

Paternal prayer: O blessed food and faithful shepherd, you are the source of all life and love of all succour and safety. Though our devotion is half-hearted and our following is foolish, you do not leave us to ourselves. May your goodness reach beyond anything we do - serve and your mercy follow us ever when we turn from you.

We pray, O God, that you'll be our help and sustaining grace today. You know our needs more than we know them. Show yourself to all who are needy. Heal the sick, comfort those who mourn; strengthen those who are facing hard times, lift up the fallen; reclaim the wanderers; have mercy on those who have sinned. Some of us have grown tired and weak. Raise us up, we pray. Some of us have grown fainter, hearted and afraid. Give us the faith that will turn back our fears. Some of your children are homeless and hungry and alone.

Opening prayer: O Lord Jesus, you are the good shepherd, the ever loving comforter of our souls. Call us to yourself in the sunlight of this morning and lead us in those places where we may gain the life and strength we need. When the shadows close around us, bring us to the safety of your fold. Hear our prayer, O Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

Feed, welcome, and comfort them, and encourage your Church to reach out to the needy in faithful service to you, O Christ.

Let all people know that you alone are God Almighty, Father. Let every creature know that you alone are Savior. And let each one of us know that we are children of your own family and the sheep of your pasture. Through J. X. Our Lord, Amen