

A LITANY OF SENDING  
National Workshop on Christian Unity 2006, San José  
Opening Worship, 08 May 2006

The young Church reminds us of our mission and our commission

Let us be a church rooted in faith:  
Christ and Christ alone at the center,  
his hope for a church united our goal. Amen!

Let us be a church that really struggles to be one,  
and that is serious about seeking unity. Amen!

Let us be a Church unafraid to dialogue,  
unafraid to discuss even difficult issues  
but always with honesty and respect. Amen!

Let us be a Church unafraid to dream of being one,  
a Church that is willing to take risks  
to bring about the unity for which Christ prayed. Amen!

Let us be a Church that is in tune with the world around us,  
dealing with the real concerns of real people,  
a Church that matters,  
making a real difference in people's lives. Amen!

Let us be an inclusive Church  
in which no one feels unwelcome or unwanted,  
no matter what, no matter what. Amen!

Let us be a witnessing Church:  
witnessing to the call to be one,  
witnessing to the poverty of Christ in a consumer society,  
witnessing to justice and peace in the midst of injustice and war. Amen!

Let us be a Church that shows the face of Christ  
the face of compassion, forgiveness, and love,  
a Church in which all are servants. Amen!

Let us be a confident Church,  
one that is not gloomy and without joy,  
but a Church that laughs. Amen!

Let us be a Church that seeks to know and follow the Lord, not perfectly, but ever more closely.  
Amen!

Let us be a Church that forgives and asks for forgiveness. Amen!

Let us be a Church that perseveres in the teaching of the apostles,  
in the breaking of the bread and in prayer. Amen!

Finally, let us be a Church that has priorities,  
a Church in which there is a priority of persons over things,  
of truth over expediency,  
a Church where there is a priority of love over all else,  
a Church in which we say that the greatest of all,  
of everything, is love. Amen!