



# CELTIC EVENSONG AND COMMUNION

at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church

Easter Day

April 21, 2019, 5:30 p.m.

*Welcome. In order to prepare for worship and allow for private prayer, we ask that silence be observed upon entering and that you turn off cell phones. We are aware that many people who attend this service come from other churches and faith traditions, and we are delighted to have many who consider St. Stephen's to be their second church home. The typical mixture of faith traditions represented at this service makes up a community we especially cherish. We are glad you are here.*

**Prelude** *Spring Song*

Cory and Amy Blake

*Please stand at the sound of the bell.*

**Opening** "The Easter Challenge"

Joyce Rupp

Every year it happens: earth shakes her sleepy head, still a bit wintered and dull, and feels new life stirring. Every year cocoons give up their treasures, fresh shoots push through brown leaves, seemingly dead branches shine with green, and singing birds find their way home. Every year we hear the stories: empty tomb, surprised grievers, runners with news and revelation,	unexpected encounters, conversations on the road, tales of nets filling with fish, and breakfast on a seashore. And every year the dull and dead in us meets our Easter challenge: to be open to the unexpected, to believe beyond our security, to welcome God in every form, and trust in our own greening.
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**Hymn 207** Jesus Christ is risen today

*Sung by all.*

*Easter Hymn*

1. Je - sus Christ is ris'n to - day, Al - le - lu - ia!  
2. Hymns of praise then let us sing, Al - le - lu - ia!  
3. But the pains which he en - dured, Al - le - lu - ia!  
4. Sing we to our God a - bove, Al - le - lu - ia!

our - tri - um - phant ho - ly day, Al - le - lu - ia!  
un - to Christ, our heav'n - ly King, Al - le - lu - ia!  
our sal - va - tion have pro - cured, Al - le - lu - ia!  
praise e - ter - nal as his love, Al - le - lu - ia!

who did once up - on the cross, Al - le - lu - ia!  
who en - dured the cross and grave, Al - le - lu - ia!  
now a - bove the sky he's King, Al - le - lu - ia!  
praise him, all ye heav'n - ly host, Al - le - lu - ia!

suf - fer to re - deem our loss. Al - le - lu - ia!  
sin - ners to re - deem and save. Al - le - lu - ia!  
where the an - gels ev - er sing. Al - le - lu - ia!  
Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. Al - le - lu - ia!

## A Prayer for the Evening

Holy God, in you there is no darkness; shed upon us through this night the light of your forgiveness, your healing and your peace, that when we wake from sleep we may know once more the brightness of your presence; through our Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

### The Reading Luke 24:1-12

*Please sit.*

**Reader** A reading from the Gospel according to Luke.

On the first day of the week, at early dawn, the women who had come with Jesus from Galilee came to the tomb, taking the spices that they had prepared. They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they went in, they did not find the body. While they were perplexed about this, suddenly two men in dazzling clothes stood beside them. The women were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen. Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, that the Son of Man must be handed over to sinners, and be crucified, and on the third day rise again." Then they remembered his words, and returning from the tomb, they told all this to the eleven and to all the rest. Now it was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the other women with them who told this to the apostles. But these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them. But Peter got up and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; then he went home, amazed at what had happened.

*Silence is observed after the reading.*

### Reflection Ben Sparks

*Two minutes of silence follow.*

### Music for Meditation *That Easter Day*

*Puer nobis nascitur*

### Prayers for Ourselves and Others

*Please stand.*

**Celebrant** Let us pray for the church and the world.

*Please remain standing. The Leader and the People pray responsively.*

**Leader** In the work we do this day,

**People** **May the risen Christ teach us.**

**Leader** In the challenges we face this day,

**People** **May the risen Christ guide us.**

**Leader** Through the people we meet this day,

**People** **May the risen Christ renew us.**

**Leader** As we respond to the hungers and hurts of this world,

**People** **May the Spirit of the risen Christ strengthen us.**

**Leader** We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world.

**People** **That there may be justice and peace on the earth.**

**Leader** We remember all who have died, [especially \_\_\_\_\_].

*During the silence, members of the congregation may pray for others.*

**Leader** Give to the departed eternal rest;

**People** **And let light perpetual shine upon them.**

**Leader** Let us pray for our own needs and the needs of others.

*The People may add their own petitions.*

**Celebrant** Grant us, O God, so to die daily to sin, that we may evermore live with Christ in the joy of his resurrection. **Amen.**

