



Blue Advent

We invite you to begin the service with the hymn “Bless the Lord,”
performed by the Taize Community Choir.

[click to begin music](#)

We invite you to light a candle for the losses you are
remembering this night.

A Public Service of Healing

Gather in the Name of God

Microphones un-muted

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

People **And also with you.**

Minister Let us pray.

After a period of silence, the Minister then says one of the following Collects, or some other appropriate Collect

Loving God, the comfort of all who sorrow, the strength of all who suffer: accept our prayers, and to those who seek healing, grant the power of your grace, that the weak may be strengthened, sickness turned to health, the dying made whole, and sorrow turned into joy; through Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

Proclaim and Respond to the Word

A READING FROM ISAIAH 35

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad,
the desert shall rejoice and blossom;
like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly,
and rejoice with joy and singing.

The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it,
the majesty of Carmel and Sharon.

They shall see the glory of the LORD,
the majesty of our God.

Strengthen the weak hands,
and make firm the feeble knees.

Say to those who are of a fearful heart,
“Be strong, do not fear!

Here is your God.

He will come with vengeance,
with terrible recompense.

He will come and save you.”

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,
and the ears of the deaf unstopped;

then the lame shall leap like a deer,

and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.
for waters shall break forth in the wilderness,

and streams in the desert;
the burning sand shall become a pool,
and the thirsty ground springs of water;
the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp,
the grass shall become reeds and rushes.
A highway shall be there,
and it shall be called the Holy Way;
the unclean shall not travel on it,

The Word of the Lord.

Answer **Thanks be to God**

PSALM 23 *Dominus regit me*

Read in unison

- 1 The LORD is my shepherd; *
 I shall not be in want.
- 2 He makes me lie down in green pastures *
 and leads me beside still waters.
- 3 He revives my soul *
 and guides me along right pathways for his Name's sake.
- 4 Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
 I shall fear no evil; *
 for you are with me;
 your rod and your staff, they comfort me.
- 5 You spread a table before me in the presence of those
 who trouble me; *
 you have anointed my head with oil,
 and my cup is running over.
- 6 Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days
 of my life, *
 and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever

A READING FROM 2 CORINTHIANS 1:3-5

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and the God of all consolation, who consoles us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to console those who are in any affliction with the consolation with which we ourselves are consoled by God. For just as the sufferings of Christ are abundant for us, so also our consolation is abundant through Christ.

The Word of the Lord.

Answer **Thanks be to God.**

A READING FROM MATTHEW 11:28-30

“Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

Answer The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Response to the Word

Pray for the World and the Church, particularly for God’s healing grace

A LITANY FOR HEALING

The Deacon or other minister introduces the Litany with these or similar words

Let us name before God those for whom we offer our prayers.

The people offer names either silently or aloud.

The Leader continues with the Litany

God the Father, your will for all people is health and salvation;

We praise you and thank you, O Lord.

God the Son, you came that we might have life, and might have it more abundantly,

We praise you and thank you, O Lord.

God the Holy Spirit, you make our bodies the temple of your presence;

We praise you and thank you, O Lord.

Holy Trinity, one God, in you we live and move and have our being;

We praise you and thank you, O Lord.

Lord, grant your healing grace to all who are sick, injured, or disabled, that they may be made whole;

Hear us, O Lord of life.

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;

Hear us, O Lord of life.

Mend broken relationships, and restore those in emotional distress to soundness of mind and serenity of spirit;

Hear us, O Lord of life.

Bless physicians, nurses, and all others who minister to the suffering, granting them wisdom and skill, sympathy and patience;

Hear us, O Lord of life.

Grant to the dying peace and a holy death, and uphold by the grace and consolation of your Holy Spirit those who are bereaved;

Hear us, O Lord of life.

Restore to wholeness whatever is broken by human sin, in our lives, in our nation, and in the world;

Hear us, O Lord of life.

You are the Lord who does wonders:

You have declared your power among all the peoples.

With you, O Lord, is the well of life:

And in your light we see light.

Hear us, O Lord of life:

Heal us, and make us whole.

Let us pray.

A period of silence follows. The Prayers are concluded with the following Collect

Heavenly Father, you have promised to hear what we ask in the Name of your Son: Accept and fulfill our petitions, we pray, not as we ask in our ignorance, nor as we desire in our sinfulness, but as you know and love us in your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

CONFESSION OF NEED

Microphones muted

The minister introduces the prayer with these or similar words

Let us confess our need for God's healing grace.

Silence

Minister and People

Compassionate God,

We confess our weaknesses and our need for your strengthening touch. We confess that some illnesses stem from our own fault, while others are beyond our control.

We turn to you, source of life, and ask in the name of our Savior Jesus Christ for the gifts of true healing and life in you. Amen.

Officiant and People

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us,
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

Microphones un-muted

EXCHANGE THE PEACE

A Public Service of Healing at St. Martin-in-the-Fields

*We invite you to enter this virtual sanctuary each Wednesday of Advent at
6:30 pm Central.*

*This service is derived from Enriching Our Worship 2, a publication of
The Episcopal Church. We offer this prayer as a resource for those who have
experienced loss, those who seek answers, and those for whom
holiday celebration feels hollow.*