A precious gift we hold is the maturity and wisdom of our elders. They are the guardians of tradition and memory, and we praise God for their presence among us.

For persons who are elderly, that we might cherish their presence and honor their wisdom, we pray:
Bless them, O Lord, with your grace.

For elderly parents and grandparents, that the love of their children will sustain them, we pray:
Bless them, O Lord, and fill them with joy.

For those who care for the sick and the elderly, offering dignity to all of God’s people, we pray:
Bless them, O Lord, and strengthen them with patience and compassion.

For residents of all facilities that care for the aged and infirm [especially the Episcopal Home in Shippensburg], that they may know security, kindness and love in their senior years, we pray:
Bless them, O Lord, and give them joy each day and a gentle sleep each night.
For Bishop N, our clergy and all in our Diocese, that we may be committed always to the needs and welfare of all, especially of our elders who have been the life blood of our congregations, we pray:
Bless us, O Lord, and renew within us a dedication to strengthening our congregations, respecting all, young and old, in that task.

For those who have grown weak or infirm, that they may find solace in faith and comfort in the care of others, we pray:
Bless them, O Lord, and give us the wisdom to see God’s love for all, even in our fragility.

For all who are forgotten or ignored, especially the poor, the sick and the aged in our nation, we pray:
Bless us, O Lord, that we may be strong and vocal advocates for those who have no voice.

For the elders of our congregations, that they may cherish each moment of life and in their sunset years know the attention, care and love that they need, we pray:
Bless all your people, O Lord, as we move from year to year, maturing in age and faith, until that moment in which we shall joyfully rest in your heart.

Celebrant: Gracious and loving God, we ask your blessing, especially upon your children who have grown old. Give us a deeper appreciation for their wisdom and the richness of their experience. Bless the families of our elderly with insight and loving judgment. May your Spirit guide us all as we progress in years and spiritual maturity. This we ask in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. Amen.