John 3:16 Prayers of Intercession

Opening:

For God the greatest lover
so loved to the greatest degree
the world the greatest number
that God gave the greatest act
The only begotten Son the greatest gift
that whoever the greatest invitation
believes the greatest simplicity
in Him the greatest person
should not perish the greatest deliverance
but the greatest difference
have the greatest certainty
eternal life the greatest grace.¹

Hymn #485 – To God be the Glory

1. To God be the glory, great things He hath done!
   So loved He the world that He gave us His Son,
   Who yielded His life an atonement for sin,
   And opened the life-gate that all may go in.

Refrain:
   Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the earth hear His voice!
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the people rejoice!
O come to the Father through Jesus the Son,
And give Him the glory: great things He hath done!

2. Great things He hath taught us, great things He hath done,
   And great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son;
   But purer, and higher, and greater will be
   Our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see.
(Refrain)

Scripture – John 3:11-17

Prayers:

For God - God of all that is good, we praise you for your mighty and humble acts. Hear us as we offer our praise and adoration for your glorious ways, for your very being in our lives, for the power and splendor of your name, we pray:

¹ By Smitha Rajan, http://www.1stholistic.com/Spl_prayers/meditation-on-john-3-16.htm
For God so loved: In your saving love you give us your grace. For this we give you thanks and, as one body, offer ourselves and each other as we pray:

For God so loved the world: We pray for the world around us, for nations and people far away. For their hopes and fears, and for those who weep and those who dance in every part of your world, we pray:

For God so loved the world that God gave: We give you thanks for the possibilities that come from your imagination, and for the talents and gifts given freely to us, and pray that we fulfill the vision of ministry and mission you set before us:

For God so loved the world that God gave the only begotten Son: We give you thanks for your Son, Jesus Christ, who came among us to teach us how we live in you and how we die in you. In this season of Lent, we pray for our own paths to the cross, for the sacrifices we must make in your name, for the joy of your eternal salvation, we pray:

For God so loved the world that God gave the only begotten Son that whoever believes in him: We pray for every church in every place. For every community of faith throughout the world where love is proclaimed as the core of our lives and our living, we pray:

For God so loved the world that God gave the only begotten Son that whoever believes in him shall not perish: We pray for those who suffer, that we may bless, with you, those in our midst who are tired or hurting, and those who trust us to pray for them, we pray:

For God so loved the world that God gave the only begotten Son that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life: We pray for those who have died, that we may know the presence of the cloud of witnesses around us as we seek to be your people in new and exciting ways. Bless those who mourn and those who, in their grief, know the sure and certain promise of eternal life in you, we pray:

Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. Amen.

Benediction:

May the Lord bless you, and keep you;  
May the Lord’s face shine on you,  
And be gracious to you;  
The Lord lift up countenance upon you,  
And give you peace. Amen.

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2 Susanne Watson Epting, http://www.newsongepiscopal.org/pent1prayers.htm