

**The Fourth Sunday of
the Season of Gratitude**
A Healing Service

October 30, 2022



St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church Yarmouth, Maine

Throughout scripture, we read stories of healing and restoration. From Genesis to Revelation, individuals with afflictions of body, mind, and spirit and communities torn apart by greed and hatred are healed by prayer or, in one instance, by Jesus' spit and a little bit of mud (John 9:6). The ministry of healing is one of the oldest offerings of our Judeo-Christian faith and one of the most essential.

In church settings, when we hear the word "healing" we may think of the miracles of Jesus, where by a touch or a word Jesus was able to renew sight to the blind, agility to the lame, and life to the dead. Certainly, there are times when we all pray for miracles – for God to drastically intervene and make whole or make well a loved one.

Most often, however, "healing" is not just one experience of becoming well after being sick. It is a myriad of experiences of wholeness and being held, known, and loved just as we are. It is a sense of being buoyed when the waters of life are rough. It's a deep sense of embodiment when life is swirling around us. It's a cry for justice in a world still so deeply oppressed. It's knowing we do not journey through life alone but with God and God's people by our side.

St. Bart's Healing Services are times when we center this ministry of our tradition and make space for all of these aspirations for healing. Our prayers, our songs, our silence turn our attention to our healing as individuals and as a community. Lighting candles – the flames of hope, endurance, love, and peace – and anointing – oils that bless the living and those close to death – are centuries-old practices that connect us to God's healing ministry in our midst.

We invite you, this morning, into this space of healing – for you, for those you love, and for our community.

Prelude "Voluntary VIII" by Edward Elgar

Welcome Imelda Schaefer

Hymn, #421, All glory be to God on high The Hymnal 1982

Greeting & Prayer

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

People **And also with you.**

Deacon Let us pray.

Collect: O God, we are often at the limits of our power to help or to heal. For what we have left undone, forgive us. For what you have helped us to do, we thank you. For what must be done by others, lend your strength. Shelter us in your peace which passes our understanding that we may be healed and healers in our homes and community through Jesus' name. **Amen.**

Children's Greeting Mary Curlew

The Word

First Lesson: Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4 John Perkins

The oracle that the prophet Habakkuk saw. O Lord, how long shall I cry for help, and you will not listen? Or cry to you "Violence!" and you will not save? Why do you make me see wrongdoing and look at trouble? Destruction and violence are before me; strife and contention arise. So the law becomes slack and justice never prevails. The wicked surround the righteous—therefore judgment comes forth perverted.

I will stand at my watchpost, and station myself on the rampart; I will keep watch to see what he will say to me, and what he will answer concerning my complaint. Then the Lord answered me and said: Write the vision; make it plain on tablets, so that a runner may read it. For there is still a vision for the appointed time; it speaks of the end, and does not lie. If it seems to tarry, wait for it; it will surely come, it will not delay. Look at the proud! Their spirit is not right in them, but the righteous live by their faith.

Lector The word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The Psalm: Psalm 32:1-8

tune by John Naylor



1 Happy are they whose transgressions ' are for- 'given,*
and whose 'sin is 'put a - ' way!

2 Happy are they to whom the Lord im - 'putes no ' guilt,*
and in whose "spirit there ' is no guile!

3 While I held my tongue, my bones ' withered a- ' way,*
because of my 'groaning ' all day ' long.

4 For your hand was heavy upon me ' day and ' night;*
my moisture was dried up as ' in the ' heat of ' summer.

5 Then I acknowledged my ' sin to ' you,*
and ' did not con- ' ceal my ' guilt.

6 I said, "I will confess my trans- ' gressions to the ' Lord."*
Then you for - ' gave me the ' guilt of my ' sin.

7 Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in ' time of ' trouble;*
when the great waters overflow, they ' shall not ' reach ' them.

8 You are my hiding-place; you pre- ' serve me from ' trouble;*
you sur- ' round me with ' shouts of de- ' liverance.

Glory be to the Father, and ' to the ' Son,*
and ' to the ' Holy ' Spirit;

as it was in the be- ' ginning, is ' now,*
and ' will be for ' ever. A '-men.

Second Lesson: 2 Thessalonians 1:1-4, 11-12

Paule French

Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. We must always give thanks to God for you, brothers and sisters, as is right, because your faith is growing abundantly, and the love of every one of you for one another is increasing. Therefore we ourselves boast of you among the churches of God for your steadfastness and faith during all your persecutions and the afflictions that you are enduring.

To this end we always pray for you, asking that our God will make you worthy of his call and will fulfill by his power every good resolve and work of faith, so that the name of our Lord Jesus may be glorified in you, and you in him, according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Lector The word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The Holy Gospel: Luke 19:1-10

The Rev. Deacon Corey Walmer

Deacon The Holy Gospel according to Luke.

