

## A. OPENING PRAYER

O God,  
you are the gathering one  
who calls us into community  
with each other  
to love and work,  
to support and heal.

You are the gathering one  
who calls us into community  
with all people;  
to bring justice and hope,  
freedom and truth.

You are the gathering one  
who calls us into community  
with the whole creation;  
to live in harmony,  
to cherish and renew.

Let us worship the God  
who makes us one.

## B. READING

Colossians 3:11-14

## C. LITANY OF CONFESSION

God, we believe you have called us to unity,  
but often we have isolated ourselves from  
others; forgive us for the times we have  
turned our backs on those who are different.

God, we believe you have called us to live  
together as one body; forgive us for the  
times we have created division within your  
worldwide church.

God, we believe you ask us to look, listen,  
and learn from others; forgive us for the  
times we have ridiculed and attacked those  
with different viewpoints.

God, we believe you ask us to accept and  
seek to understand all who are called by  
your name; forgive us for the times we have  
offended you by failing to love others as we  
do ourselves.

God, we believe you call us to be one even  
as you are one; forgive us for the disunity  
we have harboured and make us one.

God and Creator of all humankind, your son  
Jesus Christ prayed that your church might  
be one even as you our God are one. May  
you renew our minds and rekindle your love  
in our hearts, so that by the power of the  
Spirit, we might find the Oneness that you  
intend for us.

**Amen.**

## D. SOFT EYES BLESSING

*"And all the believers met together  
constantly, and shared everything they  
had..." Acts 2:44*

May the God who is community  
be with us as we seek to be a community

May God bless our dreams  
and may God shatter our dreams

May God help us to be real and to find  
depth in weakness and brokenness

May God help us to face and grow through  
conflict rather than pretend by being nice

May we look at each other through soft eyes  
and truly respect each other as human  
beings

May God help us let go of control and the  
need to fix one another

May God help us discover we are needy in  
our own souls and give attention to our own  
hearts

May God grant us the gift of an  
extraordinary love that flows from the heart  
of God that covers a multitude of wrongs

**Amen.**

## E. LET US PRAY

*"Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful." (Col 3:15)*

Let us pray ...

## F. BENEDICTION

*(inspired by 2 Cor 12:9, 1 Peter 2:9)*

You are a baptised people,  
a community of hope,  
the new race dedicated to doing  
the unlikely deeds of grace,  
and sometimes even taking on the  
impossible.

**Thanks be to Christ,  
whose power is made perfect  
in human weakness.**

The blessing of the Creator,  
Redeemer and Inspirer  
will always be with you.

**Amen!**

## CREDITS

The following resources found on <https://re-worship.blogspot.com/> and adapted for this prayer sheet:

A. posted on the Monthly Prayers page of the **Christian Aid** website.

<http://www.christianaid.org.uk>

C. from the Lenten series **Journey into Wholeness** written by Christine Sine.

Published in 2009 by Mustard Seed Associates. The entire series is available on the **Godspace** website.

<http://godspace.wordpress.com/>

D. written by Anna, and posted on the **Grace** website worship archive.

<http://www.freshworship.org/>

F. written by Bruce Prewer, and posted on **Bruce Prewer's Home Page**.

<http://www.bruceprewer.com/>

Prayer sheet prepared by Rev. Irene Bom, OLM in International Presbytery of the Church of Scotland.

Compiled for the Prayer Matters blog (October 2017), inspired by the theme of the month: Together

[www.irenebom.com/prayer\\_matters](http://www.irenebom.com/prayer_matters)

# prayer sheet



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rule in your hearts, since  
as members of one body  
you were called to peace.  
And be thankful."*

*(Col 3:15)*

Theme

**Called into community**