

Community/Unity

“To you, O Son of God, Lord Jesus Christ, as you pray to the eternal Father, we pray, make us one in him. Lighten our personal distress and that of our society. Receive us into the fellowship of those who believe. Turn our hearts, O Christ, to everlasting truth and healing harmony.”

- Philip Melanchthon

“We give thanks for our friends.

Our dear friends.

We anger each other.

We fail each other.

We share this sad earth, this tender life,
this precious time.

Such richness. Such wildness.

Together we are blown about.

Together we are dragged along.

All this delight.

All this suffering.

All this forgiving life.

We hold it together.

Amen.”

- Michael Leunig

“Concerning love among believers: You have taught us, O God, to love each other and we are to love each other more and more.”

- 1 Thessalonians 4:9-10

“O Lord Jesus, because, being full of foolishness, we often sin and have to ask pardon, help us to forgive as we would be forgiven, neither mentioning old offenses committed against us, nor dwelling upon them in thought, nor being influenced by them in heart; but loving each other freely, as you freely love us; for your name's sake. Amen.”

- Christina Rossetti

“We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord
And we pray that our unity will one day be restored
And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love
Yes they'll know we are Christians by our love.”

- Peter Scholtes

“O Lord... may we learn to love you whom we have not seen, by loving our brothers and sisters whom we have seen. Teach us, O heavenly Father, the love by which you have loved us; fashion us, O blessed Lord, after your own example of love; shed abroad, O Holy Spirit of love, the love of God... in our hearts.”

- Henry Alford