

Opening
Prayer:

Gracious God, we are here today
with needs that cause us to
seek you, and you offer yourself
always to be found. So let
us find you in all the places
where you already are - in the
fields and hills, in the heavens
above and the depths of the
earth - in our homes and our
temples, on the highways and
in offices, classrooms, hospi-
tals, and supermarkets, in the
jails, the streets, and the
cemetaries. Continue your living
presence with us forever, that
the whole world may see
your glory. Amen,

Pastoral
Prayer:

O God, our Creator, you keep stars
in their courses, rule over the whole series
of Verse, and judge the nations. yet you
number the hairs of our heads, you mark
the fall of each sparrow, and you know
each of us as though there ~~was~~ ^{were} only
one of us to know. Just now, cross
the threshold of our innermost lives,
we pray you know the afflictions we
have. Sickness has found its way
into our homes and Church family. Death
has visited our friends. So many of
us are poor and homeless. Temptations
seek to steal our children. We are
faced with problems that perplex and tasks
beyond our power to do. Our inner lives
are full of conflict, and we are tormented
by lust and greed, by grief and guilt by hate
and envy. We see within ourselves needs
that only your grace can satisfy. We see opportu-
nities that only your power can fulfill.
Now for every need send your beautiful
supply, through Christ our Lord —