Litanies for Churches
Inspired by Transformed & Transforming

Note: These litanies were originally produced by delegates to General Synod 2013 as they met in all-synod advisory groups to consider, react creatively to, and modify Transformed & Transforming. The three priorities of this ministry plan are cultivating transformation in Christ, equipping emerging leaders of today and tomorrow, and engaging in Christ’s kingdom mission.

1. We celebrate: Yielding to the Spirit’s call, we are willing to radically and passionately follow Christ into mission.

   We declare: We will allow the Spirit to give focus where we now see breadth, we will choose trust over anxiety, and we will give voice to the voiceless. And we commit to follow the Spirit rather than simply being swayed by the process.

   We look forward with hope: While there are some tears at what is left out, the fresh wind of youth and transformation of this new focus should propel us into motion that’s been long overdue.

2. Litany for commitment to Transformed & Transforming

   The Holy Spirit is inviting us to be transformed into the image of Christ. Will we respond?
   
   We will, the Lord being our helper.

   The Holy Spirit is engaging us to equip leaders for the next generation. Will we empower them?

   We will, the Lord being our helper.

   The Holy Spirit is leading us into mission. Will we follow?

   We will, the Lord being our helper.

3. Affirmations for God’s call to our church

   • We affirm and celebrate a vision as deep and wide, and in doing so, we long for clearer entry points that make it less overwhelming.

   • We affirm and celebrate themes that are embracing of so much ministry and so many people, and in doing so, we long for unique commitments that make this more than just a little something for everyone.

   • We affirm and celebrate content that is deeply inclusive and asks much, and in doing so, we long for more clarity on what exactly it is asking of us, as individual leaders, churches, and as a whole denomination.

   • We affirm the good to which this can lead us, and in doing so, we long to name and claim the cost of our discipleship.
4. Renew our vision, Lord
   We’re called to live like Jesus lives
   To love the way he loves
   Including and embracing all of his people
   O Holy Spirit, be our guide
   Renew our vision, Lord
   Our God is calling for the young
   To lead his church in mission
   To minister both near and far
   To reach a world that needs him so
   Renew our vision, Lord
   God is calling us to go
   To take the gospel to the lost
   We are his hands, his feet, and his heart
   We are the love of God
   Renew our vision, Lord

5. A litany of lament and celebration

   We lament that we have a history of too little, too late;
   We celebrate that we will radically follow Christ in mission together.

   We lament that we haven’t listened to our younger and diverse voices;
   We celebrate new opportunities to cultivate diverse and healthy leaders.

   We lament that we have words only;
   We celebrate that we’re called to serve as agents of change by putting our faith into action.

   We lament that fear has held us back;
   We celebrate the power of the Holy Spirit to bring about deep change in us.