People **Glory to you, O God.**

He entered Jericho and was passing through it. A man was there named Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector and was rich. He was trying to see who Jesus was, but on account of the crowd he could not, because he was short in stature. So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore tree to see him, because he was going to pass that way. When Jesus came to the place, he looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, hurry and come down; for I must stay at your house today." So he hurried down and was happy to welcome him. All who saw it began to grumble and said, "He has gone to be the guest of one who is a sinner." Zacchaeus stood there and said to the Lord, "Look, half of my possessions, Lord, I will give to the poor; and if I have defrauded anyone of anything, I will pay back four times as much." Then Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, because he too is a son of Abraham. For the Son of Man came to seek out and to save the lost."

Deacon The Gospel of our Lord.

People **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

The Rev. Deacon Corey Walmer

Anthem

"Lord, We Come to Ask Your Healing"

traditional Welsh Song

1 Lord, we come to ask your healing, teach us of love;
 all unspoken shame revealing, teach us of love.
 Take our selfish thoughts and actions, petty feuds, divisive factions,
 hear us now to you appealing, teach us of love.

2 Soothe away our pain and sorrow, hold us in love;
grace we cannot buy or borrow, hold us in love.
Though we see but dark and danger, though we spurn both friend and stranger,
though we often dread tomorrow, hold us in love.

3 Help us live for one another, bind us in love;
stranger, neighbor, father, mother-- bind us in love.
All are equal at your table, through your spirit make us able
to embrace as sister, brother, bind us in love.

Deacon The worship on the 5th Sundays in our calendar year are set apart as focused on the theme of healing. As we move into prayers for the healing of our loved ones, our world and ourselves, let us take a moment to collect our thoughts and prayers.

Silence

A Litany of Healing

Pam Hobson

Leader God the Parent, your will for all people is health and salvation;
People **We praise you and thank you, O Lord.**
Leader God the Son, you came that we might have life, and might have it more abundantly;
People **We praise you and thank you, O Lord.**
Leader God the Holy Spirit, you make our bodies the temple of your presence;
People **We praise you and thank you, O Lord.**
Leader Holy Trinity, one God, in you we live and move and have our being;
People **We praise you and thank you, O Lord.**

Leader Lord, grant your healing grace to all who are sick, injured, or in need, that they may be made whole; Christ, our healer,
People **Hear our prayer.**

Leader Grant to all who seek your guidance, and to all who are lonely, anxious, or despondent, a knowledge of your will and an awareness of your presence; Christ, our healer,
People **Hear our prayer.**

Leader Mend broken relationships, and restore those in emotional distress to soundness of mind and serenity of spirit; Christ, our healer,
People **Hear our prayer.**

Leader Bless physicians, nurses, and all others who minister to the suffering, granting them wisdom and skill, sympathy and patience; Christ, our healer,
 People **Hear our prayer.**

Leader We remember those who have called upon us for prayer:

People **Bobby, Charles, Kellan, Pat, Mackenzie, Marcella, Tim, Sam, Matthew, Antonia,**
(on the left) **Al, Alex, Virginia & Jamil, Ed, Hannah, Mike, David, Sarah, Erin, Jenny & Matt,**

People **Adam, Rich, Nancy & Jonathan, Joan L & Elizabeth, Perry, Jim, Matt &**
(on the right) **Shannon, Evan & family, Elaine, Peter, Jan, Sasha, Katie, Paige, Dale, Dave K & family, and Jane.**

Leader Friends, are there others we wish to commend to God at this time? Please offer your prayers, either silently or aloud... *Pause for offered prayers*

Leader Christ, our healer,
 People **Hear our prayer.**

Leader Grant to the dying peace and a holy death, and uphold by the grace and consolation of your Holy Spirit those who are bereaved. I invite your prayers, either silently or aloud... *Pause for offered prayers*

Leader Christ, our healer,
 People **Hear our prayer.**

Leader We pray for our fragile earth, that we may be good stewards of your creation:
 Christ, our healer,
 People **Hear our prayer.**

Leader We light our orange candle in remembrance of victims of gun violence. May this candle, and all the lives it represents, burn brighter than our nation's idolatry of guns and inspire us to pursue meaningful change in our gun laws.
 Christ, our healer,
 People **Hear our prayer.**

Leader You are the Lord who does wonders:
 People **You have declared your power among the peoples.**

Leader With you, O Lord, is the well of life:
 People **And in your light we see light.**

Leader Hear us, O Lord of life:
 People **Heal us, and make us whole.**

Deacon: At this time, the St. Bart's Knitters are invited forward for blessing of the prayer shawls.

We invite the congregation to say the following Prayer of Blessing together:

People **May God's grace be upon this shawl...
warming, comforting, enfolding and embracing.
May this mantle be a safe haven...
a sacred place of security and well-being...
sustaining and embracing
in good times as well as difficult ones.**

**May the one who receives this shawl
be cradled in hope, kept in joy,
graced with peace,
and wrapped in love.**

After the above prayer is said, the shawls will be placed on the table. As you come forward to light a candle, you are invited to add your own blessing to the shawls through touch or silent prayer.

