

Scripture strongly affirms ministries of spiritual healing, which in recent years have received renewed emphasis throughout Christ's holy Church. The root of the word *healing* in New Testament Greek, *sozo*, is the same as that of *salvation* and *wholeness*. Spiritual healing is God's work of offering persons balance, harmony, and wholeness of body, mind, spirit and relationships through confession, forgiveness, and reconciliation. Through such healing, God works to bring about reconciliation between God and humanity, among individuals and communities, within each person, and between humanity and the rest of creation. The New Testament records that Jesus himself healed the estranged and sick and sent out his disciples on ministries of healing. James (5:14-16a) calls us also to pray for and anoint the sick, that they may be healed.

All healing is of God. The Church's healing ministry in no way detracts from the gifts God gives through medicine and psychotherapy. It is no substitute for either medicine or the proper care of one's health. Rather, it adds to our total resources for wholeness.

Healing is not magic, but underlying it is the great mystery of God's love. Although no one can predict what will happen in a given instance, many marvelous healings have taken place.

God does not promise that we shall be spared suffering but does promise to be with us in our suffering. Trusting that promise, we are enabled to recognize God's sustaining presence in pain, sickness, injury and estrangement.

Likewise, God does not promise that we will be cured of all illness; and we all must face the inevitability of death. A Service of Healing is not necessarily a service of curing but provides an atmosphere in which healing can happen. The greatest healing of all is the reunion or reconciliation of a human being with God. When this happens, physical healing sometimes occurs, mental and emotional balance often restored, and spiritual health is enhanced, and relationships are healed. For the Christian the basic purpose of spiritual healing is to renew and strengthen one's relationship with the living Christ.



Bethel United Methodist Church

A Service of Healing

The Second Sunday of Easter
April 27, 2025



A Service of Healing		
Prelude		
Welcome and Announcements		
Greeting		
May grace and peace be yours in abundance in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord.		
We have come to lift up our brothers and sisters before the Lord that they might receive healing.		
Let those who seek God's healing open their hearts to the Spirit of the Lord.		
Bless the Lord, O my soul!		
and all that is within me, bless God's holy name!		
Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all God's benefits.		
The Lord forgives all our iniquity and heals all our diseases.		
The Lord redeems our lives from the pit and crowns us with steadfast love and mercy.		
God satisfies us with good as long as we live so that our youth is renewed like the eagle's.		
Hymn of Invocation	"Spirit Song"	#347
Opening Prayer		
Almighty and everlasting God, who can banish all affliction both of soul and of body, show forth your power upon those in need, that by your mercy they may be restored to serve you afresh in holiness of living, through Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN		
Scripture Lesson		Romans 8:31-39
Hymn	"Precious Lord, Take My Hand"	#474
Sermon Text		Acts 3:1-10
Sermon	I Need a Miracle	Rev. Burton Ott
Anthem	"His Eye Is On The Sparrow"	Emerson
Prayer of Confession		#890
Scripture		James 5:13-16

Thanksgiving Over the Oil

Let us pray.

O God, the giver of health and salvation, we give thanks to you for the gift of oil. As your holy apostles anointed many who were sick and healed them, so pour out your Holy Spirit on us and this gift, that those who in faith and repentance receive this anointing may be made whole, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **AMEN**

Prayers for Healing and Wellness with Anointing and Laying on of Hands
(People are invited to come forward to the altar rail.)

Hymns of Healing	“He Touched Me	#367
	“Spirit of the Living God”	#393
	“God Will Take Care of You”	#130
	“He Leadeth Me”	#128

Prayer After Anointing and Laying On Of Hands

Almighty God,
We pray that our brothers and sisters may be comforted in their suffering and made whole.
When they are afraid, give them courage;
When they feel weak, grant them your strength;
When they are afflicted, afford them patience,
When they are lost, offer them hope;
When they are alone, move us to their side;
When death comes, open your arms to receive them.
In the name of Jesus Christ we pray. AMEN

Dismissal with Blessing
The Lord who heals all your iniquity bless and keep you;
The face of the Lord who heals all your afflictions shine upon you and be gracious unto you;
The light of the countenance of the Lord who redeems your life be lifted upon you and give you peace. **AMEN**

Close	“Victory in Jesus”	#370
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