**Opening**

As a loving mother comforts her child,

**so I will comfort you.**

**Prayer**

O God, we place our trust in you. We give thanks for your presence with us. Help us entrust our lives to you with the delight and confidence of one who loves and is beloved. Through Jesus, our faithful Savior. **Amen**.

**Praise**

What a fellowship, what a joy divine,

Leaning on the everlasting arms;

What a blessedness, what a peace is mine,

Leaning on the everlasting arms.

Leaning, leaning,

safe and secure from all alarms;

Leaning, leaning,

Leaning on the everlasting arms.

O how sweet to walk in this pilgrim way,

Leaning on the everlasting arms;

O how bright the path grows from day to day,

Leaning on the everlasting arms.

What have I to dread, what have I to fear,

Leaning on the everlasting arms;

I have blessed peace with my Lord so near,

Leaning on the everlasting arms.

*Words: Elisha A. Hoffman (1839-1929)*

**Scripture**

My beloved speaks and says to me: “Arise, my love, my fair one, and come away; for now the winter is past, the rain is over and gone. The flowers appear on the earth; the time of singing has come, and the voice of the turtledove is heard in our land. The fig tree puts forth its figs, and the vines are in blossom; they give forth fragrance. Arise my love, my fair one, and come away.” *Song of Solomon 2:10-13*

**Meditation**

The measure of love is to love without measure. *Attributed to Augustine*

*What “measure” will we release in order to embrace God’s love this hour?*

**Prayers**

The cares of our hearts

**We entrust to you, O God.**

The needs of your Church

**We entrust to you, O God.**

The wounds of the world

**We entrust to you, O God.**

The hopes we carry

**We entrust to you, O God.**

The deep desire for peace

**We entrust to you, O God.**

*Here, the people may add particular intercessions or thanksgivings.*

With all our lives and all our holy longings

**We praise you and trust your love for us, O Lover of our souls. Amen.**

**Lord’s Prayer**

**Our Father, who art in heaven,**

**hallowed be thy Name,**

**thy kingdom come,**

**thy will be done,**

**on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread.**

**And forgive us our trespasses,**

**as we forgive those who trespass against us.**

**And lead us not into temptation,**

**but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,**

**for ever and ever. Amen.**

**Prayer**

Gracious God, support us all the day long, until the shadows lengthen, and the evening comes, and the busy world is hushed, and the fever of life is over, and our work is done. Then in your mercy, grant us a safe lodging, and a holy rest, and peace at the last. **Amen**.

**Going Out**

As a loving mother comforts her child,

**so I will comfort you.**