

Confession, Forgiveness, and Call to Action

Lent 2019/2020 – Written by the Westwood Youth

Leader:

God, you have given us a world rich with diversity made in your image.

Congregation:

We are sorry for not understanding that our truth and reality are not the only truth and reality.

Leader:

You call us to reconciliation and wholeness.

Congregation:

We are sorry for the times we assumed others would do the work of reconciliation and haven't done it ourselves.

Leader:

You ask that we love our neighbor.

Congregation:

We are sorry for putting limits on your love.

Leader:

You remind us that the fullness of your kingdom is not yet realized.

Congregation:

We are sorry for avoiding difficult conversations and distancing ourselves from the systems and ideas that continue to divide us.

Leader:

God, who is rich in mercy, forgives our sins and grants us hope for wholeness. This God also calls us to action so that all people who make up the body of Christ may be restored to one another.

Congregation:

God of compassion, help us to stand up, stand for, and stand with those who are harmed and marginalized by unbalanced systems and ideologies.

Give us courage to have hard conversations, to live into discomfort, and to meet with each other without shame or defensiveness for the healing of the world.

Leader:

Forgiven and freed, called and sent, let us join God as co-workers for a healed kingdom here on earth.

Congregation:

Amen.

You are welcome to use it in your worship services with credit to the youth at Westwood Lutheran Church.