

battles we know we should win,  
No / says getting tripped up by our  
passions. We walk right into envy,  
greed, and Covetousness and then act  
surprised. We wrestle with material  
sin but don't put up a good fight. We  
entertain self-pity and resentment; we  
cherish our sorrows.

We would pray for pardon. Heal our  
wounds. Strengthen our resolve. May  
we be lifted by the words of Jesus  
to "be of good cheer; your sins are  
forgiven; go and sin no more."

We would pray, also, for the petition  
on our minds. For all the whose bodies  
are betraying them. For those who  
have had loved ones snatched away  
through death. For those who are de-  
stroying themselves through helpless  
indulgence. For those trapped in  
hopeless situations. For those who can't  
cope with life. For all in misery and  
destitution we pray to Thee, Great  
God of mercy —

As the river feels for the Ocean,  
As the bird migrates to a season,  
As grass and flowers thrust upward  
seeking air and light, so our souls  
reach out for converse with Thee,  
O God. Prayer is our bond with  
Thee, the means by which we release  
the inner longings and plunge into  
the lowest depths of the soul.

In our prayer we would not be  
shy or mute. We would, rather, raise  
our praise to Thee. With the psalmist  
we would sing of your steadfast love.  
With the patriarch we would speak  
of Thy steadfast faithful covenant. With  
the prophet we would be conscious  
of Thy judgment and mercy. With  
Jesus we would be mindful of Thy  
personal nearness. Wherely we would  
give Thee praise for Thy grace and  
forgiveness.

We would also pray also our con-  
fession. We have struggled thru  
another week battling with ourselves  
and our world. We / keep losing