

Opening prayer: From the ordinary places of our daily lives
and from the depths of our human need we cry
out to you, O Lord. Hear the prayers of your people.
There is no good thing we can do to merit your
blessing. There is no righteousness we can claim to outdo
your blessing. Therefore, we come like the beggar
who prays. Our hands are empty, reaching out to receive.
Our faces are turned to you, seeking your gifts thru
G. X. Amer.

Pastoral prayer: Almighty God, we praise you today be-
cause your love never ends, because your truth ex-
ceeds forever. You, I know who we are and from where
we have come today. Some of us are thankful among
the faithful. Some of us are half faithful, some
unfaithful. Some of us are still strong and confident
because we have plenty. Some of us are worried
because we fear that our resources will fail.
Some of us are embarrassed because failure
has already found us.

But now we are before you, and we
pray the same prayer. You have created each
of us and all of us. Our lives are all alike in
the transient and temporary ways of humanity.
Our need for your grace is the same for we
have all sinned. We all must die and die alone.
Therefore, hasten to hear us; be quick to heal
and forgive, and send forth your truth. Fill us
with your spirit and save us through Jesus
Christ our Lord —