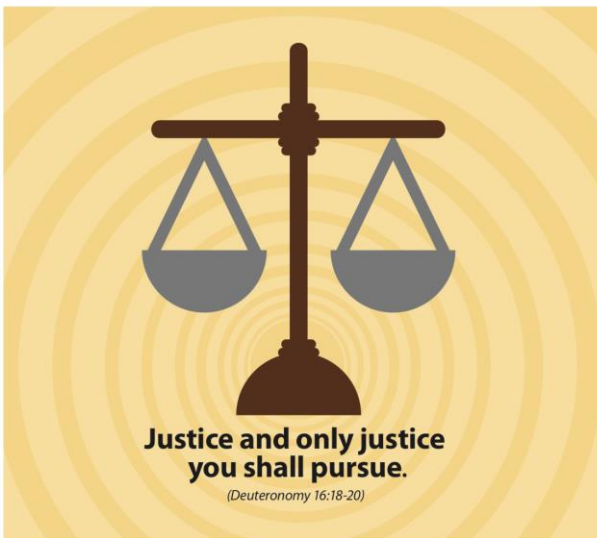


# Service of Supplication (Moleben) for Christian Unity

## WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY 2019



[weekofprayer.ca](http://weekofprayer.ca)

## **Introduction**

*Welcome to this service of supplication for Christian unity. This Eastern Rite service incorporates the World Council of Churches service for the 2019 Week of Prayer for Christian Unity into the general moleben (or supplicatory service) format as served in Orthodox and Eastern Catholic churches.*

*The theme for the 2019 Week of Prayer for Christian Unity comes to us from Indonesia: "Justice, and only justice, you shall pursue" (Deuteronomy 16:18-20).*

*The 2019 theme calls us to move from shared prayer to shared action. Drawing on the traditional values of Bhineka Tunggal Ika (Unity in Diversity) and gotong royong (living in solidarity and by collaboration), Indonesian Christians invite us to be a united witness, and an agent of Christ's healing grace in a broken world, by making specific commitments to justice, equality, and unity.*

*During the service, participants are called to reflect on how they might commit to a particular act of justice, mercy, or unity, and to write on each of the two provided cards what that concrete commitment is. One of these cards is attached to the person's clothing, and the second will be gathered up as part of the offering and put on an analogion in the centre of the church on which is placed the icon of the crucifixion. At the conclusion of the worship, these cards will be distributed to participants as they leave the church, so that each may pray for another's commitment.*

## Opening Prayers

*Presbyter:* Blessed is our God, always, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

*Reader:* Amen.

Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee.

O Heavenly King, the Comforter, the Spirit of truth; who art everywhere and fillest all things; Treasury of blessings, and Giver of life; come and abide in us, and cleanse us from every impurity, and save our souls, O Good One.

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us. *(3 times)*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

O most Holy Trinity, have mercy on us. O Lord, cleanse us from our sins. O Master, pardon our transgressions. O Holy One, visit and heal our infirmities, for Thy name's sake.

Lord, have mercy. *(3 times)*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.

*Presbyter:* For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

*Reader:* Amen.

Lord, have mercy. (*12 times*)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Come, let us worship God our King.

Come, let us worship and fall down before Christ, our King and our God.

Come, let us worship and fall down before Christ Himself, our King and our God.

## **Psalm 82**

*Reader:* God has taken His place in the divine council; in the midst of the gods He holds judgment.

How long will you judge unjustly and show partiality to the wicked? Give justice to the weak and the fatherless; maintain the right of the afflicted and the destitute. Rescue the weak and the needy; deliver them from the hand of the wicked.

They have neither knowledge nor understanding, they walk about in darkness; all the foundations of the earth are shaken. I say, 'You are gods, sons of the Most High, all of you; nevertheless, you shall die like men, and fall like any prince.'

Arise, O God, judge the earth; for to Thee belong all the nations.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Glory to Thee, O God.  
(*3 times*)

## **Great Litany**

*Presbyter:* In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

*People:* Lord, have mercy.

