

■ A Litany of Confession

Before you, O Lord, we are ashamed, for we have brought division into the work of your creation.

Response: Lord, have mercy upon us.

We have drawn boundaries between your children, whether of race or nation or culture or class.

Response: Lord, have mercy upon us.

We have been intolerant and scornful of our Native and Metis brothers and sisters; we have often sought to triumph over them.

Response: Lord, have mercy upon us.

We have forgotten the beam in our own eye, seeing only the mote in our neighbor's eye.

Response: Lord, have mercy upon us.

We have tried to impose our standards and values on other people and judged them harshly when they failed to comply.

Response; Lord, have mercy upon us.

Prevent us, O Lord, from resting easy in our state of division. Save us from regarding as normal that which is an offence against humanity and a rejection of your will.

Response: Unite us in justice and in love.

Deliver us from a spirit of narrowness, bitterness or prejudice. Teach us to recognize the gifts of other cultures and other ways of living.

Response: Unite us in justice and in love.

By your power, O God, heal the wounds of the past, grant us humility and courage in the present, and lead us in obedience to a new future.

Response: We ask in Christ's name. Amen.