

I

Almighty God, Creator of the world in which we live and builder of the churches through which we serve, it is good and altogether right that we should praise your name.

We thank you for words of encouragement that find us when our flame is low:

for helpful hands that reach us when the load is more than we can bear;

for insights that come to mind when the problems seem insurmountable.

Nor will we fail to praise you for your governance and love, and for all who by word and life and dependence on your Spirit continue to bring our doubting souls to deeper faith.

We lift up, with gratitude, the founding pastor of this Ministry,

the scope of his agile mind,

the vision that commanded him,

and the lives his legacy continues to touch and the torch of hope that we pray daily to continue to pass to those who enter the doors of the Garcia Center.

Help us to continue what [name] and [name] and [name] so well began on behalf of those you hold especially dear, and to your glory.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

II

We pray now for this Ministry to which you have called us:

its volunteers and leaders;

its clients;

its impact on the city around us.

Give us, we pray, a lively sense of mission:

the ability to choose priorities;

the grace to deal creatively with differences;

the hope that belongs to the gospel;

the faith to believe, when doubt or disbelief would be the easier way.

May we who are strong be agents of your love for those whose strength is known only to you.

You, O God, are light and you are salvation.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*