*Presbyter:* For the peace from above and for the salvation of our souls, let us pray to the Lord.

*People:* Lord, have mercy.

*Presbyter:* For the peace of the whole world, for the welfare of the holy churches of God, and for the union of all, let us pray to the Lord.

*People:* Lord, have mercy.

*Presbyter:* For this holy house and for those who enter with faith, reverence, and the fear of God, let us pray to the Lord.

*People:* Lord, have mercy.

*Presbyter:* For all bishops, for the honourable presbyterate, the diaconate in Christ, for all the clergy and the people, let us pray to the Lord.

*People:* Lord, have mercy.

*Presbyter:* For our sovereign lady, Queen Elizabeth, for this land and for all those in seats of authority, let us pray to the Lord.

*People:* Lord, have mercy.

*Presbyter:* For this city, for every city and country, and for the faithful dwelling in them, let us pray to the Lord.

*People:* Lord, have mercy.

*Presbyter:* For seasonable weather, for an abundance of the fruits of the earth, and for peaceful times, let us pray to the Lord.

*People:* Lord, have mercy.

*Presbyter:* For travellers by land, by sea, and by air; for the sick and the suffering; for captives and their salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

*People:* Lord, have mercy.

*Presbyter:* That we may be cleansed of our sins and transgressions which have dried up in us love for God and for our neighbour, and that it may be established by the power, action and grace of the most-holy Spirit, and rooted in all our hearts, earnestly let us pray to the Lord.

*People:* Lord, have mercy.

*Presbyter:* That there may be planted and rooted in us by the grace of the most-holy Spirit the new commandment of His New Testament: that we love one another, and not merely satisfy ourselves, but rather always strive for His glory and the building up of our neighbour, let us pray to the Lord.

*People:* Lord, have mercy.

*Presbyter:* That there may be uprooted in us hatred, envy, and jealousy, and all other passions, which destroy brotherly love, and that there may be planted unfeigned love, fervently let us pray to the Lord.

*People:* Lord, have mercy.

*Presbyter:* That there may be kindled in us the fervent love of God, and our neighbour, by the grace of His most-holy Spirit, and thus burn out to the very roots the passions of all our souls, and bodies, let us pray to the Lord.

*People:* Lord, have mercy.

*Presbyter:* That there may be uprooted in us the passion of self-love, and rooted instead the virtue of selfless love, by the power of His most-holy Spirit; with broken, and contrite hearts, let us pray to the Lord.

*People:* Lord, have mercy.

*Presbyter:* That we may not love the world, and that which is in the world; but rather, have true love for God, and for His glory, and that we may love that which is profitable, and for the salvation of our neighbour, so that we may ever gaze on the good things prepared in heaven; and that we may seek all these with all our souls, let us pray to the Lord.

*People:* Lord, have mercy.

*Presbyter:* That truly we may love, not just our friends, and brethren, but also our enemies; and do that which is good to those who hate us, with the power, action, and grace of His most-holy Spirit moving us, let us pray to the Lord.

*People:* Lord, have mercy.

*Presbyter:* That we may examine ourselves, condemn ourselves, and, ever looking upon our own transgressions, humble ourselves before God, and before everyone, never condemning our brothers or sisters, but loving them as our very selves, by the power, action, and grace of His most-holy Spirit, let us pray to the Lord.

*People:* Lord, have mercy.

*Presbyter:* That we may imitate the burning love of the Christians in ancient times, for God, and neighbour; and that we may be their heirs, and successors, not only in image, but in true action, by the power, action, and grace of the most-holy Spirit, let us pray to the Lord.

*People:* Lord, have mercy.

*Presbyter:* That He may keep us immovable in the Faith, in peace, and the unity of burning love, increasing in all virtues; and preserve us unharmed from all soul-corrupting passions, by the power, action,

and grace of the most-holy Spirit, let us pray to the Lord.

*People:* Lord, have mercy.

*Presbyter:* For our deliverance from all affliction, wrath, danger, and necessity, let us pray to the Lord.