### Additional Prayers of Intercession and Thanksgiving *Please sit.*

*During the instrumental music and hymn, and at any time thereafter, you are welcome to proceed to any of the stations of votive candles to light a candle as a symbol of your prayer.*

### Music for Meditation

*Camariñas  
Beautiful Savior*

*Julie Fowles  
St. Elizabeth, arr. Nathan Howe*

**Refrain**

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Give thanks to the ri - sen Lord. Al - le -  
 lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Give praise to his name. 1. Je - sus is Lord of  
 2. Spread the good news o'er  
 3. We have been cru - ci  
 4. Come, let us praise the  
 all the earth. He is the King of cre - a - tion.  
 all the earth: Je - sus has died and has ris - en.  
 fied with Christ. Now we shall live for - ev - er.  
 liv - ing God, joy - ful - ly sing to our Sa - vior.

**The Grace***Luke 6:35-38a*

Love your enemies, and do good, expecting nothing in return. Be merciful, just as God is merciful.  
 Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned.  
 Forgive, and you will be forgiven. **Amen.**

**The Peace**

Christ, the Good Shepherd, bind us with a bond of love that cannot be broken. My sisters and brothers, the peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

*The Ministers and People greet one another in the name of the Lord.  
 After exchanging the Peace, please be seated.*

**Welcome and Announcements****The Holy Communion**

*Alms basins are not passed through the congregation at this service.  
 For your offerings, alms basins are located at each entrance to the church.*

**At the Offertory** *Sleeping Tune*

Gordon Duncan

**Eucharistic Prayer***Please stand.***Canon G****Celebrant** The Lord be with you.**People** **And also with you.****Celebrant** Lift up your hearts.**People** **We lift them to the Lord.****Celebrant** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.**People** **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

**Celebrant** O God of mystery and promise, you invite us to discover you in the intimate places of ourselves and our lives. You invite us to discover you within the complexities of our humanity, in passionate and tender loving, in struggle and pain, in confusion and unknowing, in flashes of insight and wisdom. You also call us beyond ourselves to places of imagination, beyond the silent stars, in the deep rhythms of the ocean, in the unending cycles of day and night, seasons of life and death.

With saints and ancestors, with the seas and earth and sky, with animals and birds, with our friends and those unknown to us, with all creation we join in the song of your unending glory:

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Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and  
 might, heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho - san-na in the high-  
 est. Blessed is he, O bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the  
 Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

**Celebrant** We praise you that in Jesus you make known to us the wonder and richness of our humanity. We give thanks for his life-giving love, for his healing touch, for his vulnerability and for his gentleness.

Before he gave up his life, he shared his humanity, his flesh and blood with his friends. He took bread, gave thanks for it, broke it and gave it to them saying:

**All** **"This is my own body given for you. Do this to remember me."**

**Celebrant** So too after they had eaten, he took wine, gave thanks for it and gave it to them saying:

**All** **"This is my blood, poured out in love for you. Do this to remember me."**

**Celebrant** So we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**All** **Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

**Celebrant** Come now, Spirit of God, and as we eat and drink these bodily things, make us one body, food for the world, one blood to be poured out for the life of all.

Touch us with your gentle creativity and fire us with longing for the new age of justice and peace.

