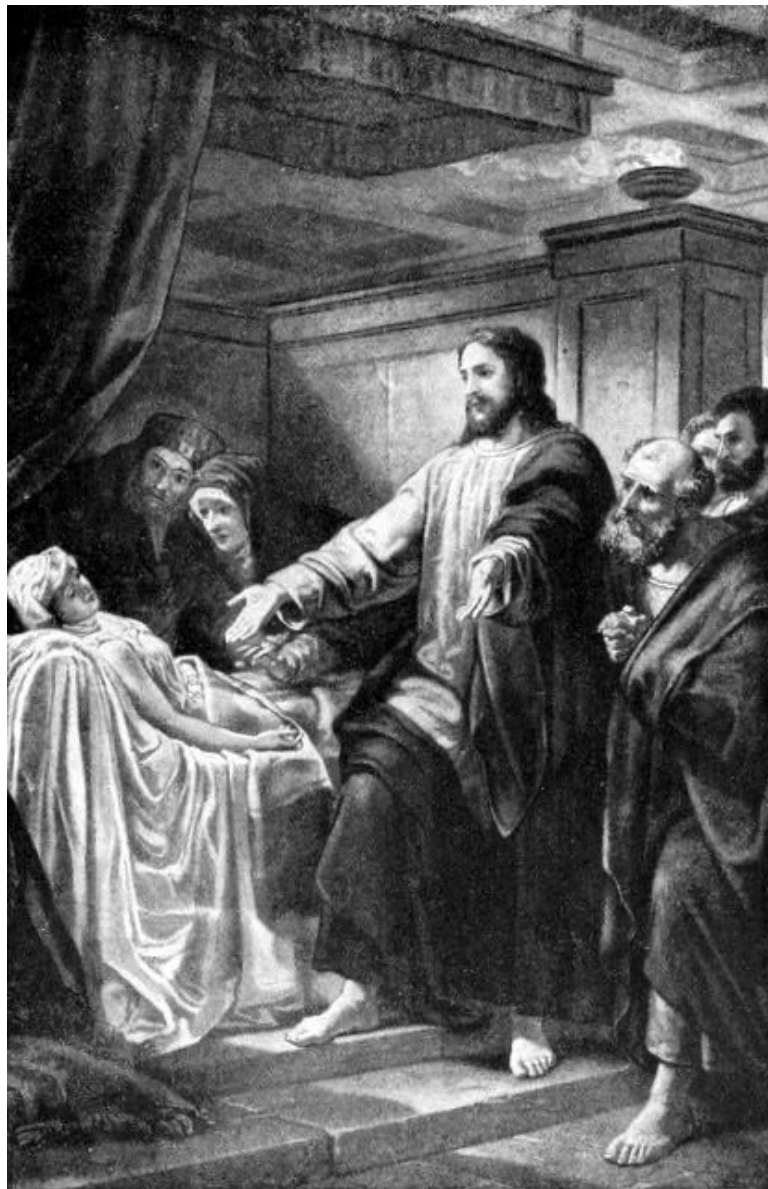


Thinking about healing



St Aidan's Uniting Church
20th June 2024

Call to Worship

In light and dark,
joy and sorrow,

God is with us.

In hope and fear,
acceptance and rejection,

God is with us.

God walks with us
through all the challenges of life:

Let us worship God.

Prayers

God, who gives strength and comfort,
we confess the times
we have looked for quick answers
and easy solutions.

When we look towards a specific event
and say "I can have closure now,"
wanting the pain to be over,
rather than recognising the journey
that takes us towards healing,

**Healing God,
forgive us.**

When our struggle through life's pains
shake our faith,
destroy our resilience,
or lead us to respond out of fear,

**Healing God,
forgive us.**

When we look for easy answers
and quick solutions,
rather than for the growth and change
that comes through a healing journey,

**Healing God,
forgive us.**

When we shut others out
and see them as less than ourselves
because they experience suffering,

**Healing God,
forgive us.**

Forgive us,
God who loves the broken-hearted,
heals those wounded by life,
and gives fresh starts to all people.
Amen.

Words of Assurance

Psalm 130: 3-4, 7-8

If you, O Lord, should mark iniquities,
Lord, who could stand?

But there is forgiveness with you,
so that you may be revered.

O Israel, hope in the Lord!

For with the Lord there is steadfast love,
and with him is great power to redeem.

It is he who will redeem Israel
from all its iniquities.

Know that you are forgiven:

Thanks be to God.

Prayer of Intercession

Loving God,
today we pray for your people
who are mourning.

We pray for those who have lost loved ones
because of war, or violence,

because of natural disaster, or illness.

We pray for those who mourn
because hope has been stripped away
and they can see no future
for themselves or their families.

We pray for those who weep
because of depression
or because the state of the world
fills them with despair.

Give hope and healing,
Creator God,
so that all people
may experience your love
and look to a new future
embraced by your family,
experiencing your reign.
Amen.

Benediction & Blessing

In light and dark,
joy and sorrow,

God is with us.

In hope and fear,
acceptance rejection,

God is with us.

God walks with us
through all the challenges of life.

As we leave this place:

With our lives we worship God.