*People:* Lord, have mercy.

*Presbyter:* Help us, save us, have mercy on us, and keep us, O God, by Thy grace.

*People:* Lord, have mercy.

*Presbyter:* Commemorating our most holy, most pure, most blessed and glorious Lady Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary with all the saints, let us commend ourselves and each other, and all our life unto Christ our God.

*People:* To Thee, O Lord.

*Presbyter:* O Lord Jesus Christ, our God, who gavest a new commandment to Thy disciples, that they should love one another: accept this offering for the remission of all the sins of Thy servants. And by Thy Holy Spirit renew love for Thy goodness and for our neighbours, which has waxed cold in us. Establish this love with strength in our hearts, that, fulfilling Thy commandments, we seek not on earth our own ends, but that which is to Thy glory, the building up of our neighbour, and for salvation.

For Thou art a merciful and man-befriending God, and unto Thee we ascribe glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto the ages of ages.

*People:* Amen.



## **The Lord Is God (Tone 4)**

*Presbyter:* In the fourth tone, The Lord is God and has revealed Himself to us. Blessed is He that comes in the name of the Lord. O give thanks to the Lord for He is good; His mercy endures forever.

*People:* The Lord is God and has revealed Himself to us. Blessed is He that comes in the name of the Lord.

*Presbyter:* All nations surrounded me, but in the name of the Lord I destroyed them.

*People:* The Lord is God and has revealed Himself to us. Blessed is He that comes in the name of the Lord.

*Presbyter:* I shall not die, but live; and recount the works of the Lord.

*People:* The Lord is God and has revealed Himself to us. Blessed is He that comes in the name of the Lord.

*Presbyter:* The stone which the builder rejected has become the cornerstone; this is the Lord's doing, and it is wonderful in our eyes.

*People:* The Lord is God and has revealed Himself to us. Blessed is He that comes in the name of the Lord.

## **Troparion and Kontakion (Tone 4)**

*People:* Thou didst bind Thine apostles in the bond of love, O Christ, and hast firmly bound us, Thy faithful servants, to Thyself, that we may fulfil Thy commandments and have unfeigned love for one another, through the prayers of the Theotokos, O only Friend of man.

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

Kindle our hearts with the flames of love for Thee, O Christ God, that being inflamed by this, in heart,

mind and soul, we may love Thee with all our strength, and our neighbour as ourselves, and that, keeping Thy commandments, we may glorify Thee, the Giver of all good.

### **Augmented Litany and Prayers of Reconciliation**

*Presbyter:* Have mercy on us, O God, according to Thy great goodness, we pray Thee, hear us and have mercy.

*People:* Lord, have mercy. (3 times)

*Presbyter:* Again we pray that the Lord will listen to the prayers of us sinners, and have mercy on us.

*People:* Lord, have mercy. (3 times)

*Presbyter:* Again we pray Thee, Compassionate God, who hast chosen us to shepherd Thy flock: Jesus, Thy Son, taught us to act justly. We are aware that in our ministry, we sometimes behave unjustly towards the people whom Thou hast entrusted to us by: prioritizing those who are close to us or those who have higher social status; ignoring strangers, the poor and the least in society; fearing to defend the oppressed; misusing church resources. These deeds have caused some people to turn away from Thy church. O Lord, hear us and have mercy.

*People:* Lord, have mercy. (3 times)

*Presbyter:* Again we pray Thee, Loving God, who have gathered us as members of Thy flock: Jesus, Thy Son, taught us to love one another as a sign of being His disciples. We confess that we have failed to live his commandment of love by: regarding those of other churches as rivals; being hostile to each other and slow to forgive; focusing only on our personal interest; ignoring the needs of sisters and brothers; excluding those who do not share

our point of view. In these ways, our attitudes strengthen the dividing walls between us. O Lord, hear us and have mercy.

