

Opening prayer: O Lord Jesus, you are the good shepherd, the one who cares for 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 prayers, O Lord Jesus. Amen

Pastoral prayer: O blessed Lord and faithful shepherd, you are the source of all life and love of all success 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 deserve and your mercy follow us even 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 ourselves. Show yourself to all who are needy. Heal the sick, comfort those who ~~are~~ <sup>mourn</sup> ~~are~~; 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, pray. Some of us have grown fainthearted and afraid. Give us the faith that will turn back fear. Some of your children are homeless, hungry and alone. Feed, welcome and comfort them, and encourage

Us in this Church to reach out to the needy in faithful  
service to you, O Christ.

Let us all know that we are your children and  
the sheep of your pasture —

