

Thanksgiving

Minister: O Lord, we thank You for Your loving blessing on us and those for whom we have prayed.

(Here may follow a brief silence for recollection).

Accept these prayers and praise through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to Whom with You and the Holy Spirit Your Church gives honour, glory and worship, from generation to generation, world without end. Amen.

OFFERTORY HYMN

BENEDICTION

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THE METHODIST CHURCH IN IRELAND

The Ministry to the Sick

The ministry to the sick is a means whereby faith can be strengthened through penitence and reconciliation. The reading of scripture, prayer and counselling are essential elements.

The skill of doctors and nurses and the expertise of a wide range of others involved in the practice of medicine make an indispensable contribution to healing. The Church and the medical profession work together for the healing of the patient.

We are assured that God will supply all our needs, not meet all our requests. When we pray for wholeness we cannot determine in what way our prayers will be answered. We can always expect that God will use every prayer which is according to His will.

This Order of Service of Intercession for the Sick is offered in faith that many will find it helpful. A less formal service may be preferred, but it is recommended that the structure indicated by the headings be maintained.

Call to Worship

Hymn

As a prelude to a prayer the minister may read appropriate verses of Scripture, such as:

Be still and know that I am God.

Come unto me all who labour and are heavy laden and I will give you rest.

My peace I give unto you ...let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.

I am the first and the last, the Almighty ... take hold of my strength.

Confession

Minister: Let us confess our sins together that we may receive God's pardon and peace.

People: O God we confess that we have sinned against You in thought, word and deed.
We have not loved You as we ought.
We have not loved our neighbour as ourselves.
We have not loved one another in Your family as Jesus loved us.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
Have mercy upon us. Take from us all that hinders the work of Your healing love that we may be restored to our divine image, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Minister: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners
Hear then the word of grace:
Your sins are forgiven.

People: Amen. Thanks be to God.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

SCRIPTURE READINGS AND SERMON

A hymn may follow.

Intercessions

Minister: In nothing be anxious; but in everything, by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passes all understanding, shall keep you hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

O God, Who hast prepared for those who love You such good things as pass man's understanding, pour into our hearts such love towards You, that we, loving You above all things, may obtain Your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Let us pray for all sick people:

Eternal Lord Christ, You are the strength of all who trust in You; we bring now into Your presence our sick and troubled friends especially... (*List names after which the congregation may call out names of people whom they wish to remember*). Lay Your healing hand, O Lord, , upon them, and give them all that is needful for health both of body and soul. Grant them patience and faith, with a perfect dependence on Your never failing love. Work out in them the good pleasure of Your gracious will that they may live to Your glory and praise now and forever. Amen.

The Laying-on of Hands

Minister: Jesus said, I am come that you might have life and have it more abundantly'.
(*The congregation shall remain in prayer while those who desire the Laying-on of hands shall come forward to the Communion rail or other suitable place. Friends and relatives of a sick person may receive that ministry by proxy*).

At the Laying-on of hands these or other suitable words are used.

In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ Who laid His hands on the sick that they may be healed, I lay my hands upon you.... May Almighty God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, make you whole in body, mind and spirit, give you light and peace, and keep you in eternal life. Amen.