

# COMMISSIONING LITANY

**Leader:** Today we approach the God who formed order from the chaos.

**Participants:** In him, we live and move and have our being. (Acts 17:28)

**Leader:** The God we worship is great, mighty, above all, before all and after all.

**Participants:** Shout for joy all the earth. Worship the Lord with gladness; come before him with joyful songs. (Psalm 100:1)

**Women:** He comforts all of those who mourn and provides for those who grieve in Zion – to bestow on them a crown of beauty instead of ashes.

**Men:** He gives the oil of joy instead of mourning, a garment of praise instead of a spirit of despair.

**All:** We will be called oaks of righteousness, a planting of the Lord for the display of his splendor. (Isaiah 61:2-3)

**Leader:** If you, Lord, kept a record of sins who could stand?

**Participants:** But with you there is forgiveness, so that we can, with reverence, serve you. (Psalm 130:3-4)

**Leader:** Praise the Lord, oh my soul, and forget not his benefits.

**Women:** Who forgives all of your sins and who heals all your diseases.

**Men:** Who redeems your life from the pit and crowns you with love and compassion.

**All:** Who satisfies your desires with good things so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's. (Psalm 103:2-5)

**Leader:** In Ezekiel's day, God searched among humanity for someone who would go on his behalf, but found no one. (Ezekiel 22:30)

**Participants:** But Christ has been his faithful servant.

**Women:** I am one who is in Christ.

**Men:** I am one who is in Christ.

**Participants:** Therefore, God, among this generation, may you find us all faithful, eager, and full of hope for your kingdom to come and your will to be done.

**Leader:** To heal the wounded.

**All:** Here I am Lord, send me.

**Leader:** To protect the vulnerable.

**All:** Here I am Lord, send me.

**Leader:** To be people of joy and celebration.

**All:** Here I am Lord, send me.

**Leader:** To raise the cry for justice.

**All:** Here I am Lord, send me.

**Leader:** To tell of the God's soon coming kingdom.

**All:** Here I am Lord, send me.

**Leader:** Breathe upon us, breath of God, for Jesus' sake.

**All:** Amen!

*(This is a commissioning prayer for use by the Host Churches. Please use it to dedicate your week and your congregation, along with the SERVE participants, to the Lord.)*