

In Sickness and in Death

Reflection and Discussion

- 1. What is one thing that stood out to you or one thing that you learned from this chapter?
- 2. What do you find most helpful about the prayer book's approach to sickness and death?
- 3. Julie shared multiple stories in the chapter from her own life and that of her friends,' all of which revolved around sickness and dying. Which of these stories did you find most impactful? Why?
- 4. What experiences do you have praying with those who are sick or dying (or being prayed for while you yourself are sick)? Having read this chapter, how do you think you might use the prayer book in the future during such moments?
- 5. Which of the prayers that Julie mentions in her chapter stand out to you the most? Why?
- 6. Discuss the following quote from page 133:

In the prayer book, comfort, empathy, and hope come to us—they are extended outward. [It] pulls us into a three-way conversation, between Christ, the sick, and those who accompany them. The prayer book enables us to know we are in this together. We are not alone, and through these three-way conversations, we are drawn closer into God's care.

Practical Exercises

For these exercises, you'll need access to *The Book of Common Prayer* (2019). If you do not own one, you may access it online at **https://bcp2019.anglicanchurch.net**

- 1. Read through the "Additional Prayers" and "Prayers for Use by a Sick Person" on pages 231-235.
- 2. Read through the "Burial of the Dead" liturgy on pages 249-263. What do you appreciate the most about this service?
- 3. Having concluded this study, turn back to the "Table of Contents" listed at the beginning of the prayer book. Which parts of the prayer book would you like to use more regularly? Which would you like to learn more about?