

O Lord, our God, we would now before Thee
in lonely adorations as we set out to face the tasks
and interests of another year. We thank Thee for the
blessed Assurance that we shall not be called
upon to face them alone or in our own strength,
but shall at all times be accompanied by Thy
presence and fortified by Thy grace.

We thank Thee that through all our human
lives there run the foot prints of our Lord and
Savior Jesus Christ Who for our sakes was
made flesh and tasted all the changes of our mortal
lot. We thank Thee for the spiritual presence
with which we shall today be surrounded
as we go about our duties. For the heavenly
host alone, for the saints who rest from their
labors, for patriarchs, prophets, and apostles,
for the noble army of martyrs, for all bold
and humble men of worth, for our dear departed
friends, we bless and adore thy great name.
We rejoice, O God, that Thou hast called us
to be members of this Church. Let the con-
sciousness of this holy fellowship follow
us whithersoever we go, cheering us on
our lines, protecting us in company, strengthen-
ing us against temptation and encouraging us
to do just and charitable deeds...