

A Suggested Order for a New Healing Service

“Healing is not a plastering over of a defective personality, bought to notice by a physical or mental disorder, but a renewal of the whole person in the light of truth.”
Martin Israel.

Welcoming greeting

Opening Sentence Come unto me all who travail and are heavy laden and I will give you rest.
Matt 11.28.

Opening Hymn

Leader Breathe on us breath of God:

Response **Fill us with your saving power.**

Gathering Prayer:

**Almighty God,
to whom all hearts are open,
all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hidden:
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your holy name;
through Christ our Lord.**

Amen.

Readings A reading from *Gateway to Hope* by Maria Boulding.

‘Though God is an almighty lover, he can find himself shut out, and he longs to find an open door of vulnerability in us. It is extraordinarily hard for us to realise this, conditioned as we are by a secular ethic of success and a religious ideal of moral perfection which may owe little to the

gospel. God calls us, implants his life in the deepest centre of our being at baptism, and loves us into growth. He does not propose to us some lofty, rigid ideal to which we must attain by our own unaided human resources. We are more sinful than we know, more deeply flawed than we can recognise by any human insight; but grace works in us in the deepest places of body and spirit. We must live from our weakness, from the barren places of our need, because there is the spring of grace and the source of our strength When we stand before God in the truth of our need, acknowledging our sinfulness and bankruptcy, then we can celebrate his mercy. Then we are living by grace, and we can allow full scope to his joy.'

A moment of silence is kept

Gospel

Address

Either **Gloria in Excelsis**

Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,

in the glory of God the Father.

Amen.

Or Blessing of the Light

All remain standing. A large candle is lit, as a sign of hope and possibility. As the candle is lit, these words are said

Blessed are you. God of compassion and mercy.

to you be praise and glory for ever!

Your resurrection light breaks forth in the darkness;

your healing grace brings life and hope.

As we trust in the gift of your saving help.

guide us with your Spirit

and open our lips to sing your praise.

now and for ever.

Amen.

Come to God, for God is light:

God's light can overcome darkness.

Come to God, for God is truth:

God's truth can lead to freedom.

Come to God, for God is love:

God's love can comfort and enfold us.

Absolution

Almighty God,

who in Jesus Christ has given *you*

a kingdom that cannot be destroyed,

forgive *you your* sins,

open *your* eyes to God's truth,

strengthen *you* to do God's will

and give *you* the joy of his kingdom,

through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Confession:

God our Father,

long-suffering, full of grace and truth,

you create us from nothing and give us life.

You give your faithful people new life in the water of baptism.

You do not turn your face from us,

nor cast us aside.

We confess that we have sinned

against you and our neighbour.

We have wounded your love and marred your image in us.

Restore us for the sake of your Son,

and bring us to heavenly joy,

in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

Prayers of Intercession

Holy God, in whom we live and move and have our being, we make our prayer to you:

Grant to all who seek you the assurance of your presence, your power and your peace:

Lord, hear our prayer.

Grant your healing grace to all who are sick that they may be made whole in body, mind and spirit

Lord, hear our prayer.

Grant to all who minister to the suffering wisdom and skill, sympathy and patience:

Lord, hear our prayer.

Sustain and support the anxious and fearful and lift up all who are brought low:

Lord, hear our prayer.

Hear us. Lord of life.

Heal us, and make us whole.

A period of silence follows when the leader may share the first names of people who have asked for prayer at this service. Those attending may add other first names.

Hymn

Anointing (Optional) *to be done by a priest*

N, I anoint you in the name of God who gives you life. Receive Christ's forgiveness, his healing and his love. May the Father or our Lord Jesus Christ grant you the riches of his grace, his wholeness and his peace.

Laying on of hands *to be offered by, at least, pairs of ministers*

Christ bring you wholeness of body, mind and spirit, deliver you from every evil, and give you his peace. Amen.

Ministry concludes with

Almighty God,

whose Son revealed in signs and miracles

the wonder of your saving presence:

renew [N,N, ... and] all your people

with your heavenly grace,

and in all our weakness

sustain us by your mighty power.

through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

An Act of Thanksgiving

Blessed are you, Sovereign God, gentle and merciful,

creator of heaven and earth.
Your word brought light out of darkness.
In Christ Jesus you bring good news to the poor.
liberty to captives, sight to the blind
and freedom for the oppressed.
Daily your Spirit renews the face of the earth,
bringing life and health, wholeness and peace.
In the renewal of our lives
you make known your heavenly glory.
Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
Blessed be God for ever.

Hymn

Notices

Either **Blessing**

The God of love travel with you on your way;
the risen Christ be your company;
the Holy Spirit lift up your life;
and the blessing of God almighty,
Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer,
rest upon you and remain with you,
now and for ever.

Amen

or All join hands and share **the Grace**

**The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the fellowship of
the Holy Spirit be with us all, now and evermore. Amen.**

Go, in peace, to love and serve the Lord
In the name of Christ. Amen.