

# FOR OUR COUNTRY

**THUS SAYS THE ETERNAL GOD:** “This is what I desire: to unlock the fetters of wickedness, and untie the cords of lawlessness; to let the oppressed go free, to break off every yoke. Share your bread with the hungry, and take the wretched poor into your home.

When you see the naked, give clothing, and do not ignore your own kin.

“If you banish the yoke from your midst, the menacing hand, the evil speech; if you offer compassion to the hungry and satisfy the famished creature –then your light shall shine in darkness.”

**O GUARDIAN** of life and liberty, may our nation always merit Your protection.

Help us remember those who have lived in this land before us, and those who have made it their home in more recent times.

Teach us to give thanks for what we have by sharing it with those who are in need.

Keep our eyes open to the wonders of creation, and alert to the care of the earth.

May we never be lazy in the work of peace; may we honor those who have died in defense of our ideals.

Grant our leaders wisdom and forbearance. May they govern with justice and compassion.

Help us to appreciate one another, and to respect the many ways that we may serve You.

May our homes be safe from affliction and strife, and our country be sound in body and spirit. Amen.