

O God our Father, who has taught us  
 to make all request with thanksgiving,  
 helps us to remember with gratitude all  
 the love and mercy of the past week.  
 We are thankful for this special season  
 of the year and particularly for this  
 day; may it be a day of rest and  
 gladness, a day of prayer and peace. May  
~~it be~~ every evil thought be arrested,  
 every faithless fear stilled, and give all  
 who worship this day a sense of your  
 living Presence. We thank you, Lord,  
 for every good gift, for the loving  
 care with which you have watched  
 over us all our days. We thank you  
 for all who have helped us by their  
 example, their words, and their prayers,  
 and for all who have been kind to us  
 in our times of joy and sorrow. Above all  
 we thank you for your greatest gift, your  
 Son Jesus Christ, who though he was  
 rich became poor for our sakes; who  
 humbled himself that we might be  
 exalted; who was wounded for our  
 transgressions and even now makes  
 intercession for us. Open our eyes that we  
 behold the wondrous things you are  
 doing among us, and open our lips that we  
 may show forth your glory —