

## **FOR THE COURAGE TO ACT**

God, our creator and our sustainer,  
You loved us long before we knew ourselves to be loveable,  
And love us still.

Give us, we pray,  
A greater awareness of your love for all people,  
And a confidence in the action of your grace in us and in your church.

Inspire us with a greater sensitivity to the poor and the oppressed.

Give us the courage to act  
And teach us to do WITH rather than FOR the poor.

We praise you today  
For your mysterious ways among us:  
For your presence in the midst of human affairs  
In ways that we do not always understand.

By the power of your Spirit,  
May we grow in the truth that impels us to act justly,  
And thus give expression to compassion as Jesus did.

This we ask through this same Jesus Christ,  
who lives among us as friend and Savior.

Amen.