



Good morning, good God!

We come today, Lord,
not so much to offer as to lift up to you
what our hearts and minds cannot contain:
a tragic, ongoing story
of bodies and souls violated,
wounded and scarred,
of trust and confidence
shaken, weakened, lost,
of confusion and chaos
in wisdom's place,
of bad faith, betrayal
and broken promises...
of disappointment, discouragement
and distress...

So heavy are these burdens, Lord,
we need your strength
to help us lift them up,
to present them to you
as we pray for:
your healing
of deep and invisible wounds,
your restoring what's been lost
to pride and sin,
your counsel and guidance
to lead us back to your truth,
your pure and steadfast love
to make us one and whole again,

your power, grace and mercy
to purify your church,
to lead us out of darkness
to your presence and your peace...

We need so much, Lord,
and we're mindful that without you
we are helpless.
So, open our hearts to your mercy,
to your word and to your truth,
to your wisdom and inspiration,
to your Spirit and your strength,
to your compassion and consolation...

All this we lift up to you this morning, Lord:
hear our prayer and our plea
and look with mercy on your people...

Rebuild us, Lord, and make of us again
a tabernacle, a dwelling place of your presence,
a people worthy of the name we humbly bear:
Christian...

All this we lift up
to your strong and open arms:
be with us, Lord, in all our troubles,
be with us, Lord, we pray... Amen.

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