Responsive Prayer
Sarah Seibert, BVS Unit #305

While this prayer can be led by a single individual, it is particularly powerful to select several members of the congregation prior to the service who will pray one or two of the “One” part(s) from their seats. Printing the prayer in its entirety in the bulletin and giving those members a bulletin with their part(s) highlighted is helpful.

One: For those who serve far from home: encourage their hearts, O God, keep them faithful to the task at hand and bless them with an assurance of your presence with them.
All: O Lord, hear our prayer.
One: For those who serve in their local communities: may they not become weary in doing good, may they persevere despite distractions, and may they be confident that you, our Father, who sees what is done in secret will reward them.
All: O Lord, hear our prayer.
One: For those whom we serve: may our feeble attempts to assist others not humiliate or dehumanize them, but instead truly bless them and make them more fully aware of the love of God in Christ.
All: O Lord, hear our prayer.
One: For those who are in need, but are overlooked: O Lord, be their comforter and provider. Forgive us for missing the real needs of our neighbor in our quest to do something great for you.
All: O Lord, hear our prayer.
One: For this congregation: that we would be of the same mind, have the same love, and offer support to one another as we serve.
All: O Lord, hear our prayer.
One: For ourselves: may we always be aware that we have the opportunity to serve those around us each day through simple acts of kindness that have an impact far beyond what we can imagine.
All: O Lord, hear our prayer. Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.