

Almighty and most merciful Father,

WHO HAST GUIDED OUR STEPS ACROSS ANOTHER YEAR, WE BOW BEFORE THEE IN SOLEMN GRATITUDE, AS WE CALL TO MIND THY MANIFOLD MERCIES, OF WHICH WE HAVE BEEN SO UNWORTHY. WITH FULL HEART WE BLESS THEE FOR ALL THE VARIED DISCIPLINE BY WHICH THOU HAST WITH PATIENT LOVE BEEN PREPARING US DAY BY DAY FOR THINE EVERLASTING KINGDOM: FOR ANY JOY THAT RENEWED OUR HOPE AND STRENGTH, AND FOR ANY GRIEF THAT HELPED US TO FEEL THAT HERE WE ARE BUT PILGRIMS AND STRANGERS. THY GRACIOUS HAND HAS BEEN UPON ALL OUR LIFE. SURELY THOU HAST CROWNED OUR YEAR WITH THY GOODNESS, AND OUR PRAISE SHALL BE OF THEE.

WITH SORROW AND PENITENCE WOULD WE CONFESS THAT OUR SIN HAS BEEN EVER BEFORE US. OUR FEET HAVE NOT BEEN SWIFT TO RUN IN THE WAY THAT LEADETH UNTO LIFE: OUR HANDS HAVE NOT BEEN WILLING TO DO THE WORK