*People:* Lord, have mercy. (3 times)

*Presbyter:* Again we pray Thee, Gracious God, who hast commissioned us to make our common home a place of justice for all: in Thy generous love, Thou sendest rain on the righteous and the unrighteous and, in Jesus, teachest us to love without discrimination. We confess that we have failed to follow this teaching by: disrespecting our neighbours; spreading falsehoods through various social media; participating in the disruption of social harmony. Our conduct risks making the world a barren field that no longer brings forth your justice for all of creation. O Lord, hear us and have mercy.

*People:* Lord, have mercy. (3 times)

*Presbyter:* Again we pray Thee, O God, the Creator of life, from the islands and the oceans. Throughout the mountains and the valleys, we praise Thee, O God, the Saviour of the world. With the tongues of all nations, we thank Thee, O God, the Comforter of bodies and souls. We come before Thee bearing our burdens and hopes. O Lord, hear us and have mercy.

*People:* Lord, have mercy. (3 times)

*Presbyter:* Again we pray Thee, for those who live in the midst of injustice. Encourage us to lift up their voices and strengthen their hope. We pray for those who continue to perpetuate injustice. May Thy kindness fill our hearts and make us agents of freedom and peace. We pray for every institution and person who stands for justice. Let us act justly

according to Thy words. O Lord, hear us and have mercy.

*People:* Lord, have mercy. (3 times)

*Presbyter:* Again we pray Thee, for the visible unity of the Church. Lead us to fulfil Jesus' prayer that we may be one and work together to manifest Thy Kingdom. O Lord, hear us and have mercy.

*People:* Lord, have mercy. (3 times)

*Presbyter:* We thank Thee for the many colours, cultures, and customs that we share in this world. In our differences, unite us by Thy love. Enable us to act together to uphold life and to make this world a just and peaceful household for all humanity.

For Thou art a merciful and loving God, and unto Thee do we send up glory, to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

*People:* Amen.

### **Old Testament Reading (Deuteronomy 16.11-20)**

*Presbyter:* Wisdom.

*Reader:* The reading from the Book of Deuteronomy.

*Presbyter:* Let us attend.

*Reader:* You shall rejoice before the Lord your God, you and your son and your daughter, your manservant and your maidservant, the Levite who is within your towns, the sojourner, the fatherless, and the widow who are among you, at the place which the Lord your God will choose, to make his name dwell there. You shall remember that you were a slave in Egypt; and you shall be careful to observe these statutes. You shall keep the feast of booths seven days, when you make your ingathering from your

threshing floor and your wine press; you shall rejoice in your feast, you and your son and your daughter, your manservant and your maidservant, the Levite, the sojourner, the fatherless, and the widow who are within your towns. For seven days you shall keep the feast to the Lord your God at the place which the Lord will choose; because the Lord your God will bless you in all your produce and in all the work of your hands, so that you will be altogether joyful. Three times a year all your males shall appear before the Lord your God at the place which he will choose: at the feast of unleavened bread, at the feast of weeks, and at the feast of booths. They shall not appear before the Lord empty-handed; every man shall give as he is able, according to the blessing of the Lord your God which he has given you. You shall appoint judges and officers in all your towns which the Lord your God gives you, according to your tribes; and they shall judge the people with righteous judgment. You shall not pervert justice; you shall not show partiality; and you shall not take a bribe, for a bribe blinds the eyes of the wise and subverts the cause of the righteous. Justice, and only justice, you shall follow, that you may live and inherit the land which the Lord your God gives you.

### **Prokeimenon & Epistle (Romans 12.1-13)**

*Presbyter:* Let us attend.

*Presbyter:* Peace be unto all.

*Reader:* And to thy spirit.

*Presbyter:* Wisdom.

*Reader:* The prokeimenon in the seventh tone: Arise, O Lord my God, and let Thy hand be lifted up. Forget not Thy poor for ever.

*People:* Arise, O Lord my God, and let Thy hand be lifted up. Forget not Thy poor for ever.

*Reader:* I will give thanks unto Thee, O Lord, with my whole heart. I will speak of all Thy marvellous works.

