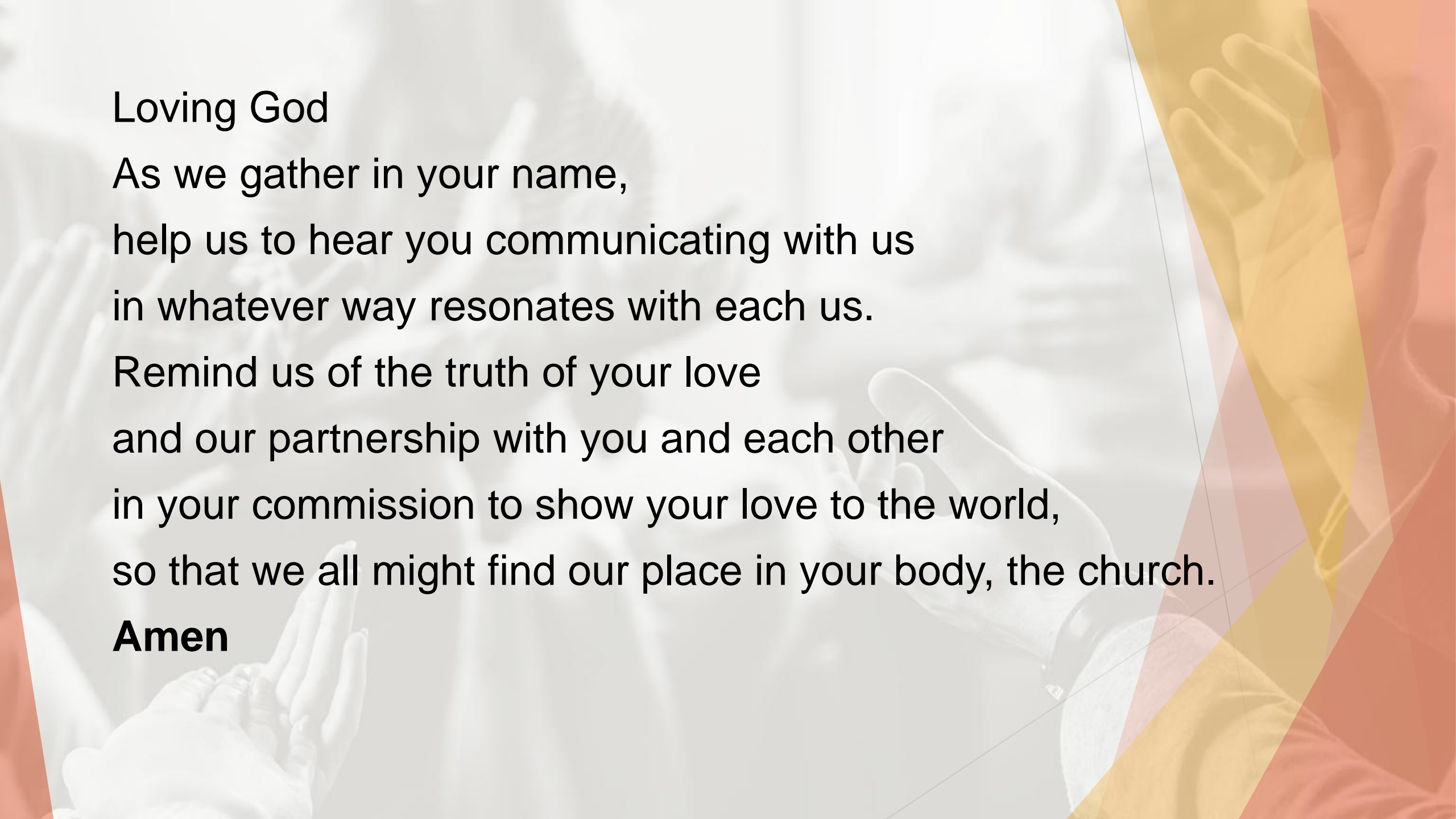


The background is a grayscale photograph of a group of people with their hands raised in a gesture of worship or prayer. The image is semi-transparent, allowing for the overlay of text and geometric shapes. On the right side, there are several overlapping triangular and polygonal shapes in shades of orange and yellow. The word 'Worship' is written in a large, bold, red serif font on the left side.

Worship

Lay Employees Retreat June 2025



Loving God

As we gather in your name,
help us to hear you communicating with us
in whatever way resonates with each us.
Remind us of the truth of your love
and our partnership with you and each other
in your commission to show your love to the world,
so that we all might find our place in your body, the church.

Amen

1 Corinthians 12

For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body...

Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. If the foot were to say, 'Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body', that would not make it any less a part of the body. If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be?... If all were a single member, where would the body be?

Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it.

