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Of our prayer: Holy One, light of light, you
 have revealed yourself in your gift Emmanuel
 like the magi, we come seeking the child
 of God. Like the magi, we have followed
 our joint guidance to the One who is the light
 of the world. Here we offer our gifts, made
 of trash and treasure. We lay before you
 lives that need refining fire. We long
 to relinquish our memories that they may absorb
 the fragrance of your forgiveness. Light of
 light, shine in our hearts and lead us to where
 the Christ is waiting. This we do for the sake
 of the world, ourselves, and your Son. Amen.

postscript prayer:
 Hope of the world, holy, loving God, accept what
 we will offer in love to your Son. We give
 only what is already your own. Through him
 with him, in him lives all that we would
 give. But here, on the clear straw of this
 hour of prayer, we lay that to which we
 have a claim broken dreams and days, battered
 wills and bodies, minds both tangled and
 unraveled. We kneel, knowing what we
 have. In Christ's eyes, let us see what
 we will be. Let us rise with strength,
 knowing that he holds our lives in his
 hands, and in that strength from that know-
 ing, may we startle the world with the
 confidence of our hope and the generosity of
 our love. Amen



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