Consider your hands, lay them on your lap or on the table in front of you. Flex your fingers. Rotate your wrists. Notice how your hands feel and how they move. And as you do so, consider the words attributed to Saint Teresa of Avila:

*Christ has no body now on earth but yours;
no hands but yours; no feet but yours.*

*Yours are the eyes through which the compassion of Christ must look out on the world.*

*Yours are the feet with which He is to go about doing good.*

*Yours are the hands with which He is to bless His people.*

Heavenly Father, bless my hands to bless others. Gentle these hands as they offer comfort to those in times of crisis. Purify these hands as they wash in to encounter each patient. Open these hands to collaborate well for the good of those I serve. Strengthen these hands when the mornings are early and the nights are late. Settle these hands when it is time to rest.

*Amen.*