

Pastoral Prayer: O God, in whom are met all
the issues of life and death, and who knows us and
our frailties better than we know ourselves, we cast
ourselves upon your mercy and ask for your continuing
grace in our lives. We praise you ^{for} the little things
that make our days so rich and meaningful: the
touch of a friend, the sight of a child sleeping, the
memory of a good time, the sound of a particular
voice, the appearance of a flower where yesterday there
was none. Forgive us for days spent in not seeing,
not hearing, not being open to the miracles that
abound at our elbows and fingertips. Teach us to be
sensitive: to know when a star falls when a friend
hurts, when the mind stirs when someone needs some-
thing we have in our possession. Show us, in our
faith, how to be transparent: so to live and move
and think and care that others, looking upon us, see
you and know ~~of~~ that all creation ~~is~~ One in
your love. Amen

Opening Prayer: Eternal God, whose love is
revealed in Jesus Christ, and supremely in the
glory of his Cross, grant us your grace in our re-
bellion and your truth in all our seeking, that
we may believe Jesus Christ and receive your
gift of eternal life; through Jesus Christ,
Our Lord. Amen.