

Prayers for Healing

Prayers for healing, anointing with oil and the laying on of hands continues to be offered on the 4th Sunday of each month during the worship service. The practice of anointing is an ancient tradition from the early Christian Church that Immanuel has been doing for the last few years. In the ancient world of the Near East, oils were associated with healing. Without oils, we become dry and chapped. Oils were also used for anointing. The word “Messiah” means “Anointed One” in Hebrew. We are anointed with oil to remind us of God’s loving purposes for us. We belong to God’s family.



The laying on of hands and anointing also reminds us of our baptism. It is a very meaningful sign of the Spirit’s power to heal and renew us in ways that we cannot fully understand or ask for. St. Paul writes, “the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with signs too deep for words.” (Romans 8:26)

General Intercession

Watch, dear Lord, with those who wake or watch or weep, and give your angels charge over those who sleep. Tend the sick, rest the weary, bless the dying, soothe the suffering, pity the afflicted, shield the joyous. In your love, give us all this, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Protection Through Life

O Lord, mercifully assist us in our supplications and prayers. Direct the lives of your servants toward the goal of everlasting salvation, that, surrounded by all the changes and uncertainties of life, we may be defined by your gracious and ready help in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Those in Mental Distress

Heavenly Father, have mercy on all your children who live in mental distress. Restore them to strength of mind and cheerfulness of spirit and give them health and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Those in Trouble or Bereavement

O merciful Father, you teach us in your holy Word that you do not willingly afflict or grieve your children. Look with pity on the sorrows of *name*, your servant, for whom we pray. Remember *him/her*, O Lord, in mercy. Strengthen *him/her* and give *him/her* peace through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Recovery from Sickness

O God, the strength of the weak and the comfort of sufferers: Mercifully hear our prayers and grant to your servant, *name*, the help of your power, that *his/her* sickness may be turned into health and our sorrow into joy; through Jesus Christ. Amen.

Those Suffering from Addiction

O blessed Jesus, you ministered to all who came to you. Look with compassion upon all who through addiction have lost their health and freedom. Restore to them the assurance of your unfailing mercy; remove the fears that attack them; strengthen them in the work of their recovery; and to those who care for them, give patient understanding and persevering love; for your mercy's sake. Amen.

Restoration of Health

Almighty and gracious God, we give thanks that you have restored the health of your servant, *name*, on whose behalf we bless and praise your name. Grant that *he/she* may continue the mission you have given *him/her* in this world and also share in eternal glory at the appearing of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Aged

O Lord God, look with mercy on all whose increasing years bring them isolation, distress, or weakness. Provide for them homes of dignity and peace; give them understanding helpers and the willingness to accept help; and, as their strength diminishes, increase their faith and their assurance of your love. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ our lord. Amen.