

Taizé Prayer

“Let me touch His cloak.”

- Mark 5:25-34



I am struck by the simplicity of the story in Mark's Gospel of the woman with the hemorrhage. Her simple faith, her compulsion to reach out, her desperate need to have her life back, these things speak to my heart. But there is more to this story. Jesus, surrounded by many people, notices that his power has been sought and lovingly searches for this hurting soul to give his words of affirmation. The disciples question Jesus' actions and words. I am also aware of those on the fringe of the story, those who brushed up against Jesus out of curiosity or who stood to the side out of skepticism and missed the very presence of God in their midst, each in their own stage of readiness to receive the presence of Christ in their lives. And finally, I am humbled by the woman who when healed, falls before the Lord.

This is a short and simple story of faith and healing, but it is powerful in its ability to speak to our lives. At some point in life all of us, like the woman with the hemorrhage, have circumstances and situations that leave us bleeding uncontrollably, seeking a solution at all costs. On occasion, like this unclean woman, our circumstances may leave us outcast from our families and friends. At times our faith spurs us to seek Christ's presence and surrender our will to him; at other times we stand in his presence and fail to recognize him or his authority over our lives. Sometimes we are like the disciples who just stand there and ask questions, not sure how all of it fits together.

I am drawn to the final verse of the following chapter in Mark's gospel, "Whatever villages or towns or countryside Jesus entered, they laid the sick in the marketplaces and begged him that they might touch only the tassel on his cloak; and as many as touched it were healed." Mark 6:56

I hope and pray that our time together this evening will help all of us to reach out to Christ, the healing presence of the God, to seek his mercy, healing, and peace in our lives.

Welcome to St. Paul's Spirituality Center

Please turn off your cell phones.

Even the buzz of “silence mode”

will be heard during our time of profound silence.

Good evening! In the name of Christ, it is our privilege to welcome you to St. Paul's Spirituality Center. As we gather this evening, We would like to offer hospitality, introduce you to our congregation and our Spirituality Center, give a little background about Taizé Prayer and what to expect in worship this evening. If you are here for the first time, our restrooms are in the breezeway just outside the main doors of the church.

About Taizé Prayer The Taizé style of sung prayer mirrors other forms of meditative or contemplative prayer. The gentle repetition of a single thought, in this case, expressed in music, allows us to hear God's voice in the text. The text melts away creating an interior silence for an encounter with God. The music holds the time and space for prayer. Each piece of music has a simple thought that invites the participant to bring their own story, their own needs, to this time of prayer.

How To Participate First, as you gather in the dimly lit room, you might want to simply review your day. Notice what still has your attention and anything that is a distraction to being present to this time of prayer. You might place these distractions at the foot of the altar or the doors of the church. But also notice things beyond your to-do list that are taking space in your heart. What are your needs and concerns, what do you desire most at this moment in your life? What needs to be celebrated, discerned, or even let go of? Bring these things to God tonight!

Singing and Prayer before our Icons The short repetitive sung mantras are gateways to prayer. Although each chant has a text, often with deep theological meaning, this isn't a Lutheran Hymn Sing! (We will do that someday too!) The music is gentle and quiet. You are encouraged to sing or even hum as it serves your prayer, but no one should feel a need to lead the singing or encourage others to sing. All should blend into gentle, contemplative prayer.

After the scripture reading for the evening, there will be an extended time, with several pieces of music sung; you are invited to come forward and light a candle before one of the icons in the room. There will be time for all to move slowly and prayerfully. There is no need to form a line. The music will continue until all have had ample time to participate and pray.

Silence After our time of prayer and candle lighting, we will share profound silence. You can expect that to be 10 - 15 minutes long. The musicians are the timekeepers, so your only role is to sink into the silence and allow God to speak. It is helpful if all of us do our part to minimize distractions. Please put your programs aside and again be sure your cell phones are off and avoid any distracting movement.



