**A PRAYER FOR THE ACT ALLIANCE, UPON ITS 10th ANNIVERSARY**

Holy God, at the dawn of this new decade, we come together as the ACT Alliance to speak words of gratitude and commitment: for you are a God of justice, of compassion, and of peace, and all that we are and hope to be is a reflection of your love and longing for the world you have created, and those who inhabit it.

Looking back at the journey we have shared, we are grateful for ten years of common vision, effort and commitment, *“towards a world community where all God’s creation lives with dignity, justice, peace and full respect for human rights and the environment.”* We came together with a vision that is both noble and ambitious, across significant barriers of location, experience, values, and resources; intending to be one people, one Alliance, equitable in commitment and practice. We acknowledge with humility that each accomplishment has had its share of missteps and each effort toward your kin-dom has demanded a deepening commitment to listening and speaking truths that are sometimes difficult and painful.

Therefore, we are grateful for those who speak the truth in love; the gifts of repentance and forgiveness, and the building of trust that empowers us to continue to be transformed together. With hearts full of gratitude, we celebrate many accomplishments, made possible because our service, our *diakonia*, has been both ecumenical and global. We thank you for the many whose vision has brought us to this day, the staff who tend that vision with diligence and skill, and the thousands of people whose work and commitments make this Alliance real.

God of Creation, who brooded over chaos and brought forth life, we praise you for the resources and opportunities through which we have together challenged powers and principalities, repaired and restored your wounded earth, and empowered your peoples to protect the environment and fight the effects of climate change.

Christ of Compassion, who healed the sick, spoke truth to power and made all humanity one family, we celebrate the good will, effective partnerships, and generous resources that have enabled us, through you, to be a healing presence in the wake of conflict, flood, storm, earthquake, wind and fire; responding to urgent needs, tending to spiritual and emotional brokenness, and walking together the long road toward rebuilding and recovery. We bless you for the wisdom, experience and resources that have guided our shared efforts toward global development rooted in the voice and experience of the local. We thank you for helping us to see your face in the face of refugees and displaced peoples, enabling us to hear their stories with compassion and to care for those on the move as we would care for you.

Spirit of justice; though our circumstances and traditions are many, still we stand with you on the side of those who have been disempowered and silenced, and we bless you for your transcendent Presence that makes us one voice, lifted across countless halls of power and privilege, to lift up your people.

Help us—to live more fully into the vision of equity in which the voices of the vulnerable are those heard first and last.

God of unity: we are grateful for each communion, each organization, each partner—be they local, national, regional or global—who, together, make up this body we call the ACT Alliance. Though we are many, you have called us to transcend our differences, honor all voices, to be the hands and heart of Christ among your beloved peoples, wherever there is need. In a wounded and dangerous world, we work as one to repair, rebuild, speak out, and renew. To this continuing vision, leaving none behind, by your grace alone, we commend ourselves and our future. In the Name of the Redeeming One, our Lord Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.