

IN THE PRESENCE OF GOD

O God, author of life and infinite love, we praise you for the communion and fellowship of those who gather here for worship.

We approach you, turning to you in anticipation. Sometimes we come hesitantly, unsure of who and what you are. Today we turn inward to find the uplift of your presence in every breath we breathe. We find there some sense of the divine, some spiritual essence of connection to one another and to the whole of nature and beyond.

We thank you that you have supplied us with minds to unravel the mysteries of truth, wills to perpetuate our actions, and courage to continue in the face of disquieting news on the front pages of our newspapers. At times we feel weak when the forces of evil seem so strong, but we know that in the end victory will prevail if we remain steadfast.

Send us forth into the world, renewed in heart, mind and spirit to do your will in making this world a better place for all. Amen.

HAROLD E. RANTON

July 31, 2005, pastoral prayer at First Christian Church, Eureka, California.

Winged Words: Prayers For Common Worship & Common Life

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