Offering We leave a basket at the back of the church for an offering. Your presence and prayer are the most important gifts you bring to our community. However, your contributions support the Spirituality Center our Taizé and Retreat ministries. Our congregation uses an online giving service and with this QR code you can create an online account and make a donation towards our Taizé Ministry. If you use the app and it asks for an "Invite Code" it is MW9599. Checks should be made out to St. Paul's Lutheran Church. Thank you.

St. Paul's Spirituality Center is an outreach of our congregation. The first call of any church is to bring people to Christ and form them to be disciples. The Spirituality Center, desires to be a space and place where people are invited to explore their relationship with God. We invite people to prayer, to learn to talk to God and surrender to God's presence and action in their lives. The heart of this ministry is our Wednesday Contemplative Prayer Services. We also currently offer retreats, classes, and a grief support group. If this ministry is meaningful to you, reach out to Pr. Anne for ways you can be more involved. The Spirituality Center is intended to be a resource for the wider community. We hope to support other congregations in their journey to form disciples. We hope to reach those who, for whatever reason, don't have a church home. And we are intentional about being a place of healing for those who have been wounded by the church.

If you would like to be on the email distribution list for the Spirituality Center, please fill out one of the information cards in the basket at the welcome table at the back of the church this evening or send Pastor Anne an email at pastoranneharman@gmail.com

St. Paul's Spirituality Center has its own Facebook Page. You can find us by searching "St. Paul's Spirituality Center" in the Facebook search bar or through this QR code. We also have a web page under St. Paul's website: <https://stpaulsclearwater.org/spirituality-center>.



Psalm 46:11

Be Still, And Know

Anne M. Harman

6 Be _____ still, Be _____ still, Be _____
still and know that I am your God.

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Call to worship: Psalm 29:11

Reader 1: May the Lord give strength to his people!

ALL: May the Lord bless his people with peace!

To You All Hearts Are Open

To you all hearts are open, to
you all desires known. To you there are no
secrets, almighty God; we come to you.

Last time

Text: John Tirro, b. 1966; based on an 11th cent. collect, tr. *Book of Common Prayer*

Music: ALL HEARTS ARE OPEN, John Tirro

Text and music © 2003 Mondo Zen Music, admin. Carol Vincent and Associates, LLC. All rights reserved.

Word of God – Mark 5:25-34

There was a woman afflicted with hemorrhages for twelve years. She had suffered greatly at the hands of many doctors and had spent all that she had. Yet she was not helped but only grew worse. She had heard about Jesus and came up behind him in the crowd and touched his cloak. She said, "If I but touch his clothes, I shall be cured." Immediately her flow of blood dried up. She felt in her body that she was healed of her affliction.

Jesus, aware at once that power had gone out from him, turned around in the crowd and asked, "Who has touched my clothes?"

But his disciples said to him, "You see how the crowd is pressing upon you, and yet you ask, 'Who touched me?'"

And he looked around to see who had done it.

The woman, realizing what had happened to her, approached in fear and trembling. She fell down before Jesus and told him the whole truth.

He said to her, "Daughter, your faith has saved you. Go in peace and be cured of your affliction."

A Service of Light

It was a simple act of faith, "let me touch his garment!" She didn't demand a private audience with the Son of God or need a great display of his power. She simply acted on a nudge of the Spirit and reached out to Jesus believing that he could heal her.

We are all in need of healing. Some of us need healing from disease or chronic pain. Some need healing from mental illness, depression, grief or loneliness. And some of us need spiritual healing for the wounds we have received by the actions of others or even ourselves.

Some of us are walking with a loved one who is suffering or dying. We may be the caregiver for someone who needs constant care. Our lives may be touched by addiction or mental illness. Grief may linger in our hearts.

Some of us may have a need to simply find peace in our lives. Not an absence of chaos, but the true peace that comes from knowing that we are in God's hands, and we never walk outside of God's loving care. Some of us are being called to simply profess our faith in Christ and to believe in his power as Lord of our lives.

No matter what brought you here this evening, or what needs and concerns have come to mind this evening, Jesus is inviting you to reach out for healing, comfort and peace.

