

Opening prayer: Almighty God, you were before the beginning and are beyond all time, and you have come into the days of our lives in the bright shining light of your Son. Those who are wise behold your light and adore your majesty. Grant that the star of your truth and righteousness will lead us to Christ, and move us to offer our gifts and ourselves in worship and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen!

Pastoral prayer: O God of infinite grace and goodness, you have blessed us in many ways. We are children of blessing and hope. In blessing you have called us apart to be your children and to live holy lives. It seems such a difficult thing to do, but when we look at the life of Jesus we realize that he is our example and our guide. He tells us to be perfect, and we shudder at the prospect. It is as if you are asking us to ~~know~~ ^{give} something precious, ~~when we seek to live~~ ^{give} our sin.

Holy God, help us to know that when we seek to live like Jesus and to be holy persons that you created us to be, it is then that we experience the exciting joy of being your sons and daughters. May they learn to praise you because of the goodness and the God-likeness they

see in us, today we claim that we are
your children. Help us to live so that
we follow the perfect example of Jesus our
wise Saviour —