The background of the slide features a grayscale photograph of several hands raised in a gesture of prayer or worship. Overlaid on the right side of the image are large, semi-transparent geometric shapes in shades of orange and yellow, creating a modern, abstract design.

What might you be bringing to God's service?

Is there anything else God might be asking you to bring?

Write or draw something on your person shape to represent what you contribute to the life of the church and bring it to join others at the front.

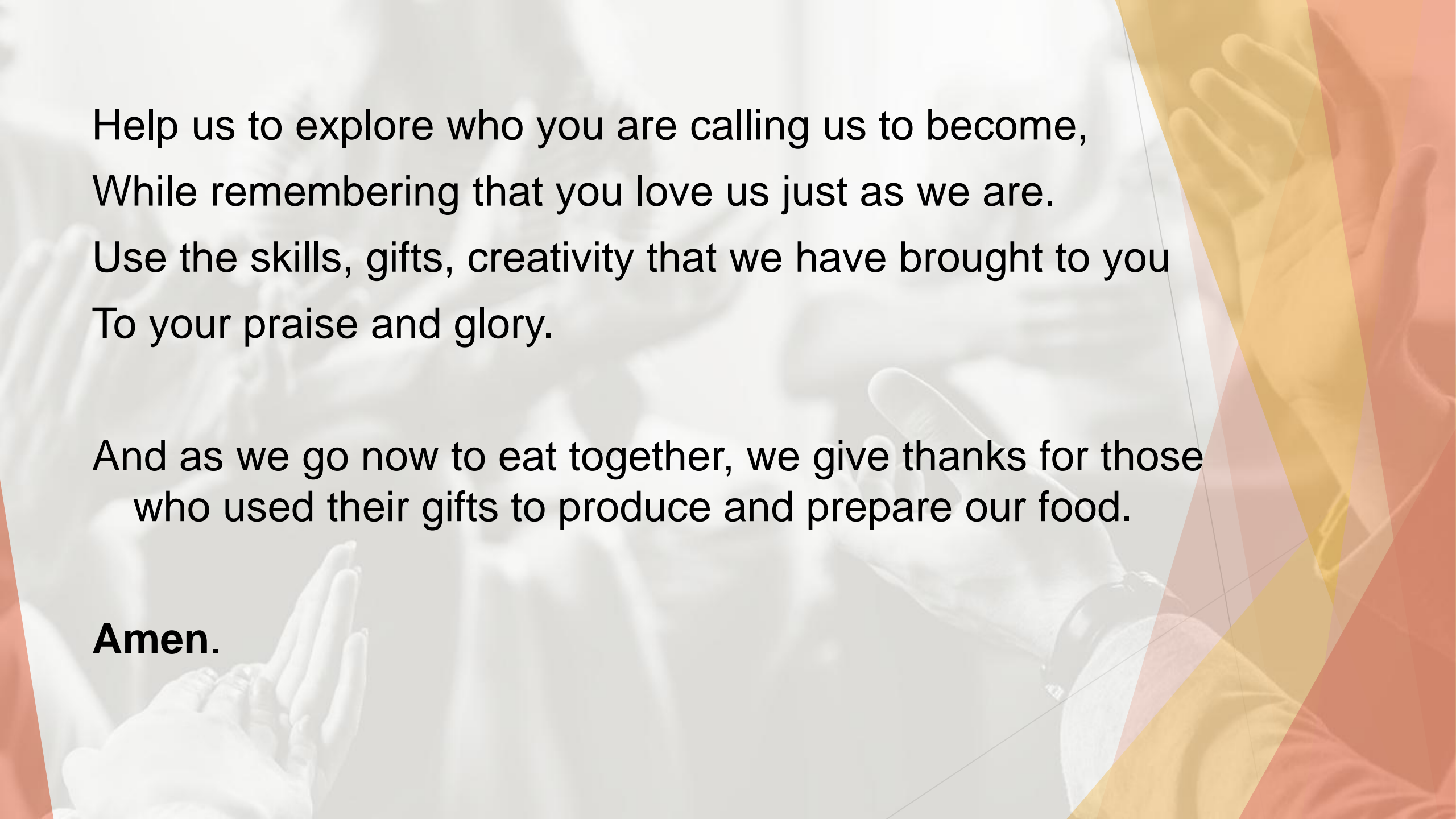


Loving God,

We thank you that every single one of your children has a part to play,

a role in your church and in the new creation that you are bringing into being.

Thank you for those who preach, teach, care, bandage,
write, draw, play, sing,
bake, garden, carpenter, clean,
count, plan, pray, and serve.



Help us to explore who you are calling us to become,
While remembering that you love us just as we are.
Use the skills, gifts, creativity that we have brought to you
To your praise and glory.

And as we go now to eat together, we give thanks for those
who used their gifts to produce and prepare our food.

Amen.