

**A Liturgy for Day of Prayer for People with AIDS
And Other Life-threatening Illnesses
November 8, 2015
Shelia O'Mara**

Call to Worship

Leader: Today God's Spirit is upon all who are afflicted, poor, needy and hungry.
We remember we are a broken world living with AIDS
and other life threatening illness.

People: We remember God will never leave or forsake us.

Leader: God's healing light shines upon and within us.

People: Thanks be to God.

All: Let us worship God.

Call to Confession

When one member of the body of Christ suffers, all members suffer. Scripture tells us to say no to wrong, learn to do good, work for justice, help the down-and-out, stand up for the homeless, go to bat for the defenseless. Let us together ask for God's forgiveness for the times we have not listened to God's voice.

Prayer of Confession (unison)

God, you created all things good and sacred. We have sinned against you and creation. You created all of us in your image. We have denied many their dignity. You gave us resources and charged us with stewardship of all you gave us. We have denied food and medicine to those in need. Bread, medicine, food and prayer alone are not enough. May we join together to serve those in need. Forgive us and renew our commitment to stewardship of your sacred creation. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed; perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not abandoned; struck down, but not destroyed. We always carry around in our body the death of Jesus so that the life of Jesus may also be revealed in our body.

—based on 2 Corinthians 4:8-10

Prayer for Illumination

Open our ears, eyes, and hearts, O God, so that we can see the suffering of others and respond to their needs. Give us courage to bring justice, healing and hope to a broken world.

Prayers of the People

God, you are the God of wholeness and want good health for all your people.

Grant healing to all who are sick and restore them to health.

Jesus Christ, you came that we might have life and have it more abundantly. You commanded your disciples to lay hands on the sick and anoint them with oil.

May our lives and the witness of the church be a sign of your love to a broken world.
Holy Spirit, our bodies are the temples of your presence.

Be with those who suffer and strengthen them with your presence. Grant them peace and comfort.

Bless medical personnel, researchers and all who care for the suffering.

May the Lord strengthen them in their ministry. Amen.

Charge and Benediction

May God the Father bless us.

May God the Son heal us.

May God the Holy Spirit strengthen us.

Amen.