

## **Opening Prayer**

Good morning, Creator God. A new day has dawned, and we rejoice in awesome wonder as we are part of it. We celebrate your love and grace so freely given and worship you in spirit and truth.

**Hear our prayer, O God**

We are so thankful for healing, for relief from pain, fear and hopelessness, for care and comfort, for words of encouragement and helping hands often from strangers. We are thankful for our ability to provide, to sustain and to grow in faith.

**Hear our prayer, O Lord**

We reflect on all of creation, and our daily lives.

The horrors of violence and brutality across our communities and the world grieves your heart, parent God. We commend in prayer those in great need at this time, trusting in you, o God of compassion.

It grieves us too, and it often causes us to fear being overwhelmed by despair. Let us truly examine our own, one-life, fueled by prejudices, biases, busy-ness and quick judgements, often supported by those "like us". That kind of life conveniently allows us to evade our calling and diminishes our ability to live and share a full life in Christ, with Christ and for Christ.

**Hear our prayer, O Christ**

Forgive our slowness to learn from your teachings and presence in the world and from so many who truly follow you. Forgive our lack of discomfort at our inaction in the stewardship of this exploited planet.

Free us to fill our cups to overflowing with your Holy Spirit, deliberately, each day. Help us to have a sane estimate of ourselves. To be deeply aware that we all have some resources to share. We **can** be your unconditional gift to others in fellowship and friendship.

**Hear our prayer, O Spirit**

We believe in your promises, the signs of hope and new life, even in our time, and we will go onward in the power of the Spirit, now and evermore.

**Lord, I hear your voice,**

**Lord, I hear your voice.**

**Amen**