

Litany for 2018 Presbyterian General Assembly Thursday 4 October 2018

Based on Ephesians Chapter 2 verse 13 to Chapter 3 verse 2

Great God of all, when the British troops crossed the Mangatawhiri River to subdue the Waikato iwi, our nation was divided in two.

Christ, forgive and unite.

When the colonial government confiscated the land of tangata whenua including those whose guardianship it had promised to respect, our nation was divided in two.

Christ, forgive and unite.

When the police arrested Rua Kenana and government troops invaded the peace-making community of Parihaka, our nation was divided in two.

Christ, forgive and unite.

When the homes of Pacific peoples were raided at dawn from the 1970s to the 1980s, our nation was divided in two.

Christ, forgive and unite.

When the government imposed a poll tax on Chinese arriving in New Zealand, discouraging settlement, our nation was divided in two.

Christ, forgive and unite.

When women are not paid equally or treated justly or their lives made safe or their gifts valued, our nation is divided in two.

Christ, forgive and unite.

When the government reduced benefits in 1991, the gap between rich and poor widened overnight and remains today, our nation divided in two.

Christ, forgive and unite.

When our nation fails to overcome child poverty and reduce imprisonment rates and improve the educational outcomes for all people, our nation is divided.

Christ, forgive and unite.

When our church reflects the divisions of our nation, our church is divided.

Christ, forgive and unite.

Silence ...

“That Christ might create in himself one new humanity ... we pray, come Lord Jesus, come, come soon, come now, come here, flood our hearts and spirits with love and compassion.

Amen