

[Palms together in front of chest.]

God of grace, we give you thanks for the blessings of our lives—for laughter and for play, for beloved community, for this time and place to nurture our faith and inspire our work. May we be grateful people.

[Hands down, reaching toward the ground.]

Spirit of shalom, we root ourselves in your presence, trusting that you are always with us, providing for our needs, calling us to act in compassion and love, leading us to seek justice and peace. May we be reconciling people.

[Hands folded over chest.]

Christ of love, we pray for all those we hold in our hearts—for those who need your comfort and your healing presence, for those without food or shelter, for those who face fear and violence, for those who grieve and feel lost. May we be servant people.

[Arms outstretched to sides.]

God of hope, we seek to be sources of your light in the world. Inspire us to open our arms in wide to all, show us the way to bring newness where there is complacency and unity where there is discord. Teach us to take your table of welcome to the world. May we be generous people.

[Hands at waist with palms turned up.]

Spirit of the Living God, trusting in your grace and confident that you bring life where there was death and joy where there was weeping, we lift these and all our prayers to you. May we be your faithful people. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.