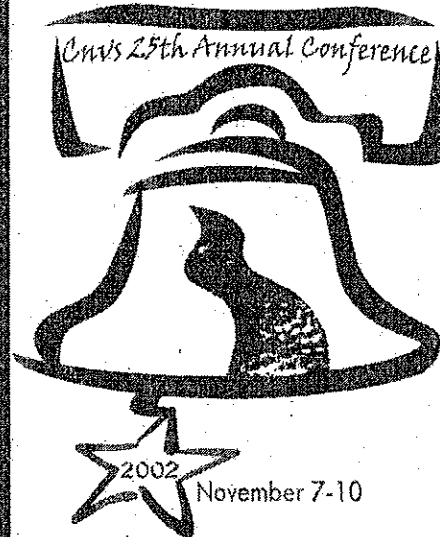


# Closing Prayer

## November 10, 2002

Philadelphia

Hear Ye! Hear Ye!



*Inroads to Freedom:  
A Holy Experiment*

*"For my country I eyed the Lord in the obtaining  
of it, and more was I drawn inward to look to him  
and to owe it to his hand and power,  
than to any other way.  
I have so obtained it and desire that I may not be  
unworthy of his love  
and do that which may answer his kind providence  
and serve his truth and people;  
that an example may be set up to the nations;  
there may be room there though not here for such  
a holy experiment."*

*WILLIAM PENN*

## Call to Worship Gathering Song

\*GOD OF ABRAHAM

Bernadette Farrell

VERSES: Cantor All  
(Petition .....); lead us to your king - dom.

Cantor All 1, etc. to Verses  
(Petition .....), lead us \_ to-geth-er, lead us \_ to free-dom.

Final  
lead us \_ to free - dom. Lead us \_ to free - dom now.

\*Petitions available in accompaniment books. ©1990, Bernadette Farrell.  
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## Call to Prayer Leader of Prayer

Jesus said, "I am the light of the world..."

Whoever follows me will have the light of life and will never walk in darkness

### Let us Pray

Lord as the brightness of your presence fills this room may we be open to your creative spirit as experience our past and prepare for our future, in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen

#### First Speaker

We recall the gift of integrity that reminds us of our coming together on Thursday evening. Integrity avoids complicating one's relationships. Integrity brings us closer to the truth and we know that Jesus told us that truth will set us free. As we light our integrity candle let us pray that we might always walk in the light of the truth.

#### Second Speaker

We now recall the gift of simplicity and our events from this Friday. Simplicity requires integrity which is honesty in all our activities and a consistent adherence to one's values. As we light our simplicity candle we pray for the gift of simplicity in our actions that we may not be distracted from our relationship with you, O God of all goodness

#### Third Speaker

We now recall the gifts of peace and community that binds us together, one mind and heart intent upon God. In order to attain peace we must work for justice in our world. When we have achieved peace through justice we will find community. As we light our peace and community candles we pray that we will not ever lose sight of these values and promise to actively work towards these goals for all humankind.

## *Readings*

*Let us light the final candle—that is equality. As we have gathered here in the city of Philadelphia where the foundation of our freedoms were first constructed, we pray that through the words of William Penn and his followers we might continue to open the minds and hearts of volunteers throughout the world to the value of their faith and service to God and one another as we all strive to live as one.*

Worship is our response to an awareness of God. We can worship alone, but when we join with others in expectant waiting we may discover a deeper sense of God's presence. We seek a gathered stillness in our gathering so that all may feel the power of God's love drawing us together and leading us. We enter with reverence into communion with God and respond to the promptings of the Holy Spirit.

In the silence ask for and accept the prayerful support of others joined with you in prayer. Try to find a spiritual wholeness which encompasses suffering as well as thankfulness and joy. Prayer, springing from a deep place in the heart, may bring healing and unity as nothing else can.

Be honest with yourself. What unpalatable truths might you be evading? When you recognize your shortcomings, do not let that discourage you. Together we can find the assurance of God's love and the strength to go on with renewed courage. When you are preoccupied and distracted, let wayward and disturbing thoughts give way quietly to your awareness of God's presence among us and in the world.

Receive the vocal ministry of others in a tender and creative spirit. Reach for the meaning deep within it, recognizing that even if it is not God's word for you, it may be so for others. Remember that we all share responsibility in this gathering whether our contribution is in our silence or through the spoken word.

Do not assume that vocal ministry is never to be your part. Faithfulness and sincerity in speaking, even very briefly, may open the way to fuller ministry from others. When prompted to speak, wait patiently to know that the leading and the time are right, but do not let a sense of your own unworthiness hold you back.

Pray that your sharing may arise from deep experience, and trust that words will be given to you. Try to speak audibly and distinctly, and with sensitivity to the needs of others. Beware of speaking predictably or too often, and of making additions towards when it was well said before.

Each of us has a particular experience of God and each must find the way to be true to it. When words are strange or disturbing to you, try to sense where they come from and what has nourished the lives of others. Listen patiently and seek the truth which other people's opinions may contain for you.