You are invited to come forward, a few at a time, to light a candle and place it in the sand as you simply spent time in prayer with Jesus. There is no need to form a line as the music will continue until all have had time to come forward and pray. This time is yours to seek the presence of Christ at the place of your deepest need.

adapted from Pie Jesus

We Reach Out

Anne M. Harman



We reach out to touch you, Lord. Seek - ing your peace. -
long-ing for your lov-ing touch, heal us, Lord, heal us, Lord. Heal us.

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Give Us Your Peace. Make Us Your Peace

For Pr. Khader El-Yateem

Anne M. Harman

Three staves of musical notation in G clef, common time. The lyrics are: Es - naa_ la - na_ Al - Sa - lam. The second staff continues the melody. The third staff begins with a new line: Aā - tee - na_ Al - - - Sa - lam.

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Bathe Me In Your Mercy

Anne M. Harman

Two staves of musical notation in G clef, common time. The lyrics are: Bathe me in your mer-cy. A - noint me in the fra-grance of your Spir - it. Wrap me in the man-tle of your love. The second staff continues the melody.

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Jesus, Remember Me

Taize

Two staves of musical notation in G clef, common time. The lyrics are: Je sus, re - mem - ber me when you come in-to your king - dom. The second staff continues the melody.

$\text{♩} = 70$

O God, We Call

Words and Music
by Linnea Good

O God, we call, O God, we call, from deep in-side we yearn, from
deep in-side we yearn, from deep in-side we yearn for you.

Text and music (c) 1994 Borealis Music, linneagood.com. All Rights Reserved. Used with Permission

Come, Bring Your Burdens

Wo - za nom - thwa - lo wa - kho; wo - za nom -
Come, bring your bur - dens to God; come, bring your
thwa - lo wa - kho; wo - za nom - thwa - lo wa - kho, U -
bur - dens to God; come, bring your bur - dens to God, for
ye - s'a - ka - so - za - thi hayi.
Je - sus will nev - er say no.

Text: South African; English text Barbara Clark, Mairi Munro, and Martine Stemmerick
Music: WOZA NOMTHWALO WAKHO, South African melody; arr. Welile Sigabi
English text and arr. © 2008 WGRG, Iona Community, admin. GIA Publications, Inc., giamusic.com. All rights reserved.

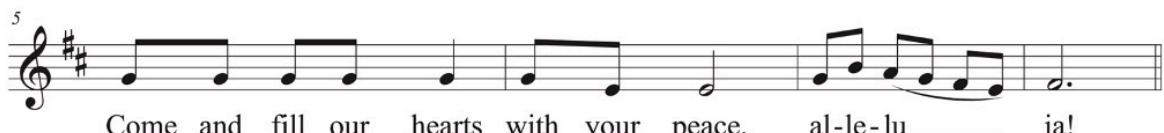
Come and Fill Our Hearts

$\text{♩} = 66$

TAIZE



Come and fill our hearts with your peace. You a-lone, O Lord, are ho - ly.



Come and fill our hearts with your peace, al-le-lu ia!

Hold Me, Heal Me

Mary Magdalene's Song

Anne M. Harman



Hold me, heal me. Hold me, heal me.



Lord, help me hold and heal.

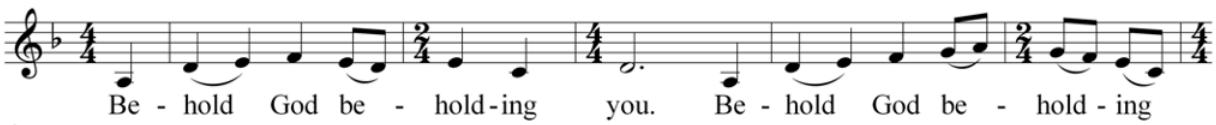
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Behold God