We ask this through Jesus who gave his body that we might be one and his blood that we might find new life. With him, and through him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, be to you, O God, all honor and glory forever. **AMEN.**

### The Lord's Prayer

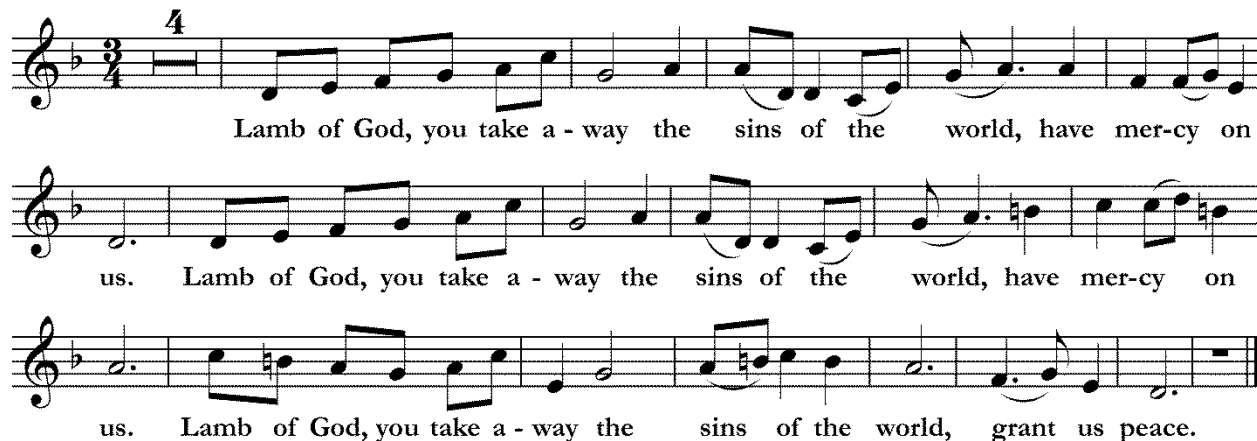
As our Sa - vior Christ has taught us we now pray,  
 Our Fa - ther in hea - ven, hal - lowed be your Name,  
 your king - dom come, your will be done, on earth as in hea - ven.  
 Give us to - day our dai - ly bread. For - give us our sins  
 as we for - give those who sin a - gainst us. Save us from the time of tri - al,  
 and de - liv - er us from e - vil. For the king - dom, the power, and the glo - ry are yours,  
 now and for - ev - er. A - men.

## The Breaking of the Bread

*A period of silence is kept.*

### Fraction Anthem

*St. Anne's Mass, James MacMillan*



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world, have mer-cy on  
us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world, have mer-cy on  
us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world, grant us peace.

**Celebrant** This is the table, not of the Church, but of the Lord. It is made ready for those who love him and for those who want to love him more.

So, come, you who have much faith and you who have little, you who have been here often and you who have not been here long, you who have tried to follow and you who have failed.

Come, because it is the Lord who invites you. It is his will that those who want him should meet him here.

### At the Communion of the People

*All are welcome to receive the Sacrament. You may be seated until you come forward to receive. When you receive the consecrated bread, you consume it and then move to one of the cups of consecrated wine. The first cup you come to is for drinking, and the second and smaller cup next to it is only for those who choose to "intinct" or touch the tip of their bread to the wine. You may also choose to receive Communion in only one kind. Either the bread or the wine alone is a full Communion. We offer gluten-free wafers. If you would like a gluten-free wafer, please tell the minister.*

### Music during Communion

*Island Lake  
Ant Aiséirí*

*Lunasa  
Gaelic hymn*

Jesus is the light, who saved our souls; he bought our freedom from slavery; he suffered passion and death on the cross, saving us, though we have sinned. Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah!

Because of his pain, our souls are not in danger, and we will praise His name for ever.

*Adagio*

*Georg Philipp Telemann*

### After Communion

*Please stand or kneel.*

**Celebrant** Let us pray.

**All** God our creator,  
you feed your children with the true manna,  
the living bread from heaven.  
Let this holy food sustain us through our earthly pilgrimage  
until we come to that place  
where hunger and thirst are no more;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## Blessing

