

One in Christ: The Power of Christian Community

For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. (Romans 12:4-5)

Leader: As Jesus calls us to follow him,

People: He also calls us to create a unique type of community.

Leader: Empowered by his Spirit and focused on his ongoing presence,

People: We become one, transcending barriers of race, socioeconomic class, and theological slants.

Leader: We acknowledge that the experience of community, whether it be in the church, the Sunday school room, or the family is the most formative power in a child's life.

People: We therefore commit ourselves to becoming profoundly loving, grace-filled, and division-free communities.

Leader: We further recognize that the community called "church" is the very presence of Jesus in the world.

People: We therefore commit ourselves to embodying the love of God in service to the world around us.

Leader: By the power of your Spirit, heal our divisions

People: Make us humble, gentle, and gracious,

Leader: So that those who sojourn with us,

People: Those who encounter us beyond our walls,

Leader: and those who watch us from afar,

People: May all experience your presence through us.

All: Amen.

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