

Centering Prayer

God, we come to you with our honesty.

We try to do what is right, but sometimes it is easier to bend our values.

We try to speak our heart's truth, but sometimes a small lie is more convenient.

We try to avoid gossip and slander, but we find ourselves discussing our neighbors.

We try to value people more than money and things, but sometimes our choices are based on our own needs and interests first.

Gracious God, forgive the ways we make exceptions for ourselves.

Strengthen us for the tempting "sometimes", so that we might walk closer to you, and see in your eyes and our own the more generous and loving people we want to be.

In the silence of this moment, we speak to you the truth of our lives:

The path toward the truth of our lives, and toward living more fully than we have before, is steep. But you are not alone. Every time you fall, the grace of forgiveness is there to catch you, and to raise you up to walk again. Hold out your hand and take it.