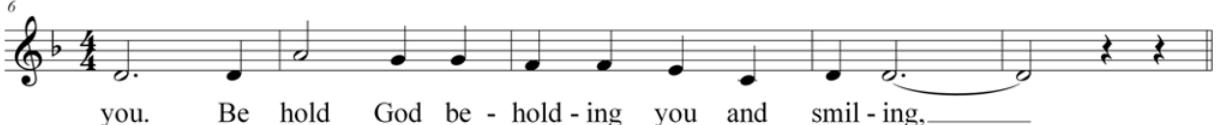
Anne M Harman

Lyrics by:
adapted from St. Ignatius of Antioch
by Anthony De Mello

*For the 2012 Creighton University
CSP - Term I Graduates*



Be - hold God be - hold-ing you. Be - hold God be - hold - ing



you. Be hold God be - hold - ing you and smil - ing, _____

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Lead Me Into Silence

AMH

Lead me in - to si - lence to hear Your Word of grace.
Lead me in - to still-ness by love to be em - braced.
Lead me in - to dark-ness to see You face to face.

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Silence

Whatever villages or towns or countryside Jesus entered, they laid the sick in the marketplaces and begged him that they might touch only the tassel on his cloak; and as many as touched it were healed. – Mark 6:56

Prayers of Intercession

Óyenos, Señor

Ó - ye - nos, Se - ñor, ó - ye - nos, Se - ñor.
Listen to your peo - ple. Ó - ye - nos, Se - ñor.

Text: Bob Hurd, b. 1950, alt.

Music: ÓYENOS, Bob Hurd

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LORD'S PRAYER

**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,
forever and ever. Amen**

Blessing

O God of compassion,
you have gathered your people here,
to shower on them your mercy, healing, and peace.

Open our hearts to receive the gifts you give freely,
give peace where there is anxiety,
courage in place of fear, healing in place of illness,
hope in place of despair, joy in place of grief.

May your healing and wholeness fill us.
May the gifts we receive be given in abundance
to loved ones and strangers alike.

May the healing we receive bring healing and peace to the world.

Amen.

Please extend to one another a sign of Christ's peace and love.



St. Paul's Spirituality Center

an outreach ministry of St. Paul's Lutheran Church



Service of Healing & Holy Communion

Wednesday, January 28 - 7:15 PM

We all have a need for healing.

What keeps you from asking God for healing?
What would healing look like? Feel like?

During our service we will have a time for anointing and individual prayer for healing.

St. Paul's Lutheran Church
gathering at St. John's Episcopal Church
1676 S. Belcher Rd., Clearwater

Four Chaplains Day

St. John's Episcopal Church

1676 S. Belcher Rd., Clearwater, FL 33764

Four Chaplains Day Service

February 3, 2026

7:00 PM



Join us as we honor the service, sacrifice,
and witness to interfaith unity of the
Four Chaplains of the U.S.A.T. Dorchester
and the service of chaplains in our own community today.

To learn about the Four Chaplains of the U.S.A.T Dorchester:
<https://fourchaplains.org/the-four-chaplains/>



Sponsored by Belcher Road Interfaith Collective

St. Paul's Lutheran, Temple B'nai Israel, Hope Presbyterian, St. John's Episcopal,
Unity Church of Clearwater, Trinity Presbyterian Clearwater, Congregation Beth Shalom,
Unitarian Universalists of Clearwater, St. Catherine of Siena Catholic Church

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

*Gathering at St. John's Episcopal 1676 S. Belcher Rd.,
Clearwater, FL*

A Reconciling in Christ Congregation

St. Paul's Lutheran Church, a Reconciling in Christ congregation, embodies God's love, and promise of salvation through faith in Christ by extending inclusion and welcome to all.

We welcome the full, active participation of all who worship and minister with us. If you are interested in learning more about Jesus, God's life and action in the world and our lives, the Lutheran faith, or this congregation and how you can be more involved, please reach out to Pastor Anne.

Phone Number: 727- 446-7718

Email: office@stpaulsclearwater.org

Website: <https://www.stpaulsclearwater.org>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/st.paulslutheranchurch.clearwater.fl>

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Website



To reach Pastor Anne
pastoranneharman@gmail.com

Facebook



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