

Prayer Shawl/ Pocket Cloth Prayers



HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH ELCA

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A PLACE WHERE WE WORSHIP WEEKLY, PRAY DAILY, GIVE
JOYFULLY, STUDY THE BIBLE AND SERVE THE LORD IN OUR
COMMUNITY AND THROUGHOUT THE WORLD!

Psalm 139:13-14

New International Version

For you created my inmost being;
you knit me together in my mother's womb.
I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made;
your works are wonderful, I know that full well.

Prayer for All

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By: Tish Hoar

Dear Lord, please bless these needles of mine.
That I may make a shawl of strength, faith,
health and love. Give this shawl the ability to comfort,
the ability to heal, the ability to give strength
where it is needed and of your will it to be.
May the recipient be able to know that you are with
them and that they are not alone.
That they are cared for and loved and prayed for.
That your loving arms are around them,
to protect them for whatever reason they should need,
whenever they put this shawl on.
Lord, thank-you for the
blessings that this shawl is given. Amen.



Prayers

Beginning To Knit Dedication

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By: Janet Bristow - 2000
www.shawlministry.com

Mantle of Love, Healer of Hearts,
I light this candle as a reminder of Your presence as I
begin.
I ask a blessing from all who have come before me;
whose hands have been instruments of creation and beauty;
who have used humble tools and hand-spun wool in order
to
provide cover and warmth for themselves and those they
loved; who have felt, as I will feel, the yarn in their fingers;
who have seen, as I will see, the growth of the fabric;
who have heard, as I will hear, the click of the needles.

Guide my attention to stay on course.
Hold me close and ground me.
Bless, also, this yarn and these knitting needles.
May any negative energy connected to them be cast away
as I cast on; and all positive energy bound in as I bind off.
In their simplicity, may I find comfort and solace.

Bless my hands...
Often just appendages at the end of my arms...
workers doing their job without appreciation...
looked at, yet not really seen.
These instruments of love have done mundane tasks, yet
also

create beauty.

They reach out, touch, stroke, scrub, lift, grasp, gesture and guide.

These hands, my hands, gifts of great importance,
Blessing be on them and in them as I begin.

May the fruits of their labor be good!

Prayer Of Blessing

Blessing for a completed shawl

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May God's grace be upon this shawl...

warming, comforting, enfolding and embracing.

May this mantle be a safe haven...

a sacred place of security and well-being...

sustaining and embracing in good times as well as difficult ones.

May the one who receives this shawl be cradled in hope,
kept in joy, graced with peace, and wrapped in love.

Blessed Be!



Prayer For Comfort

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By: Cathleen O'Meara Murtha, DW

www.shawlministry.com

As you wrap yourself in the prayer shawl of comfort...

May the Mother of Mercy, the Father of Faithfulness and
the Spirit of Compassion wrap you in their all-
encompassing love this day.

May you find comfort

from all that appears too much to bear at this moment

from all that feels as if it might be the breaking point

from all that seems to threaten your peace of heart.

May this prayer shawl be

a shelter for time of overwhelming grief

a shade in times of sorrow too deep for words

a shield from times of unimaginable loss.

May you be comforted

by the presence of those who love and support you

by faith in the eternal Loving One

by the memories of what you hold most dear.

May you be strengthened

in your daily comings and goings

in your tentative new beginnings

in your unfolding new memories.

Blessings of the Angel of Comfort be with you and all you
love now and forevermore.

grant me life as gift of Your faithfulness;
grant me light to journey by;
grant me hope to sustain me.

May this mantle be for me a sign of Your
healing presence.

May it warm me when I am weary;
may it surround me with ease of my suffering; may
it encircle me with caring when I am in pain.

O Christ who healed the broken in body and spirit,
be with me and all who suffer this day.

Be with the doctors, nurses, technicians,
chaplains and all who care for the sick.

Be with families and friends of those abiding with
and comforting the sick.

May Your gentle, yet strong touch reach out to heal
all the broken and hurting people and places in our
world.



Ariadne's Blessing

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Holy One,
Whose womb is threaded and waiting,
guide us to pick up the thread and walk the spiral through
the dark and difficult passages.

Life Cord,
Who sustains us as we move to our center,
give us courage to meet our souls.
Comfort us through our dismantling,
wrapped in Your loving embrace.

Mantle of Love,
Rebirth us with Wisdom, as we are knitted once again
back into wholeness.

Starting Prayer

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By: Pamela Stiff

Dear Lord,
Take away all my negative thoughts and feelings as
I work on this shawl of comfort for _____.

Guide my hands as they work and keep my
thoughts positive and centered around her. I make
each stitch with love and a prayer in my heart for
her comfort, hope, and healing.
May _____ feel Your loving arms around her
as she wears this shawl and may it represent to her
Your power to heal any hurt.
Comfort her, Bless her, Heal Her.
I ask this in Jesus name. Amen

Gathering Prayer and Blessing

(for group work)

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By: Cathleen O'Meara Murtha, DW
www.shawlministry.com

As we gather in community to share our prayer, our stories,

the work of our hearts and hands,

we pray for God's blessing on our endeavors:

A blessing to my mind -

to be free to enter this time of contemplative activity...

A blessing to my hands -

to be the source of creating something of beauty and love...

A blessing to my soul -

to be open to the promptings of loving and caring...

A blessing to my yarn -

to be shaped into patterns of loving and caring...

A blessing to my needles -

to be the holders of stitches as they become a whole garment...

A blessing to my knitting - to be a work of heart and hands, body and spirit...

A blessing on the one who will receive the fruit of my prayer and my knitting...

May this shawl be welcomed in the spirit in which it was knitted...

May we become one with the One who knitted each of us in our mother's womb...

I join my blessing, my prayer and my knitting with women all over the earth in this common effort to bring healing and wholeness, comfort and celebration.

Nine Blessings

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By: Cathleen O'Meara Murtha, DW
www.shawlministry.com

I call nine blessings from above

In the name of God:

the creator, the giver of life, the holder of time

In the name of Jesus:

the savior, the healer, the lifter of pain.

In the name of the Spirit:

the comforter, the consoler, the sustainer of life.

I knit a mantle of caring

I knit a mantle of protection

I knit a mantle of wholeness

I knit a mantle of strength

I knit a mantle of healing

I knit a mantle of patience

I knit a mantle to enfold you

I knit a mantle to encircle you

I knit a mantle to empower you.

Prayer For Healing

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In the beginning, creating God, you formed my being.

You knit me together in my mother's womb.

To my flesh and blood you gave the breath of life.

O loving One, renew me this day in your love,