

**LEADER:** *God of creation, you fashioned the sun, moon and stars, the fish of the sea, the plants of the garden, and you set the world in delicate motion.*

**ALL:** *You created man and woman. You made us in your image, and you gave us charge to rule over your creation.*

**LEADER:** *Humankind's relationship with you was shattered on that dreadful day in the Garden of Eden when we rebelled against you, and watched the effects of our rebellion tarnish every aspect of your once perfect creation.*

**ALL:** *Through thorns, pain, and confusion, we heard your promise to crush the evil one and bring about your shalom. We experienced the Grace of your covenant love when your son, Jesus Christ, took our punishment with Him on the cross at Calvary.*

**LEADER:** *Come, let us sing for joy to the Lord; let us shout aloud to the Rock of our Salvation. We have been redeemed!*

**ALL:** *Let us come before Him with thanksgiving, and extol Him with music and song.*

**LEADER:** *For you, O Lord, are the great God, the great King above all gods. You write your commandments on our hearts; you tell us to impress them on our children, to talk about them when we sit at home, when we walk along the road, when we lie down, and when we get up.*

**ALL:** *You command us to love you above all, and our neighbor as ourselves, to act justly and to love mercifully, and to walk humbly with you, our God.*

**LEADER:** *You have promised to be our God. We are grateful that your covenant promise extends to our children.*

**ALL:** *We profess that our children are yours, O Lord. We promise to teach them your way by the light of your word. We promise to equip them to lead lives of grateful service to you.*

**LEADER:** *Lord, we thank you for Christian schools. Bless them as they reveal the truth that Christ is the victor. Therefore, the lives we live are lives of gratitude for His redeeming love.*

**ALL:** *We pray that as your people, we will not copy the behaviors and customs of this world, but we will be different persons with a fresh newness in all we do and think, as you use us to reclaim what sin has destroyed. AMEN*

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