

# Blessing of the Hands



The Mission of Hands of Christ is to bring Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) congregations together to meet the basic needs of children showing them Christ's love.



[www.hands of christ.net](http://www.hands of christ.net)

<https://www.facebook.com/HoC.SC>



The Service of the Blessing of the Hands is an adaptation of a service that was originated by the Williamsburg Presbyterian Church in Kingstree, and they have graciously shared it with the other member churches of the Hands of Christ. It is meant to be a time of coming together of the volunteers, allowing us to center on the One who has called us, the children and families who we will serve, and the sharing of Christ's love with one and all during the coming hours that we will be together.

It is meant to be a service of reverence allowing us to focus on the tasks before us. Please remain in place until after the Dismissal.

## Welcome

## Scripture Reading

Then little children were being brought to him in order that he might lay his hands on them and pray. The disciples spoke sternly to those who brought them; but Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of heaven belongs." And he laid his hands on them and went on his way...

**Matthew 19:13-15**

## Litany of Blessing

Blessed be the hands that touch young lives.

**Blessed be the hands that guide the youth.**

Blessed be the hands that embrace others with compassion.

**Blessed be the hands that greet the stranger.**

Blessed be the hands that fill out paperwork and receive information.

**Blessed be the hands that fill bags with pencils, paper, and your holy word.**

Blessed be the hands; for we hold the future in these hands.

**Blessed be our hands, for they are the work of your hands, O Lord.**

God has given us holy hands.

**May God bless all our hands as we serve others.**

## Service of Blessing

Please come forward for the Blessing of Hands.

Please meditate on the poem below while you wait.

*Christ has no body now but yours.*

*No hands, no feet on earth but yours.*

*Yours are the eyes through which he looks compassion  
on this world.*

*Yours are the feet with which he walks to do good.*

*Yours are the hands through which he blesses all the  
world.*

*Yours are the hands, yours are the feet, yours are the  
eyes, you are his body.*

*Christ has no body now on earth but yours."*

Teresa of Avila (1515-1582)

## Prayer of Dedication

## Dismissal

Some reminders for our volunteers:

- Give your total attention to your new friend (avoid cellphones and visiting with other volunteers).
- Learn your new friend's name so you can introduce him/her at each section.
- Only one shopper is to accompany a child unless the person assigning shoppers specifically directs otherwise.
- Do not eat any food in front of the children.
- In order to receive donations, children of volunteers must also register and be present.
- Obey child protection rules: do not enter dressing areas with children, always stay in public view with the child, avoid inappropriate touching.

On behalf of the children we serve, THANK YOU!!!