Paraphrase of Etienne DeGrellet

**Celebrant**

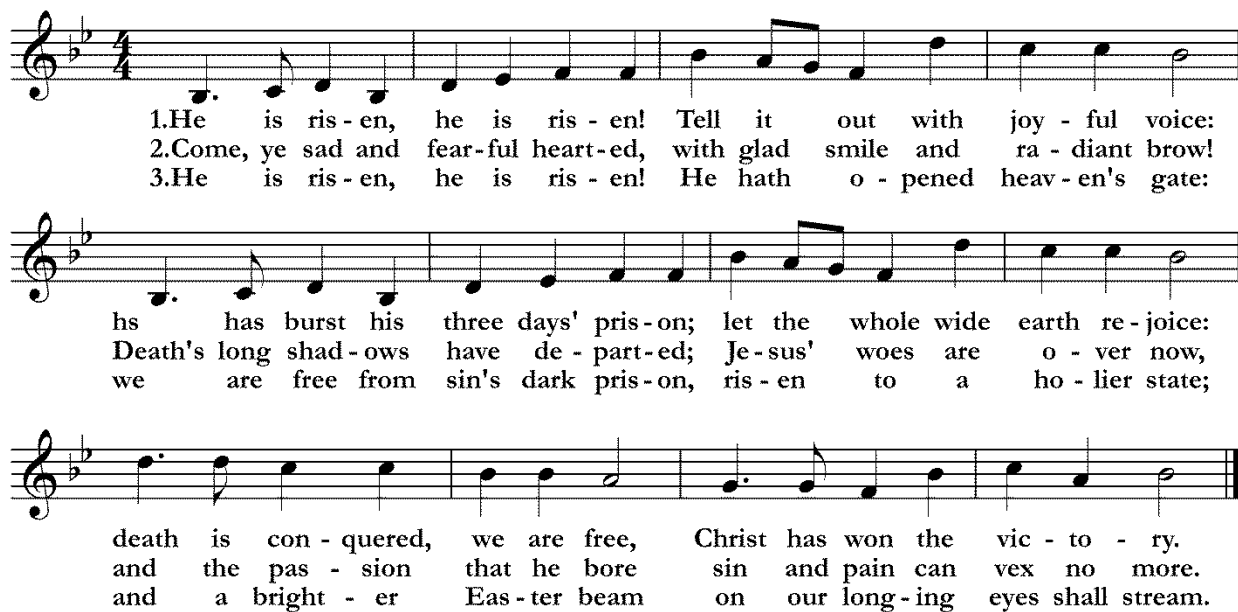
We know we shall pass this way but once. If there is any kindness we can show, or any good thing we can do, let us do it now. Let us not defer it or neglect it, for we shall not pass this way again. And the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

## Hymn

He is risen

*Sung by all, standing*

*Unser Herrscher*



1. He is ris - en, he is ris - en! Tell it out with joy - ful voice:  
2. Come, ye sad and fear - ful heart - ed, with glad smile and ra - diant brow!  
3. He is ris - en, he is ris - en! He hath o - pened heav - en's gate:  
hs has burst his three days' pris - on; let the whole wide earth re - joice:  
Death's long shad - ows have de - part - ed; Je - sus' woes are o - ver now,  
we are free from sin's dark pris - on, ris - en to a ho - lier state;  
death is con - quered, we are free, Christ has won the vic - to - ry.  
and the pas - sion that he bore sin and pain can vex no more.  
and a bright - er Eas - ter beam on our long - ing eyes shall stream.

## The Dismissal

**Deacon**

Go out into the world in peace, have courage, hold on to what is good, return no one evil for evil, strengthen the faint-hearted, support the weak, help the suffering, honor everyone, love and serve God, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

**All**

**Thanks be to God.**

*Please sit for the Music for Meditation.*

**Music for Meditation** *Cailín Deas Crúite Na mBó*

Irish melody, arr. Duck Baker

**Postlude** *Hush-a-Bye*

Teresa Doyle

*Please feel free to depart in silence during the Postlude, as you wish. Please come back often.*

## Following the Service

*Please join us for supper and fellowship following this service. We welcome donations to cover the expense of supper. Contribute as you are able. If you would like to know more about this church and how you might plug in, we would love to tell you. We're glad you're here.*

## Vigil Candle

The Vigil Candle in the Chapel of the Holy Spirit is given in memory of Jeffrey Forbes Meadows.

