

Berwickshire Episcopal Churches Group

Online service for healing

We each stand in need of healing, but in this ministry we recognise also the social dimension. The healing of divided communities and nations, and the healing of the earth itself, have a place alongside the healing of broken bodies, minds and wounded hearts, and the hurts and divisions within ourselves. Our prayers are complimentary to the work of medicine and other forms of healing, which are also channels of God's loving and transforming purpose.

In our service we shall name particular people, places and situations for which prayers have been specifically asked. We do this because each person and situation is known to God, not as a problem to be solved, but as a focus for God's acceptance and love. We are not seeking to change God but to change the world; we trust God that our prayers will be answered although we do not know when or how healing will happen.

Iona Abbey worship book, 2017, 109.

We gather together:

We take a moment of silence, to quietly and purposefully still ourselves of the presence of God.

Leader: We gather here in your presence God,
ALL: **in our need, and bringing with us
the needs of the world.**

Leader: We come to you, for you come to us in Jesus,
ALL: **and you know by experience
what human life is like.**

Leader: We come with our faith and with our doubts;
ALL: **we come with our hopes, and with our fears.**

Leader: We come as we are because you have invited us;
ALL: **and you have promised never to turn us away.**

Chant:

Come, be with me, all you who carry heavy burdens;
I will give you rest; I will give you rest.

<https://youtu.be/mLy0qzcpXVo>

We confess our struggles:

Leader: Loving God, we gather together this evening,
seeking your healing, strength and love.

**ALL: You know us, you understand who we are,
you know what troubles and puzzles us,
what makes us smile, and what makes us sad.
You listen to our questions and our prayers.**

You know the people we love, and the people we struggle with.
Sometimes we hurt others; sometimes we hurt ourselves.

**So, we bring our own hurt asking for your healing;
and the hurts we have caused others
asking for forgiveness.**

Silence is observed

Leader: Listen to these words of Jesus, words that we can trust;

"Don't be afraid." "I love you."

"Your sins are forgiven." "I will be with you always."

Silence is observed

**ALL: Write these words in our hearts, loving God,
let them take root in our living. Amen.**

Jesus Heals a Crippled Man:

One day some Pharisees and experts in the Law of Moses sat listening to Jesus teach. They had come from every village in Galilee and Judea and from Jerusalem.

God had given Jesus the power to heal the sick, and some people came carrying a crippled man on a mat. They tried to take him inside the house and put him in front of Jesus. But because of the crowd, they could not get him to Jesus. So they went up on the roof, where they removed some tiles and let the mat down in the middle of the room.

When Jesus saw how much faith they had, he said to the crippled man, "My friend, your sins are forgiven."

Luke 5:17-20 (Contemporary English Version)

Chant:

My soul is at rest in God alone,
My salvation comes from God.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oju-qBjIqkU>

We pray for others and ourselves :

Leader: Loving God, we bring before you all people:
especially those who suffer, and those who are hurting.

In your compassion,

ALL: **Come near to heal and to bless**

We pray for the victims of war and disaster,
hunger and famine, violence and abuse.

In your compassion,

ALL: **Come near to heal and to bless**

Leader: We pray for the earth itself groaning
as humanity despoils its beauty,
and is careless of its natural laws.

In your compassion,

ALL: **Come near to heal and to bless**

Leader: We pray for children who are abandoned or lost,
who live on the streets, or in institutions,
without families and without love.
For all children who are abused,
frightened, or alone.

In your compassion,

ALL: **Come near to heal and to bless**

Leader: We pray for all who are sick, who are in pain,
who are waiting for surgery, who face long-term illnesses,
or incurable diseases.

In your compassion,

ALL: **Come near to heal and to bless**

Leader: we pray for all who wrestle with their identity
in the struggle to love and understand themselves;
who struggle to feel loved and understood by others.

In your compassion,

ALL: **Come near to heal and to bless**

Leader: We pray for the refugee and all who are homeless.
For the unemployed and all who struggle on low incomes,
to feed family and to feed themselves.

In your compassion,
ALL: **Come near to heal and to bless**

Leader: We pray for all who feel they have lost control of their lives,
who are confused and uncertain,
whether through addiction and dependency
disability, age or circumstances.

In your compassion,
ALL: **Come near to heal and to bless**

Leader: Loving God, help us to remember:
You are with us;
you are before us;
You are behind us;
you are above us;
you are beside us;
you are within us...

...and with all the betrayed and suffering people of our world.
Just as you were in the broken body of Jesus.

Grant that we and all for whom we have, and for whom we will, pray
may know your resurrection as blessing and goodness in their lives.
ALL: **Amen.**

Leader: Let us join together in the prayer that Jesus taught us

ALL: **Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Do not bring us to the time of trial,
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.**

Chant:

Oh, Lord hear my prayer; Oh, Lord hear my prayer
When I call answer me
Oh, Lord hear my prayer; Oh, Lord hear my prayer
Come and listen to me.

<https://youtu.be/f51n-yb11dY>

Prayers for healing :

Leader: Let us pray, from deep within our being.

**We call upon you, loving God,
through whom all can be made whole.
Please hear us, as we raise to heaven,
our concerns for the people and situations
we name before you now.**

Leader: Bringing each of them, silently or aloud, before you, for your healing and your deep peace...

We name silently or out loud, those who have asked us to pray and situations God has laid upon our hearts, trusting God will answer our prayers even though we do not know when or what form such healing will take.

Leader: God our maker, Jesus our healer,
Holy Spirit of love and life,

in your mercy

ALL: hear our prayers.

To those who seek you, to all who need you,
to the world you cherish, bring healing,
bring wholeness, bring peace.

ALL: Amen.

Leader: The peace of the Lord be always with you

ALL: and also with you.

Using British sign language we share the sign of peace.

Amen

<https://youtu.be/snaMc0oRUmE>

Copyright details:

Introduction & Gathering: Iona Community,. (2017). *Iona Abbey worship book*, 110.

First chant: *Come, be with me*. (2005). Keith Duke, *Sacred Dance*. Kevin Mayhew Ltd.

Confession: Adapted from Iona Community,. (2017). *Iona Abbey worship book*, 110.

Bible reading: *Contemporary English Version*. (1995). American Bible Society,
<https://www.biblegateway.com>

Second chant: *My soul is at rest*. (1982, 1983, 1984) *Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc.*

Intercessions: *Adapted from A Celtic service for healing, St. Paul's on the Green, Norwalk, Connecticut*. <http://www.stpaulsnorwalk.org>

Final chant: *O Lord hear my prayer*. (1982) *Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc.*

Final prayer: Iona Community,. (2017). *Iona Abbey worship book*, 123.

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