

GATHERINGS PRAYERS

God our creator and sustainer, you loved us long before we knew ourselves to be lovable and love us still. Give us, we pray, a greater awareness of your love for all people, and a confidence in the action of your grace in us and in your church. Inspire us with a greater sensitivity to the poor and oppressed. Give us the courage to act on their behalf.

We praise you today for your mysterious ways among us. By the power of your Spirit may we grow in the truth that impels us to act justly, love tenderly and walk humbly with our God.

Good and gracious God,
who are we that you have loved us so well?
We have need of your compassion, your power, and your wisdom.
Be strong in us. Purify our intentions.
Deepen our commitment.
Be for us all that we need. Be God for us.
We await your saving presence.

God of our hope,
we give thanks for this day and each other.
We thank you for your WORD that gives our day meaning
and provides your people with direction.
Stay close to us.
Do not pass from our view lest we lose our way
Encourage us, root us in you.
Make us desire your life in us
that our only fear is your absence,
and our greatest joy is your love.