## Participants

**Celebrant:** Penny A. Nash; **Deacon:** Josh Rockett; **Reflector:** Ben Sparks; **Subdeacon:** Molly Moncure; **Reader:** Eppa Hunton; **Intercessor:** Guy Frank; **Chalicers:** Sal Anselmo, Ruth Finnegan, Katie Lowden, Nancy Matthews, Jonathan Mosher, Pam Redd; **Musicians:** Anne O'Byrne, *cantor*; Amy Thompson Blake, flute; Cory Blake, *guitar*; Michael Simpson, *piano*; **Setup/Greeter Team:** Maria Maguire, Marty McIntosh, Joan Putney, Lee Williams; **Healing Prayer Ministers:** Henry Burke, Marie Carter, Smokie Crews, Darla Perry; **Anointers:** Gayle Royals, Patty Smith

## The Parish Prayer List

Burns Ackerly, Jennifer Andrews and family, Walker Angus, Robert Baker, Lash Barksdale, Michelle Barté, Lib Bartenstein, Doug Blue, Susan L. Booker, Liz Brengel, Rogers Brewbaker, Pat Brown, Rod Brown, Turner Bruneau, Charles Bryan, Judy Buchanan, *Dan Burbine*, Kenny Burton, Grace Coleman, Rick Crim, Gordon Davis, Alex Del Bueno, Ernest Dempsey, Nicole Duran, Charlotte Elliot, Carter Filer, Hughes Fleming, Peter Florin, Guy Frank, Jim Frye, Rodger Hardy, Roy Heifner, Margaret Henderson, Lolly Hetherington, Claudia Hicks, *Maureen Hildreth*, Isabelle Hulsey, Jennifer Hulsey, Larry Jones, Judy Knauf, Bryan Kessler, Donna Kessler, Lynn and Dan Kraftson, Caleb Lambert, Erin LaSyone, Michael Link, Eleanor Lynch, Richard Majer, L. Newby Mauck, Nancy McCabe, Bette McElman, Rodney Melton, Susan Minyard, Jon Moss, Ray Moss, Bridgett O'Grady, Sean O'Grady, Anne Owens, Amy Perdue, Jim and Sarah Cooke Picton, Wilde Poole and family, Suzanne Ratchford, Pamela Reid, Elsie Richards, Janet Ritchie, Paul Roper, Kaley Rosenthal, Josie Schmidt, Ashley Scott, T. Logan Scott, Jane Settle, Jody Sherman, Mary Frances Siersema, Jonathan Smith, Tom Smith, Bill Smithdeal, Jonathan Spurling, Graden Stewart, LaSheka Thomas, Phyllis Thompson, Alden Thornton, Evelyn Tinsman, Chip Tompkins, Ginger Townsend, Anne Turnbull, Peter Von Szilassy, Bebe West, Jim White, Donny White, Rob Whittet, William Wilson, Jan Woodard, Mary Kathryn Woodward, Peggy Wright, Woo Sub Yun, Alex, Taylor, Tonya. **For those expecting a child**, especially Marshall and Lindsey Bigelow, Anna Patricia Diaz and Raphael Salvatore Burgess, *Jeff and Sara Dubois*, Billy and Aubrey Moore, Lowndes and Katie Peple, Andrew and Whitney Robertson, Matthew and Anne Sims Thompson. **For all the blessings of this life**, especially the baptism *Latisha Lochabay* and *Barry Wilder O'Keefe* at the Great Vigil of Easter. **For those who have died.** **For our mission partners** in Azua, Padre Manuel Estevez and the congregations of Reconciliación and San Jorge. **For our missionaries**, Heidi Schmidt and Monica Vega, serving in Argentina. **In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer**, we pray *for the Peace of Jerusalem and the People of the Land of the Holy One*. **For the women, men, and staff of the City Jail. For racial reconciliation and healing. For the RE:work RICHMOND project. For peace and reconciliation** in Iraq, Israel/Palestine, North Korea, South Sudan, Syria, and Ukraine, and at our borders. **For those serving overseas in the military or diplomatic service:** SrA John W. S. Davis III, SgM Charles M. Gill, Spc Talbott Holloway, Sgt Henry M. Matthews III, Ens Connor Partlow, Cpt Russell Timmons. *Names in italics were added to the prayer list this week.*

