

## Opening Prayer:

O God, you are Lord of all. at your word, storms are stilled, diseases are healed, the dead are raised. Grant by your mercy such faith among your people that possibilities become fact. During this hour of worship, lead us into the eye of those storms that rage within our hearts. Grant us the gift of quietness of spirit so that in the midst of fury we may hear your voice of calm direction. In the Name of the risen Christ. Amen.

## Pastoral Prayer:

Eternal God of Compassion and strength we gather together at your invitation. You have designed us for fellowship and community. Forgive us for those times we turn our backs on you and one another. May this be a day for reconnection

As we learn the lesson  
of faith and dependence  
on others.

Especially grant that  
we place our trust in  
you. You are mindful  
of your children's needs,  
more ready to respond  
than we are to make  
them known. Give us  
a quiet confidence that  
carries us in personal  
conflict and struggle,  
increase our faith as we  
carry that same spirit  
into arenas of community  
life: education, government,  
and nations.

O God, we especially  
pray for our young people  
today. Grant unto all of them  
quick minds in the desire for  
knowledge, and fill their  
hearts with the love of virtue.  
Deliver them from the fear  
of that which is new and from  
scorn of that which is  
old. Lead them forward in  
the spirit of understanding  
and confirm them in the Con-  
fidence that all truth is  
for their good and to your  
glory.