

God of love, today we know that prayers for
 our ~~sinners~~ are not enough. Today we would remember
 the lonely of the world. We see lonely people every day.
 We know something of what they feel, but we confess
 that we are often insensitive and uncaring. We see others
 trying to cover up their loneliness, but we go on our
 merry way, indifferent to the need that is all around us.
 O God, open us up to a new ministry of caring to the
 millions of people close at hand and around the world
 who are lonely.

Today we would remember the world's sick. When we
 are in good health, we forget what it's like to suffer. When
 we go to school or to work or about our daily routine each
 day, we forget what it's like to be confined at home
 or in the hospital or in a nursing home. When we sit
 down to eat an abundant meal, we forget all about
 those who are unable to eat because of illness. O God,
 forgive us and open us up to a new ministry to
 the world's sick and to those who are shut in.

Today we would remember the world's sorrowing
 masses. Death might seem far removed from us,
 but death is a destroyer for so many. Many seek to
 be free and are willing to protest and to suffer for that
 freedom. We would remember those who sorrow because
 of accidents or natural disasters. Many are unable to cope
 with life. O God, open us up to a new ministry to those
 close at hand and around the world who suffer and sorrow today.

Once Jesus prayed for his followers that they might
 be one. Our prayer is that today we might be one
 people and so shall your redemption love thro all we do and
 say. In the Name of G. X. Our Lord.