Deacon We, like Zaccheus, are known by God, called by name and restored by God's forgiving, gracious love. As we prepare to confess our sins, let us light a candle for our own healing.

At this time, the congregation is invited forward to light a candle as a symbol of the healing light of Christ illuminating our path forward. Those who wish prayer and anointing are welcome to receive this in the chapel located in the rear of the sanctuary at this time. Once everyone has returned to their seats, the service continues.

Hymn, #827, O Lord hear my prayer (see p 11)

Wonder, Love and Praise

Deacon Let us pray

People: **Open us to your healing power, O God. We entrust ourselves to your care, knowing that you are doing for us and for all the world far better things than we can ask or imagine. With you as our companion and guide, strengthen us to hope for all that is good and to fear no evil. For your love is stronger than death, and your faithfulness reaches to the heavens. To you we give glory, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and to the ages of ages. Amen**

Confession of Sin

Deacon Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence is kept.

Deacon Most merciful God,
People **we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart,
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your name.
Amen.**

Deacon Almighty God, have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life.

People **Amen.**

Deacon Let us greet each other in the name of Christ:

The Peace

Deacon The peace of Christ is always with you.

People **And, also with you.**

The congregation is invited to greet one another in the name of Christ.

Offering

Deacon: Let us with gladness present the offerings of our life and labor to the Lord.

Offertory Hymn, #463 He is the way

The Hymnal 1982

Offering Prayer

Deacon Let us pray,

People **All things come of Thee, O God, and of Thine own have we given Thee.**

Deacon Martin Luther King Jr. in his Address at the Religious Leaders Conference on 11 May 1959, said, "A religion true to its nature must always be concerned about man's social conditions. Religion operates not only on the vertical plane but also on the horizontal. It seeks not only to integrate men with God, but to integrate

men with men and each man with himself.” It is on both the vertical and horizontal plane that we continue to pray for healing and wholeness for ourselves, our neighbors and our communities and creation.

The Lord’s Prayer

Deacon As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

People	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. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever. Amen.
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Blessing

Deacon May God the Holy Trinity make us strong in faith and love, defend us on every side, and guide us in truth and peace; May we all be a source of healing in the world and may Christ’s light lead the way. and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, one God, Mother of us all, be among us, and remain with us always.

People **Amen.**

Announcements

Deborah Wathen Finn

Closing Hymn, #782, Gracious Spirit, give your servants (see p 12)

Wonder, Love, and Praise

Dismissal

Deacon: Go in peace to love and serve our God

All: Thanks be to God!

Postlude

“Rhosymedre”

by R. Vaughan Williams

SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY

Celebrant: The Rev. Deacon Corey Walmer

Candles: Barbara Barhydt*

Prayer Leader: Pam Hobson*

Lectors: John Perkins*, Paule French*

Prayers in the Chapel: Imelda Schaefer*

Ushers: Tom Hyndman, Nick Desiderio

Altar Guild: Linda Perkins, Jennifer Willard

Flower Arranger: Susan Soule

A/V: Peter Sillin

Bread Baker: Nancy Gunzelmann

Counters: Tom Hyndman, Harriet Davis

Lawn Care: Joe Michaud

VPOW: Deb Wathen Finn

Coffee Hour: Susan Soule, Imelda Schaefer

*members of the St. Bart’s Pastoral Care Team

Hymn #827

O Lord hear my pray'r, O Lord hear my pray'r.

When I call, an - swer me. O Lord hear my pray'r. O

Lord hear my pray'r, Come and lis - ten to me. O

Fine

Hymn #782

1. Gra - cious Spir - it, give your ser - vants joy to set sin's
2. Word made flesh, who gave up glo - ry to be - come our
3. Lov - ing God, who birthed cre - a - tion from the noth - ing -
4. Tri - une God, e - ter - nal Be - ing, nev - er end - ing,

cap - tives free, hope to heal the bro - ken - heart - ed,
great high priest, tak - ing on our hu - man na - ture
ness of space, kin - dling life where all was emp - ty,
un - be - gun, bound - less grace and per - fect jus - tice,

peace to share love's li - ber - ty. Through us bring your balm of
to re - deem the last and least: let your cour - age and com -
turn - ing cha - os in - to grace: when we feel con - fused and
right - eous and for - giv - ing One: so en - fold us in you

glad - ness to the wound - ed and op - pressed; help us claim and
pas - sion shape and guide our min - is - tries; as our Sav - ior
fruit - less, dawn up - on our rest - less night; give us faith's im -
mer - cy that our wills and yours u - nite; through us may the

show God's fa - vor as a peo - ple called and blessed.
and our Shep - herd, lead us to the truth that frees.
ag - i - na - tion, hope's re - new - ing, love's de - light.
world be - hold you, find your love, your truth, your light.