*People:* Arise, O Lord my God, and let Thy hand be lifted up. Forget not Thy poor for ever.

*Reader:* Arise, O Lord my God, and let Thy hand be lifted up.

*People:* Forget not Thy poor for ever.

*Presbyter:* Wisdom.

*Reader:* The reading from the Epistle of the Holy Apostle Paul to the Romans.

*Presbyter:* Let us attend.

*Reader:* Brothers and sisters, I appeal to you by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that you may prove what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect. For by the grace given to me I bid every one among you not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith which God has assigned him. For as in one body we have many members, and all the members do not have the same function, so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another. Having gifts that differ according to the

grace given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, in proportion to our faith; if service, in our serving; he who teaches, in his teaching; he who exhorts, in his exhortation; he who contributes, in liberality; he who gives aid, with zeal; he who does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness. Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with brotherly affection; outdo one another in showing honour. Never flag in zeal, be aglow with the Spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in your hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints, practice hospitality.

*Presbyter:* Peace be unto thee, reader.

*Reader:* And to thy spirit. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

*People:* Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

*Reader:* God has taken His place in the divine council; in the midst of the gods He holds judgment.

*People:* Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

*Reader:* Arise, O God, judge the earth; for to Thee belong all the nations.

*People:* Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

### **The Gospel (Luke 4.14-21)**

*Presbyter:* Let us pray to the Lord.

*People:* Lord, have mercy.

*Presbyter:* Illumine our hearts, O man-befriending Master, with the pure light of Thy divine knowledge. Open the eyes of our mind to the understanding of Thy gospel teaching. Implant also in us the fear of Thy blessed commandments, that trampling down all carnal desires, we may enter upon a spiritual

manner of living, both thinking and doing such things as are well pleasing to Thee.

For Thou art the illumination of our souls and bodies, O Christ our God, and unto Thee we ascribe glory, together with Thy Father, who is from everlasting, and Thine all-holy, good, and life-creating Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

*People:* Amen.

*Presbyter:* Let every breath praise the Lord.

*People:* Let every breath praise the Lord.

*Presbyter:* Praise God in His sanctuary; praise Him in His mighty firmament.

*People:* Let every breath praise the Lord.

*Presbyter:* Let every breath.

*People:* Praise the Lord.

*Presbyter:* And that He will grant us the grace to hear His Holy Gospel, let us pray to the Lord God.

*People:* Lord, have mercy. (3 times)

*Presbyter:* Wisdom. Let us attend. Let us listen to the Holy Gospel.

*Presbyter:* Peace be unto all.

*People:* And to thy spirit.

*Presbyter:* The reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke.

*People:* Glory to Thee, O Lord, glory to Thee.

*Presbyter:* Let us attend. At that time, Jesus returned in the power of the Spirit into Galilee, and a report concerning Him went out through all the surrounding country. And He taught in their



synagogues, being glorified by all. And He came to Nazareth, where He had been brought up; and He went to the synagogue, as His custom was, on the sabbath day. And He stood up to read; and there was given to Him the book of the prophet Isaiah. He opened the book and found the place where it was written, "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because He has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, to proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord." And He closed the book, and gave it back to the attendant, and sat down; and the eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on Him. And He began to say to them, "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing."

*People:* Glory to Thee, O Lord, glory to Thee.

*A homily follows the Gospel.*

### **Commitment to Justice, Mercy and Unity**

*The presbyter or other leader says:*

To make concrete our individual commitment to work together for justice, you are invited to write your commitment on two separate cards. We invite you to keep one of these cards close to your heart. The second one will be collected and brought forward as an offering.

*The people write their commitments on the cards. One or more hymns may be sung to allow the time for this.*

### **The Symbol of Faith**

*Presbyter:* Let us love one another, that with one mind we may confess:

*People:* Father, Son, and Holy Spirit: the Trinity one in essence, and undivided.

*Presbyter:* In wisdom, let us attend.

