**A Litany of Farewell for the Transitional Minister**

**Leader:** A church community is constantly changing. Loved ones come to the end of their lives; new lives are born and baptized into the faith community. Individuals and families come and go throughout our life together. It is important for us to recognize and mark well these times of passage, these endings and beginnings. Today we bid farewell and Godspeed to Pastor Kathy Montira who has served us as a Transitional Minister for Immanuel Lutheran Church for the past 6 months, and whose time with us has now drawn to a close.

***Pastor Kathy:*** *I thank you, the people of Immanuel Lutheran Church, both members and friends, for the love, kindness, and support you have shown me these past 6 months. I thank you for accepting my leadership and receiving me as minister in your midst for this time of transition. I recall with joy the many things we have been able to accomplish together, and with sadness the things we were not able to do. I ask your understanding and your forgiveness for the mistakes I have made and for the times I may have let you down.*

**Congregation: We receive with thankfulness the ministry you have offered us in the time we have shared. W accept that you now leave us to minister elsewhere, trusting that God goes with you on that journey. Your presence among us will not be forgotten. We are grateful for the time you have been with us and ask your forgiveness for our own shortcomings and our sometimes flagging faith.**

***Pastor Kathy:*** *I graciously accept your gratitude, forgive you your failures, as Christ has forgiven me, and trust that our time together and our parting are pleasing to Christ Jesus whom we are called to serve.*

**Leader:** Do you, the members and friends of Immanuel Lutheran Church now release Pastor Kathy Montira from the duties of Transitional Minister?

**Congregation: We do, with the help of God.**

**Leader:** Do you Pastor Kathy Montira, release Immanuel Luther Church from turning to you and relying on you to serve them as Transitional Minister?

***Pastor Kathy:*** *I do, with the help of God.*

**Leader:** Do you, Pastor Kathy Montira, offer your encouragement and prayers for the continued ministry here at Immanuel Lutheran Church?

***Pastor Kathy:*** *I do, with the help of God.*

**Leader:** Let us pray.

**Congregation: O God of all creation, whose love for all is trustworthy and true, help each of us to trust you who holds the future. During our time together we have experienced laughter and tears, hopes and disappointments. Guide us as we carry these cherished memories with us in new directions until that time when we are completely one with you and one another. In the name of Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen**

**Leader:** Go now Pastor Kathy Montira, with our blessing, surrounded by our love and led by the promises of God, the presence of Christ Jesus, and the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

**Congregation: Amen!**