*In order to keep our prayer list current and to facilitate the intentionality and mindfulness with which we pray, we print the names on the prayer list for three months or less. If you would like for someone to remain on the prayer list for more (or less) than three months, please call the office or email Steve McGehee at [smgehee@ststephensRVA.org](mailto:smgehee@ststephensRVA.org).*

Prayers and blessings adapted from the following sources: The Northumbria Community, *Celtic Daily Prayer: Prayers and Readings from the Northumbria Community*, Harper Collins, 2002; *Intercessions for the Christian People*, The Liturgical Press, ©1990; *A New Zealand Prayer Book*, Harper Collins, 1997; Philip Newell, *Celtic Benediction: Morning and Night Prayer*, William B. Eardmans Publishing Company, 2000; Iona Community, *Iona Community Worship Book*. Glasgow: Wild Goose, 1991; Wild Goose Worship Group, *A Wee Worship Book*, Glasgow: Wild Goose, 1999. | *The Rite Stuff*, ©1998, by Church Publishing Incorporated, all rights reserved, used by permission. All copyrighted music by permission, under OneLicense #A710911. Opening: Excerpted from *Out of the Ordinary: Prayers, Poems, and Reflections for Every Season* by Joyce Rupp, OSM. Copyright ©2000 by Ave Maria Press, Inc. Used with permission of the publisher. [www.avemariapress.com](http://www.avemariapress.com). Prayers of the People adapted from *Daily Prayers for all Seasons*, Church Publishing, New York, 2014

# The Ministry of Healing Prayer at St. Stephen's Church

Jesus was known for many things in the first century. He was considered a social prophet and a rabbi. He was known as a teacher of wisdom and the leader of a new movement. And he was known far and wide as a healer. As one New Testament scholar has pointed out, "More healing stories are told about Jesus than about any other figure in the Jewish tradition" (Borg, *The Heart of Christianity*). Jesus also sent his disciples out to heal others, and he promised that they would do greater things than he had done. The ministries of healing prayer and anointing have been part of the Christian experience from the very beginning.

As a part of our Sunday evening service, we offer the ministries of healing prayer or anointing in the side chapels, during the administration of Communion. After you have received Communion, we invite you to approach either a healing prayer minister or an anointer, if you wish. If you would like to rest for a moment in silent prayer with a minister who will lay hands on your shoulders, we invite you to approach one of the vested healing prayer ministers who will be standing next to a chair at the head of either side chapel. Alternatively, you may choose to present yourself for a briefer anointing offered by a vested anointer who will be standing at the outside wall of each chapel.

**If you wish to sit for a moment with a healing prayer minister**, it is often helpful if you tell the person your name and the concern for which you are asking prayer. The healing prayer minister will lay hands on you and join with you in silently opening ourselves to God and offering our prayer concern to the healing One who is with us always. This is not a ministry of magical incantations. Instead, it is simply about fellow pilgrims opening ourselves more completely to the healing love of God. Much as a group of friends once brought a paralytic to Jesus so that Jesus might heal him, so we sometimes benefit from the loving care of others who bring us more fully into the presence of God.

**If you would like to receive anointing with healing oil**, simply approach the anointer with open hands. In keeping with ancient tradition, he or she will anoint your forehead and hands, as an act of healing and consecrating your life anew to God. This sacramental act is briefer than the time of healing prayer, but there are over 400 instances of such anointing with fragrant oil in the Bible. When we present ourselves in this way, we are joining in a longstanding, sacred act of union with the Divine.

Healing prayer and anointing will continue after the service ends, so we welcome any who wish to remain in prayer to do so. When you leave, therefore, we invite you to leave silently, in order to maintain an atmosphere that is conducive to prayer. Whether or not you choose to present yourself for healing prayer or anointing on any given night, you can contribute to the climate of healing by offering your personal prayers. Pray for yourself, of course, and please pray that all who worship here may know the healing love of God in their lives.