Prayers to accompany the Church in Wales Dignity Charter

Prayer 1a Short form

Generous God,
you created all people in your own image
and crowned them with glory and honour.
Enable us to treat each other with dignity and respect.
Nurture in us the gifts of your Holy Spirit
so that we may lift up the lowly
and act towards all in the manner of Christ,
the servant King,
he who died for us,
rose again,
and lives for ever in the power of love.
Amen.

Prayer 1b Original form

Generous God,
you created your people in your own image
and crowned them with glory and honour.
In the fullness of time,
you sent your Son to reveal your saving grace
and pour out your abundant life,
to lift up the lowly
and establish the reign of righteousness, peace and joy.
Enable us to treat each other with dignity and respect,
nurture in us the gifts of your Holy Spirit
and form our character in the likeness of Christ,
the servant King,
he who died for us,
rose again,
and lives for ever in the power of love.
Amen.

Prayer 2 A meditative prayer – for personal use

Generous God,
you created us, male and female, in your image and according to your likeness,
to rule creation with wisdom and integrity.
You crown us with glory and honour

and teach us to thirst for your reign,
full of righteousness, peace and joy.

We give thanks that you pour your mercy on us in Christ, your Son,
and in the one Spirit baptise us into one body.
As members of Christ's body,
enable us to treat each other with dignity and respect,
both within the church and in our communities.

Inspire us anew through the example of Jesus,
your living Word, full of grace and truth,
for in in him, you lift up the lowly
and humble the proud and arrogant.

Teach us, each day, to shine Christ's light at every opportunity,
to choose wise words which speak truth in love
and to be aware of all that is communicated beyond words.

Help us to reflect deeply on the quality of our relationships with others,
form habits of compassion within us,
and as we acknowledge our misuse of power
lead us to true repentance and renewal.

Through your Holy Spirit,
mould our character that we may truly be like him
who brought forgiveness to the contrite,
healing to the afflicted,
and newness of life to all as your beloved children.

Restore us as friends and followers of the one
  who washed his disciples' feet,
  was betrayed by sinners,
  and died for us under the oppressive weight of the powerful.
Free your people from every chain
and raise us to share in his risen life,
proclaiming the eternal victory of love.

We ask this in the name of our servant King,
Jesus Christ, our living Lord.
Amen.

This prayer includes many biblical allusions, including Genesis 1:26 - 28; Psalm 8:4; Romans 14:17; Ephesians 2:4; 1 Corinthians 12:13; John 1:17; Luke 1:51-53; Ephesians 4:15; John 13:5.