**Thanksgiving Prayer for the Building Redevelopment**

Loving God, we thank you for this building that was set aside for us to meet every Sunday to worship and share our fellowship in the love for our Lord Jesus Christ

Lord of the church-hear our prayers

We thank you for all that lies behind this building, the sacrifices that have gone into its upkeep, the efforts over the years to maintain and improve this building. We thank the people who have given their time, their money, energy to make it what it is today.

Lord of the church – hear our prayers

We thank you for the memories this place holds, the ongoing events shared at this place, the activities that have taken place within these walls, the times of praise and worship the people have shared together

Lord of the church- hear our prayers

Loving God teach us to play our part in looking after this sanctuary to ensure it may serve the generations to come, as just like it has served us in our generation. Teach us to give generously when the need is put before us so that it may always be honoured to you.

Lord of the church – hear our prayers

Remind us that the fine building, the bricks, the mortar the glamour is not the Church, the people and the fellowship we share, are the church. The things we do together the way we connect with the neighbourhood are the church.

Lord of the church –hear our prayers

Above all today we thank you for the people who have been part of this church, the members, the strangers, the congregation, the people waiting at the door with love, the children and the young, the time when we meet as local united church.

We thank you for the past the people who have inspired us, offered us an example that we follow and we praise you Father God for the enrichment we have found simply through sharing together as united church in love and faith

Lord of our church – hear our prayers

Receive then our worship, accept our thanksgiving, bless our gifts, and use all that we offer this day both the people and the building towards the growth of your kingdom – In the name of your Son Jesus Christ we pray-Amen

**Susan Mthimkulu June 2016**