## *Reflective Silence & Time for Sharing*

*Individuals will be invited to share their thoughts about the conference.*

## *Responsorial Song*

Psalm 104

© 1982 by Paul Wrynn  
& Shawn Tracy

Send forth your Spir - it, O God,  
and re - new the face of the earth. earth.

### *“Experiencing the Past and Preparing for the Future”*

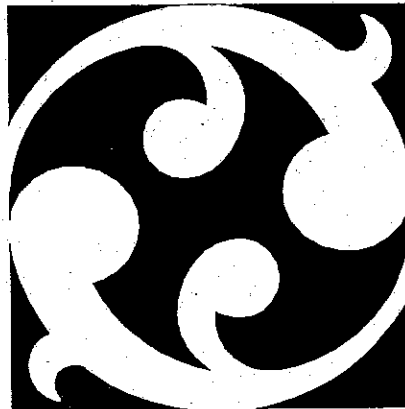
Jim Lindsay

Executive Director of CNVS

### *Reading*

Luke 10: 1-10

*The Mission of the Seventy-two*



**Blessing and Sharing of Bread**  
*(Blessing is taken from the rituals of many faiths)*

**Memorial Chant**



We praise you, we bless you, we give you thanks...

*Speaker One*

Shared bread is the experience of the people as community  
and therefore the experience of God;  
it is communion at once human and divine  
Because the loaf of bread is one,  
we, many though we are, are one body,  
for we all partake of the one body.  
If then, in the church one goes hungry  
while another has more than needed  
the reality of the church is violated

*Speaker Two*

This is the bread of affliction  
which our ancestors ate in the land of Egypt.  
May all who are hungry come and eat.  
May all who are in need  
share in this Festival

*Speaker Three*

Blessed are you Lord God of the Universe  
you are the giver of this bread,  
fruit of the earth and of human labor,  
let it become the bread of life

*Speaker Four*

In our contentment,  
O God, help us to see the uprooted people of the world  
who drift lie shadows, nameless and homeless;  
that we may share with them part of our bread  
for bread is to be broken and shared

*Each table will send a representative forth to take the blessed  
and broken bread to be shared by on another. Leftover bread will be brought to a local soup kitchen  
Instrumental Music will be played while bread is distributed.*

## Song of Praise

# I SHALL SING YOUR PRAISE

♩ = 90

Inspired by Psalm 90

© 1978 by Shawn Tracy, o.s.a.

1

1. I shall sing your praise, ~ O Lord.  
 2. Wake me in the dawn of each day.  
 3. Long be - fore the earth was — born,  
 4. We shall live for - e - - - - ver.

5

1. Fill me with your love, ~ O Lord. 1. You  
 2. Guide me by your light through the day. 2. Hold  
 3. long be - fore the hills were — formed, 3. you  
 4. We shall lift our voice - - - - es. 4. Sing-

10

have lived for - e - - - ver, Lord, and  
 me when at night I lay down, and  
 have been for - e - - - ver, ~  
 ing all your prais - - - - es, and

13

1. I shall sing, for joy.  
 2. I shall sing for joy.  
 3. fill us with your joy.  
 4. we shall sing for joy.

### *Closing Blessing*

We are going to bless our own selves. As a sign of incarnation, we will use the ancient gesture of the laying on of hands.

Touch your eyes with your hands and say:  
Bless my eyes that I may see clearly.

Touch your mouth with your hands and say:  
Bless my mouth which breaks the silence of centuries and speaks now my truth.

Touch your ears with your hands and say:  
Bless my ears that I might hear my own words,  
thoughts and feelings and those of everyone near me.

Touch your heart with your hands and say:  
Bless my heart that I might be open to friendship and love.

Touch your feet with your hands and say:  
Bless my feet so that I might travel each step firmly and with courage during my life's path.

Touch your sisters and brothers who are about you and say:  
Bless me and my sister and brother.

*Barbara de Souza, Brazil*

### *Leader of Prayer*

The light of this candle is now extinguished.  
But the light of Christ in each of us must continue to shine in our lives  
Toward this end we promise to pray for each other in our ministries.

*Leader of Prayer*  
Let us go forth in Peace

All  
Thanks be to God

## Ending Song

### 718 We Are Called

Verses



1. Come! Live in the light!  
2. Come! O - pen your heart!  
3. Sing! Sing a new song!



Shine with the joy and the love of the Lord! We are  
Show your mer - cy to all those in fear! We are  
Sing of that great day when all will be one! God will



called to be light for the king - dom, to  
called to be hope for the hope - less so all  
reign, and we'll walk with each oth - er as



live in the free - dom of the cit - y of God!  
ha - tred and blind - ness will be no more!  
sis - ters and broth - ers u - ni - ted in love!

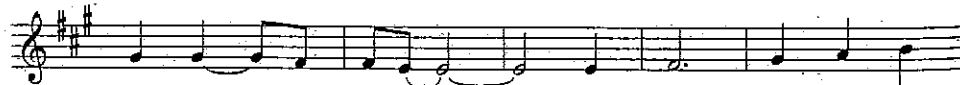
Refrain



We are called to act with jus - tice, we are



called to love ten - der - ly, we are called to



serve one an - oth - er, to walk hum - bly with



God!