*The people sing:*

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God, the only-begotten, begotten of the Father before all ages. Light of Light; true God of true God; begotten not made; of one essence with the Father; by whom all things were made; who for us and for our salvation, came down from heaven, and was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, and became man. And He was crucified for us under Pontius Pilate, and suffered, and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the scriptures, and ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand of the Father; and He shall come again with glory to judge the living and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end.

And in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the Giver of life, who proceeds from the Father; who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. In One Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church. I acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins. I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

### **Litany of Supplication and the Lord's Prayer**

*Presbyter:* Let us complete our prayer unto the Lord.

*People:* Lord, have mercy.

*Presbyter:* Help us, save us, have mercy on us, and keep us, O God, by Thy grace.

*People:* Lord, have mercy.

*Presbyter:* That the whole evening may be perfect, holy, peaceful, and sinless, let us ask of the Lord.

*People:* Grant it, O Lord.

*Presbyter:* That we, as members of the body of Christ, called to walk together in His path, may hear His calling, let us ask of the Lord.

*People:* Grant it, O Lord.

*Presbyter:* That we, as members of the body of Christ, called to keep our lives free from the love of money, and be content with what we have, may break the cycle of greed and live in simplicity, let us ask of the Lord.

*People:* Grant it, O Lord.

*Presbyter:* That we, as members of the body of Christ, called to proclaim release to captives and victims of all forms of violence, may help them to live in dignity, let us ask of the Lord.

*People:* Grant it, O Lord.

*Presbyter:* That we, as members of the body of Christ, called to extend hospitality to strangers, may outdo one another in showing honour, let us ask of the Lord.

*People:* Grant it, O Lord.

*Presbyter:* That we, as members of the body of Christ, called to proclaim the good news to the whole creation, may protect the life and beauty of God's creation, let us ask of the Lord.

*People:* Grant it, O Lord.

*Presbyter:* That our gracious God, who has shown us His compassion and care for all creation, whose love inspires us to offer these commitments to act justly by loving others wholeheartedly regardless of their cultural, ethnic, and religious backgrounds, may accept now our offerings and transform them into action for the unity of His Church, let us ask.

*People:* Grant it, O Lord.

*Presbyter:* Having asked for the unity of the Faith, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, let us commend ourselves and each other, and all our life unto Christ our God.

*People:* To Thee, O Lord.

*The commitment cards are placed on the analogion with the icon of the crucifixion.*

*Presbyter:* And make us worthy, O Master, that with boldness and without condemnation, bound not by chains but by the love of Christ that has been poured into our hearts, we may dare to call on Thee, the heavenly God, as Father, and to say:

*People:* Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name; Thy Kingdom come; Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.

*Presbyter:* For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

*People:* Amen.

### **Sharing of Peace**

*Presbyter:* Peace be unto all.

*People:* And to thy spirit.

*Presbyter:* Christ is in our midst.

*People:* He is and ever shall be.

*The people may greet one another with the peace.*

## **Commitment**

*The presbyter or other leader says:*

As you leave this gathering you will be given one of the commitment cards. We invite you to pray for the commitment written on the card.

May God embrace you with love and make kindness flow out from you. May God ignite courage within you and transform you into agents of his justice and peace. May God grant you humility and give you perseverance to nurture unity.

## **Dismissal**

*Presbyter:* Wisdom. Most holy Theotokos, save us.

*People:* More honourable than the cherubim, and more glorious beyond compare than the seraphim; without corruption thou gavest birth to God the Word; true Theotokos, we magnify thee.

*Presbyter:* Glory to Thee, O Christ, our God and our hope, glory to Thee.

*People:* Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Lord, have mercy. *(3 times)*

Father, bless.

*Presbyter:* May Christ our true God, through the prayers of His most pure Mother, of the holy, glorious and all-laudable apostles, of \_\_\_\_ *(saints of the day)*, of the holy and righteous ancestors of God, Joachim and Anna, and of all the saints: have mercy on us and save us, for He is good and the Friend of man.

*People:* Amen.

*The commitment cards are distributed as people leave.*