

ACOP Solemn Assembly

Prayer of Repentance

May 17, 2022

“Lord, the God of heaven, the great and awesome God, who keeps his covenant of love with those who love him and keep his commandments, let your ear be attentive and your eyes open to hear the prayer your servant is praying on behalf of the people of ACOP.

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.

We **confess** that we have taken that which should have been a doctrinal distinctive and elevated it above the mission of the church. This has led to sectarianism and spiritual pride, for this we **repent**. We **confess** that we have also carried this sectarian spirit to other nations – for this we also **repent**. Lord, we humble ourselves and **resolve** to embrace your whole church.

We acknowledge that the kingdom of God prefers collaboration, interdependence and community. Whereas the kingdom of darkness prefers independence and individualism. We **confess** that too often we have chosen independence and individualism and done what was right in our own eyes, for this we **repent**. Lord, help us to **recognize and demonstrate** that we are better together.

We have not prioritized aggressive evangelism and disciple making. We **confess** that too often, our altars have been barren and our baptismal tanks empty, for this we **repent**. Lord, we **recommit** ourselves to the great commission, and we ask that your Holy Spirit would give us a fresh passion for the lost.

We **confess** that we have sinned against one another and against you by not dealing redemptively with sexual sin. For this we **repent** and ask that by your grace you would **enable** us to say “No” to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present evil age.

We acknowledge we have not always welcomed the work of the Holy Spirit as we should. We confess that at times, we have reacted to excesses and extremes and in so doing we have grieved and quenched the genuine work of the Holy Spirit. For this we **repent** and ask with the Psalmist “Will you not **revive us again**, that your people may rejoice in you?”

Lord, your word says if we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. Today, we have **confessed** and **repented** of our historic sins, and we stand on your promise that you will forgive us and purify us from all unrighteousness, and we **resolve** that by God’s grace our future will be different from our past.

In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ we pray.

AMEN

(Parts of this prayer were taken from: Nehemiah 1; Acts 26; II Timothy 2; Titus 2; Psalm 85, I John 1)