

Church

Unity

Commission

*Week of Prayer
for Christian Unity*

2017

Ascension to Pentecost

25 May – 4 June 2017

**In search of the unity for which our Lord prayed:
“I ask that they may all be one. As you, Father, are
in me and I am in you, may they be in us, so that
the world may believe that you have sent me.”**

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UNITY PRAYER

AFRIKAANS

Here Jesus Christus

U liefde dring ons om te getuig van U liefde vir die wêreld.
Stort die gawes oor ons uit wat ons nodig het
om ons roeping as U ambassadeurs te vervul,
sodat die wêreld in ons die nuwe skepping van 'n kerk sal
herken wat in U liefde versoen is,
en ontvanklik sal wees vir die bediening van versoening
wat U geskenk aan alle mense is.
Ons bid dit in U Naam.

Amen

ENGLISH

Lord Jesus Christ

your love compels us

to witness to your love for the world:
pour out upon us the gifts that we need
to fulfil our calling to be your ambassadors,
that the world will recognise in us
the new creation of a Church reconciled in your love,
and be open to the ministry of reconciliation
that is your gift to all people;
for we pray this in your name.

Amen

ISIXHOSA

Nkosi Yesu Krestu

uthando lwakho luyasinzanzela
ukuba silubonakalise, silungqine uthando lwakho elizweni:
thululela kuthi iziphopho ezifanelekileyo
ukuze sifeze ubizo lwethu lokuzakuba
ukuze ilizwe libone kuthi iimpawu
zeNkonzo ezelwe kutsha, exolelaniswe yamanywa
ngothando lwakho
senze sibengabaxolelanisi abayinene, oku kususiphosakho
kubo bonke abantu
oku siyakuthandaza ngegamalakho

Amen

UNITY PRAYER

ISIZULU

Nkosi Jesu Kristu

Uthando lwakho luyasikhuthaza ukuba
sifakaze ngalo emhlabeni wonke.
Siphe iziphopho esizidingayo ukuze sifeze ubizo lwethu lokuba
ngamanxusa akho.
Khona kwothi ngathi izwe libone ibandla lizelwe kabusha,
lizalelwe ukubuyisana ngothando lwakho, futhi liyilungele
inkonzo yokubuyisana,
okuyisiphosakho somusa.
Sicela lokhu ngaye uJesu Kristu iNkosi yethu.

Amen

PORTUGUESE

Senhor Jesus Cristo,

o Teu amor obriga-nos a testemunhar o Teu amor pelo
mundo; derrama sobre nós
os dons que necessitamos para cumprir
a Tua chamada para que sejamos os Teus embaixadores,
e que mundo reconhecerá em nós a nova criação
da Igreja reconciliada no Teu amor e que esteja
aberta para o ministério de reconciliação
que é o Tua oferta para toda a gente, pois
oramos isto em Teu nome

Amen

SEPEDI

Morena Jesu Kriste

Lerato la gago le re gapeleletša
Go laetša lefase gore o le rata kudu gakaakang:
Re tšhollele dimpho tšeo re di hlohang
Go phethagatša pitšo ya rena
Ya go ba baemedi bag ago
Gore lefase le lemoge ka go rena
Kereke ye e hlakilwego leswa
Ye e boelantšwego ka lerato la gago,
Mme lefase ge le bona seo,
le hlehleletsega go tliša poelano
Yeo elego mpho ya gago go batho bohle
Gomme re rapelela se leineng la gago

Amen

UNITY PRAYER

FRENCH

Seigneur Jésus-Christ

Votre amour nous oblige à témoigner de votre amour pour le monde:

Versez sur nous les cadeaux dont nous avons besoin
Pour remplir notre vocation d'être vos ambassadeurs,
Que le monde reconnaîtra en nous

La nouvelle création d'une Église réconciliée
dans votre amour,

Et être ouvert au ministère de la réconciliation

C'est votre don à tous;

Car nous prions en votre nom.

