

Healing Prayer Worship Service

Frequently Asked Questions

What is a Healing Prayer worship service?

It is a congregational service centered on healing, specifically on God's desire to bring healing, wholeness and salvation to all who suffer.

Why are we offering these services?

It has come to our attention that many among us are suffering. Some suffer mental or emotional pain, others physical pain, still others spiritual pain. The response to our annual "Silent Night" service at Christmastime has revealed a need in our congregation for more opportunities centered on receiving God's healing mercies. James 5:13-16 instructs the suffering to pray and the sick to let the elders of the church pray for them and anoint them in the name of the Lord. We offer these services in order to be faithful to God's Word and to stand within our Methodist tradition of providing set apart times for prayer and healing. We seek no harm, but rather to allow God to do good through us.

Who are these services for?

They are for anyone with a need or experiencing a loss who desires to be open to the ministry of receiving God's healing love.

When will these services be held?

They will take place in the Sanctuary on the second Tuesday of every month.

How long will the service be?

The 45-minute service will include times of prayer, times of silence, readings from God's Word, some type of music and the opportunity to receive the laying on of hands and anointing with oil. Prayer and Care volunteer ministers will remain after each service to continue to pray with those who desire additional time seeking God's healing.

What is the "laying on of hands" and "anointing with oil," and why are they included?

Laying on of hands and anointing with oil play a central part in the healings recorded in the New Testament. Jesus often touched others; He blessed children, washed feet, healed diseases and raised people from the dead. When those who minister in Christ's name offer a gentle, healing touch or invoke the healing love of God through touching another's forehead with olive oil, the Holy Spirit helps every recipient know that Christ is present as both Healer and God's Anointed One.

Will attending one of these services cure my illness or solve my problem?

All healing is of God. Offering a time of healing prayer in worship in no way detracts from the gifts God has given us in medicine. It's no substitute for proper care of one's body, mind or spirit. Trusting God's promise to be with us in our suffering, we offer these services, not in order to cure or solve problems, but to provide an environment in which all present might open themselves to what God will do. The basic purpose of healing is to renew and strengthen our relationship with our Healer, Jesus Christ.

Who leads these services?

They will be led by one or more of the pastors who will be assisted by volunteers from our church's Member Care ministries: Altar Prayer Partners, Stephen Ministers, Care Team, and Hearts of Grace. (*Please see the blue "Prayer and Care" tri-fold for descriptions of these ministries.*)

If I have a question or a concern, who should I contact?

Any of the pastors will be happy to visit with you. Please do not hesitate to contact them.