. You know us better than we know ourselves, you loves us fully and unconditionally and you hear us when we cry to you.

Don't be afraid to speak out your own needs or bring them silently to God

Lord Jesus Christ, Lover of all **Bring healing, bring peace.**

We gather all of our prayers in the words of The Lord's Prayer
Our Father.....

Quiet time

during this time might wish to light a candle for someone, or for yourself. Then sit quietly and pray for the people, places and situations that are on your heart. If you wish, you can send us a message in the Facebook comments box or by Messenger so that we can pray silently for you, or for someone else.

Closing Prayers

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, **Amen.**

**Lord, let us not dwell in the past, nor worry about the future
We cannot undo what is done. We cannot foresee what will come.
Let us, instead, dwell in your peace,
love and be loved, heal and be healed.
We give the past to you and rest in your forgiveness
We give the future to you and rest in your love.
We live in your light, open our eyes that we may see.
We live in your love, let your love flow through us,
to the fulfilment of your kingdom. Amen.**

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. Amen.**

The material in this service has been adapted from: A Wee Worship Book (fourth incarnation) © 1999 Wild Goose Resource Group; Praying for the Dawn by Ruth Burgess and Kathy Galloway (eds) © 2000 Wild Goose Resource Group; The Methodist Church in Ireland Ministry of Healing Committee (2011);