

How long will you forget me, Lord? Forever?

How long will you hide your face from me?

How long will I be left to my own wits,
agony filling my heart? Daily?

How long will my enemy keep defeating me?

Look at me!

Answer me, Lord my God!

Restore sight to my eyes!

Otherwise, I'll sleep the sleep of death,
and my enemy will say, "I won!"

My foes will rejoice over my downfall.

But I have trusted in your faithful love.

My heart will rejoice in your salvation.

Yes, I will sing to the Lord

because he has been good to me.

Call to Worship

One: Planted in love by God and nourished by the life-giving vine that is Christ's Presence,

Many: Our lives in this world can be fruitful.

One: Fruitfulness is the sign that we are being led by Christ and not another. The vine will bear fruit for its planter.

Many: But will the branch that we represent be pruned or burned?

One: It is not our responsibility to be the Source of Life.

Many: It is our responsibility to be the channel,

All: The willing vessel of God's bounty for all peoples.

UNISON PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Eternal God, mother and father of every living creature, whose spirit of love is celebrated in our worship; be our nurturing guide and strengthening tenderness like a parent, that we may grow and serve in ways of trust, compassion, and purposeful living. AMEN.