

PLANNING HEALING WORSHIP SERVICES

How are services planned in your congregation? Some churches hold a special healing service every six months or more often.

1. Who are those in your congregation interested in helping?

- Your pastor or priest
- The parish nurse or health professionals
- Musical people
- People gifted in praying for healing
- Intercessors that love to pray in the background .

2. Learning from a Variety of Models.

God honors the faith, love, and prayer for healing from people in all Christian traditions.

Comfort, peace, strength, and return to health are commonly reported. It may be of benefit to take some "field trips" to a variety of healing services.

- Some meetings are quiet; others are lively.
- Some are very structured, others are informal.
- Some set the atmosphere with candles, banners, and the arts; others pay no attention to these.

3. Common Things in a Healing Service

Opening Prayer asks God's blessing, and superintendence at the meeting.

Music and Singing let the cares of life fade away and help the people sense the presence of God.

Bible Readings communicate God's desire and stimulate faith.

Confession and forgiveness rids us of burdens, guilt and shame.

Testimonies of healed persons build expectancy that God loves us and wants to help.

Teaching on healing can clear away troubling questions or stimulate our faith.

Occasionally invite a Guest known to have some success in praying for the sick.

A Time of Ministry directly to those wanting prayer. Have you noticed in the Gospels that Jesus ministered healing in a large variety of ways? This can take many forms.

- Holy Communion - Encourage the person to ask God for a healing touch when taking Communion.
- Anointing with oil - Dab a small amount of oil on the forehead of the person for whom you are praying.
- Laying on of hands - Lay your hand gently on the persons head or shoulder as you pray.
- Insights from the Holy Spirit - Sometimes the Lord will give you special insight (1) on what to pray for, or (2) or a question to ask the person, or (3) a Biblical promise to speak out to them.
- Creative rituals

Prayer in a variety of locations

- In front ministered by the pastor, guest, or a prayer team
- In the rear of the church
- Have those desiring healing prayer to raise their hands or stand where they are, then those ministering prayer can circulate and anoint them with oil - or you can have two or three near each person gather around them and pray
- In a near-by adjoining room