A LITANY OF THANKSGIVING

Leader: Let us give thanks for the gifts and graces of the great expressions of Christ's Church:

For the ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH; its respect for Sacred Scripture and Tradition, its discipline in holiness, its worship, rich with deep sacramental meaning, its noble

company of martyrs, doctors and saints;

PEOPLE: WE THANK YOU, LORD, AND BLESS YOUR HOLY NAME.

Leader: For the ANGLICAN TRADITION; its reverent and temperate ways, and for its yearning

for healing the divisions of Christendom through its Catholic heritage and protestant

spirit:

PEOPLE: WE THANK YOU, LORD, AND BLESS YOUR HOLY NAME.

Leader: For the PROTESTANT AND EVANGELICAL COMMUNIONS; for the UNITED

CHURCH OF CHRIST and for the CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DISCIPLES) and their

concerns for rightful independence of the souls and of the group;

PEOPLE: WE THANK YOU, LORD, AND BLESS YOUR HOLY NAME.

Leader: For the BAPTIST CHURCHES, emphasizing the primacy of personal regeneration and

the conscious relation of the mature soul to its Lord;

PEOPLE: WE THANK YOU, LORD, AND BLESS YOUR HOLY NAME.

Leader: For the witness among METHODISTS to awaken the conscience of Christians to social

evils; and for their emphasis on the witness of experience and the fruit of disciplined life;

PEOPLE: WE THANK YOU, LORD, AND BLESS YOUR HOLY NAME.

Leader: For the PRESBYTERIAN AND REFORMED; their reverence for the sovereignty of

God and God's faithfulness to the covenant; for their sense of equality before God

expressing itself in constitutional government;

PEOPLE: WE THANK YOU, LORD, AND BLESS YOUR HOLY NAME.

Leader: For the LUTHERAN CHURCHES; their devotion to the grace of God and the Word of

God, enshrined in the ministry of Word and Sacrament, and for their gift of music;

PEOPLE: WE THANK YOU, LORD, AND BLESS YOUR HOLY NAME.

Leader: For the ORTHODOX CHURCHES; their treasures of mystical experience; their rich

liturgy, their regard for the collective life and the common will as a source of authority;

PEOPLE: WE THANK YOU, LORD, AND BLESS YOUR HOLY NAME.

Leader: For the witness to the inner light in every person born by the RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF

FRIENDS and their faithful ministry of nonviolence and witness to peacemaking;

PEOPLE: WE THANK YOU, LORD, AND BLESS YOUR HOLY NAME.

Leader: For the PENTECOSTAL TRADITION with its emphasis on the gifts of the spirit, of

praise & worship, and the sanctifying power of the Holy spirit by whose indwelling

Christians are able to live a holy and separated life in this present world;

PEOPLE: WE THANK YOU, LORD, AND BLESS YOUR HOLY NAME.

Leader: For the numerous FREE CHURCHES, living and proclaiming the gospel in simplicity, in

slums and country places and towns, speaking the Gospel to those unwelcome or

uninspired in other congregations;

PEOPLE: WE THANK YOU, LORD, AND BLESS YOUR HOLY NAME.

ALL: O GOD, GRANT TO ALL THESE FAMILIES WITHIN YOUR GREAT CHURCH,

THAT AS THEY COME FROM THE EAST AND FROM THE WEST TO SIT DOWN IN YOUR KINGDOM, EACH MAY PLACE AT YOUR FEET THAT SPECIAL GIFT AND GRACE WITH WHICH YOU IN TIMES PAST HAVE ENDOWED IT, IN

CHRIST, AMEN.

Leader: In heartfelt thanks for our time together, we join with the community of saints in all times

and places using the petition our Lord has taught us. Our Father Who art in heaven. . .