

We thank Thee, O God, for life and love, for the mystery and majesty of existence, for the world of beauty which surrounds us and for the miracle of our Conscious life by which we behold the wonders of the universe.

We thank Thee for the glimpses of nobility in human life which redeem it from sordidness and reassure us that your image is in the heart of man. We are grateful for the ties which bind us to our fellow man; for the common toil of labor; for our joint inheritance as citizens of this nation; for the love and beauty and truth and goodness by which we transcend the chasms of race and nation; for the faith of our fathers and mothers by which we claim kinship with the past and gain strength for the present; for the serenity of old people who redeem us of fretfulness and for the faith and courage of youth through which we are saved from death.

O God, we are unworthy of the rich inheritance of our common life. We confess that we have profaned the temple of this life by our selfishness and heedlessness. We have sought to gain advantage over others who are bound together with us by many different ties. Have mercy upon us that we may express our gratitude for your many mercies by contrition for our sins and that we may prove our repentance by lives dedicated to Thee and to the common good, through Jesus Christ our Lord -

Opening Prayer: Almighty God, you are beyond
us in the farthest reaches of the heavens.
Yet, you are here among us in your Spirit and
in your Word. Speak to our hearts in this
hour. Calm us. Comfort us. Challenge us;
Create us anew as your People. We pray in
Jesus' name. Amen.

