

June 6, 2017

*Leader: Lord God, creator of everything, father and mother to us all, hear our prayers today.*

People: Lord, open our hearts to receive you.

*Leader: We admit that our affections and our attentions are divided, and that we often listen to other voices more attentively than to yours. Open our hearts and our ears, Lord.*

People: Lord, open us to your healing.

*Leader: We admit that we deny our need to be healed, that it's only other people who are ill. Lord, grant us a longing for the health only you can bring.*

People: Lord, open us to your future.

*Leader: Some days the future frightens us; it appears so different from our past. And yet, you are the Lord of the ages and whatever future is in store, assure us that you will walk with us.*

People: Lord, what are you calling us to embrace?

*Leader: We confess our reluctance to welcome what must be added to us in changing times. Lord, what are we missing that you'd have us welcome into our hearts, into our families, into our church, into our community?*

People: Lord, of what are you calling us to let go?

*Leader: We hang onto what's familiar as if our lives depended on it. If there are things we'd be better off giving up, teach us Lord what they are and give us courage to let go.*

People: Lord, what are you calling us to live into?

*Leader: We can't see what the future looks like. Nor can we imagine how we will live if this or that happens. Since you know the future as well as the past, we confess our need of your guidance and companionship as we navigate unfamiliar vistas.*

All: Lord, refresh our tired minds and hearts, refocus our eyes on what is good, what is holy, what is centered on you. Renew our flagging spirits and give us abiding hope for whatever tomorrow you have in mind for us.

Amen.