



## A Service of Healing

St. John's Episcopal Church

January 26, 2021 | 6:30 P.M.

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.**

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Gracious God, we commend to your loving care all who suffer, especially those who come seeking your healing grace for themselves or others. Give them patience and hope in their distress; strengthen and uphold them in mind and body; and grant, by your intervention, that all your people may be made whole according to your desire, through Jesus Christ, in the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

#### FIRST READING | Jeremiah 29:11-14a

For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope. Then when you call upon me and come and pray to me, I will hear you. When you search for me, you will find me; if you seek me with all your heart, I will let you find me, says the Lord.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 63: 1-8 (in unison)

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- 1 **O God, you are my God; eagerly I seek you; \***  
my soul thirsts for you, my flesh faints for you,  
as in a barren and dry land where there is no water.
- 2 **Therefore I have gazed upon you in your holy place, \***  
that I might behold your power and your glory.
- 3 **For your loving-kindness is better than life itself; \***  
my lips shall give you praise.
- 4 **So will I bless you as long as I live \***  
and lift up my hands in your Name.
- 5 **My soul is content, as with marrow and fatness, \***  
and my mouth praises you with joyful lips,
- 6 **When I remember you upon my bed, \***  
and meditate on you in the night watches.
- 7 **For you have been my helper, \***  
and under the shadow of your wings I will rejoice.
- 8 **My soul clings to you; \***  
your right hand holds me fast.

#### SECOND READING | Matthew 17:14-21

When they came to the crowd, a man came to him, knelt before him, and said, "Lord, have mercy on my son, for he is an epileptic and he suffers terribly; he often falls into the fire and often into the water. And I brought him to your disciples, but they could not cure him." Jesus answered, "You faithless and perverse generation, how much longer must I be with

you? How much longer must I put up with you? Bring him here to me.” And Jesus rebuked the demon, and it came out of him, and the boy was cured instantly. Then the disciples came to Jesus privately and said, “Why could we not cast it out?” He said to them, “Because of your little faith. For truly I tell you, if you have faith the size of a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, ‘Move from here to there,’ and it will move; and nothing will be impossible for you.

Reader:       The Word of the Lord.

People:       **Thanks be to God.**

HOMILY

The Rev. Lucy Strandlund

#### A LITANY OF HEALING

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

*[Names are read aloud and the people are invited to name those for whom they are interceding.]*

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.*

Celebrant: Open us to your healing power, O God. We entrust ourselves to your care, knowing that you are doing for us and for all the world far better things than we can ask or imagine. With you as our companion and guide, strengthen us to hope for all that is good, and to fear no evil. For your love is stronger than death, and your faithfulness reaches to the heavens; and to you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and to the ages of ages. ***Amen.***

#### CONFESSION OF SIN

*The Celebrant says,*  
Let us confess our sins to God.

*Silence may be kept.*

**God of all mercy,  
we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives.  
We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves,  
and in the world you have created.  
We repent of the evil that enslaves us,  
the evil we have done,  
and the evil done on our behalf.  
Forgive, restore, and strengthen us  
through our Savior Jesus Christ,  
that we may abide in your love  
and serve only your will. Amen.**

*The priest says,*

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

#### LAYING ON OF HANDS AND ANNOINTING

*The priest prays,*

I lay my hands upon you [and anoint you] in the name of our Savior Jesus Christ, praying you will be strengthened and filled with God's grace, that you may know the healing power of the Spirit. **Amen.**

*The priest may add, in these or similar words,*

As you are outwardly anointed with this holy oil, so may our loving God give you the inward anointing of the Holy Spirit. May God relieve your suffering and restore you in body, mind, and spirit. May all of us in the frailty of our flesh know God's healing power. **Amen.**

#### THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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, forever and ever. Amen.**

#### CONCLUDING COLLECT

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.**

#### THE BLESSING

#### THE DISMISSAL

Deacon: Let us bless the Lord.  
People: **Thanks be to God.**