



St John's

LUTHERAN CHURCH

Midweek Healing Prayer
October 7, 2026

✝ ABOUT THIS SERVICE ✝

Throughout the gospels, Jesus draws near to people who are hurting. He touches the sick, restores those who have been separated from their communities, offers forgiveness and peace, and announces the nearness of God's kingdom. The church has continued this ministry in Christ's name, trusting that the risen Christ is still present among us with mercy, healing, and hope.

Christian healing is not the promise that every illness will be cured or every burden immediately taken away. Nor do we understand sickness or suffering as punishment from God. Rather, we trust that God desires the wholeness of God's people—body, mind, and spirit—and that Christ meets us in every part of our lives.

At St. John's, the ministry of healing belongs to the whole life of the church. We pray for one another in worship, visit those who are sick or homebound, accompany one another through grief and uncertainty, and entrust ourselves again and again to the promises of God. This service extends that ministry by giving us a regular place to gather intentionally for prayer and healing.

Here there is no expectation that you arrive with the right words, or even that you know exactly what you need. You may come carrying illness, grief, anxiety, loneliness, exhaustion, concern for someone you love, or simply a longing for God's presence. Through Scripture, silence, prayer, music, the laying on of hands, and anointing, we place all these things before God.

We gather trusting that healing takes many forms. Sometimes we pray for restoration of the body. Sometimes healing comes as strength to endure, peace in uncertainty, reconciliation, renewed hope, or the assurance that we are not alone. In all of it, our hope rests in Jesus Christ, who has entered into our suffering and whose resurrection promises that suffering and death will never have the final word.

Come as you are, and entrust whatever you carry to the mercy of God.



+++ *The assembly gathers in silence and we begin with the chant.* +++

GATHERING CHANT

Calm me, Lord

Margaret Rizza

S
A

Calm me, Lord, as you calmed the storm; still me, Lord, keep me from

T
B

harm. Let all the tu - mult with - in me cease; en - fold me,

To repeat *Last time*

Lord, in your peace. Lord, en - fold me in your peace.

GREETING & PRAYER OF THE DAY

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

Let us pray. Gracious God, you are our refuge and our strength, our hope in times of trouble, and our companion in every season of life. We come before you carrying the burdens of body, mind, and spirit—those we can name and those too deep for words. Meet us here with your mercy. Quiet our hearts, strengthen our faith, and surround us with the peace of Christ. By your Holy Spirit, bring healing where there is hurt, comfort where there is sorrow, courage where there is fear, and hope where the way ahead is uncertain. Draw us again to your promises, and remind us that in life and in death, in strength and in weakness, we belong to you. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ, our healer and our hope. **Amen.**

FIRST READING: PSALM 42

Hear these words from Psalm 42.

¹ As a deer longs for flowing streams,
so my soul longs for you, O God.

² My soul thirsts for God, for the living God.
When shall I come and behold the face of God?

³ My tears have been my food day and night,
while people say to me continually,
“Where is your God?”

⁴ These things I remember, as I pour out my soul:
how I went with the throng
and led them in procession to the house of God,
with glad shouts and songs of thanksgiving,
a multitude keeping festival.

⁵ Why are you cast down, O my soul,
and why are you disquieted within me?

Hope in God, for I shall again praise him, my help

⁶ and my God. My soul is cast down within me;
therefore I remember you
from the land of Jordan and of Hermon,
from Mount Mizar.

⁷ Deep calls to deep
at the thunder of your torrents;
all your waves and your billows
have gone over me.

⁸ By day the Lord commands his steadfast love,
and at night his song is with me,
a prayer to the God of my life.

⁹ I say to God, my rock, “Why have you forgotten me?
Why must I walk about mournfully
because the enemy oppresses me?”

¹⁰ As with a deadly wound in my body,
my adversaries taunt me,
while they say to me continually, “Where is your God?”

¹¹ Why are you cast down, O my soul,
and why are you disquieted within me?
Hope in God, for I shall again praise him,
my help and my God.

SONG

Nothing Can Ever

Jacques Berthier

Noth-ing can ev-er come be-tween us and the love of God, the love of God, re-

vealed to us in Christ Je - sus. O

O Je - sus.

SECOND READING: 2 CORINTHIANS 4:16-5:5

Hear these words from Paul's second letter to the Corinthians.

¹⁶ So we do not lose heart. Even though our outer nature is wasting away, our inner nature is being renewed day by day. ¹⁷ For our slight, momentary affliction is producing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all measure, ¹⁸ because we look not at what can be seen but at what cannot be seen, for what can be seen is temporary, but what cannot be seen is eternal.

For we know that, if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. ² For in this tent we groan, longing to be further clothed with our heavenly dwelling, ³ for surely when we have been clothed in it we will not be found naked. ⁴ For while we are in this tent, we groan under our burden because we wish not to be unclothed but to be further clothed, so that what is mortal may be swallowed up by life. ⁵ The one who has prepared us for this very thing is God, who has given us the Spirit as a down payment.

TIME OF SILENCE & PERSONAL PRAYER

We keep silence, resting in the presence and promises of God.

LAYING ON OF HANDS

Sisters and brothers, I invite all in need to come and receive a sign of healing and wholeness in the name of the triune God.

*+++ Members of the assembly may come forward to receive the laying on of hands,
anointing, or individual healing prayer. +++*

Let us pray. Living God, through the laying on of hands and anointing, grant comfort in suffering to all who are in need of healing. When they are afraid, give them courage; when afflicted, give them patience; when dejected, give them hope; and when alone, assure them of the support of your holy people. We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

INTERCESSORY PRAYER

Heritage Mass

Owen Alstott



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.

SENDING CHANT

May the Lord bless you, may the Lord pro-tect you and
guide you, may his strength up-hold you, his light shine up -
on you, his peace sur-round you, his love en - fold you.

*To last time bars
(unison setting)*

The musical score is written for Soprano (S) and Tenor (T) voices in 4/4 time. The key signature has one sharp (F#). The lyrics are: "May the Lord bless you, may the Lord pro-tect you and guide you, may his strength up-hold you, his light shine up - on you, his peace sur-round you, his love en - fold you." The score is divided into three systems. The first system contains the first two lines of lyrics. The second system contains the third line of lyrics. The third system contains the fourth line of lyrics and includes a note "To last time bars (unison setting)" above the final measure.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is with you always. **Thanks be to God.**

+++ *The assembly departs in silence.* +++

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↔ Please note: Pastor Matt observes Sabbath *every* Friday ↔

The mission of St. John's Lutheran Church is to share God's love through revitalization, community, and outreach.



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