

Opening Prayer: O eternal God, whose love is re-
vealed to us in Jesus, who so freely, so liberally,
and so intentionally, comes among us, we offer
the arrogant realities of our daily lives. May
the living Spirit of the living Christ fill
our ~~material~~ action, our every thought, and our
every ^{every} ~~virtue~~ ^{virtue} with a love beyond our own.
Deepen our desire to follow our Lord, even
through his steps lead to a cross, and that
we may also walk with him in the new life
of the resurrection through Christ our Lord.

Pastoral prayer: O Lord our God, we ^{do} know
ledge again our dependency upon you and our
deep need for you. Have mercy on us and
hear our prayer. Bring us into your holy
presence by ~~light~~ faith that stirs us to
follow and with love that prompts our
praise of Christ. We lift our voices in prayer
to say, Blessed is he who comes in name of
Lord. We open our hearts to say cry, Hosanna,
save us now!"

You know who we are, O God, and you know
that our faith is both weak and feeble. You
know us better than we know ourselves, O
Savior, and you know that our love is half-
hearted devotion that costs little and risks
even less. And you know, O Sovereign
Graces those things that belong to a Com-
munity of faith that is worthy of the name "Christian."
It is for these things we pray.
Christ said, "Blessed are the poor in
spirit." Grant us a true humility that we may hear.

Christ said, "Blessed are the meek." Quiet us
now so that we may receive.

Christ said, "Blessed are those who hunger
and thirst for righteousness." Stir within
us a deep longing for a right relationship
with you, O God, that we, ~~shall~~ will cherish
above all things Christ's Atonement for sin.

Christ said, "Blessed are the pure in heart." Center
our vision now so that we may see your glory.

Christ said, "Blessed are the peacemakers." Open
our hearts and our homes, our fortresses and
our stubborn ways that all things good and
true and blessed may yield the peace of
Christ, in whose name we pray —

Assurance of pardon: May the Almighty
Lord grant unto you pardon and remission
of all your sins, true repentance, Amendment
of life, and the grace and comfort of the
Holy Spirit. Amen.