Amen

XITSONGA

Tatana wa hina la nge matilweni, rirhandzu ra wena ri hi endla timbhoni ta rirhandzu ra wena e misaveni: chela eka hina nyiko ya rirhandzu leyi hi yi lavaku leswaku hi ta kota ku humelerisa ku vitaniwa ka hina kuva vayimeri va wena emisaveni, leswaku yi ta kota ku vona eka hina xivumbiwa lexintshwa xa kereke leyi nga rivaleriwa hi rirhandzu ra wena, na ku pfumela eka vhangeli yo rivalela van'wana leyi nga nyiko ya wena eka vanhu hinkwavo; ha swi khongelela hi vito ra wena leri hanyaka.

Amen

TSHIVENDA

Murena Yesu Khristo,

Lufuno lwau lu ri kombetshedza u tanzila ndila ine wa funa shango ngayo:

shululela kha rine zwifhiwa zwine ra shaya u bvededza mbidzo yashu yaau vha mazhendedzi au,

uri shango li vhone khaa rine tsiko ntswa ya kereke yo konanaho nga lufuno lwau,

na hone li swikelele vho kha vhushumeli ha khonano ine ya vha tshifhiwa kha vhatu vhothe;

R rabelela hezwi nga dzina lau.

Ameni

PLAN YOUR CELEBRATION OF THE WEEK

THE FEAST OF THE ASCENSION

The day is no longer a Public Holiday, but this is an excellent opportunity for churches to combine an evening celebration together. A Service is provided along with this prayer pamphlet giving an outline adapted from WCC material developed this year by churches in Germany.

PULPIT EXCHANGES

Arrange for preachers to swap pulpits for the morning and evening services on the Sunday between Ascension and Pentecost. The RCL text for the day is from John 17, Jesus' prayer that we might all be One.

THE FEAST OF PENTECOST

The afternoon of this day is an ideal opportunity for arranging a combined service with contributions from local churches as a witness to the wider community. This would be in addition to the regular services in the churches across the community.

The CUC acknowledges with thanks the work of the several persons who assisted with the translation of the prayer for the 2016 Week of Prayer.

Readings taken and worship materials adapted from resources published by the World Council of Churches for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, 2017

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

On each day please pray for a specific group of Churches, that we may be one. Use the scripture given for reflection.

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|----------|--|--|
| 25 May | Feast of the Ascension | |
| Pray for | | Presbyterian/Congregational Churches |
| 26 May | One had died for all | 2 Cor 5:14 |
| | What does it mean to say Jesus died for all? | |
| | John 15: 13-17 | Orthodox Churches |
| 27 May | Live no longer for themselves | 2 Cor 5:15 |
| | How does our culture tempt us to live only for ourselves rather than for others? | |
| | Matt 16: 24-26 | Anglican/Episcopal Churches |
| 28 May | Seventh Sunday of Easter | |
| | World Council of Churches, Church Unity Commission, Ministers Fraternal, SACC | |
| 29 May | We regard no-one from a human point of view | 2 Cor 5:16 |
| | Where can I identify moments of Damascus experiences in my life? | |
| | Acts 9: 1-19 | African Independent Churches |
| 30 May | Everything old has passed away | 2 Cor 5:17 |
| | What must change in our church so that divisions can be overcome and unity be found? | |
| | Luke 9: 57-62 | Roman Catholic Church |
| 31 May | Everything has become new | |
| | What helps me to recognise that I am a new creation in Christ? | |
| | Colossians 3:9-17 | Covenant Churches |
| 1 June | God reconciled us to himself | 2 Cor 5:18 |
| | What forms of discrimination do our churches need to address today in our communities? | |
| | Romans 5: 6-11 | Reformed Churches |
| 2 June | The ministry of reconciliation | |
| | How are we responding to the need for the ministry of reconciliation in our communities? | |
| | 1 Pet 4:7b-10 | Lutheran/Moravian Churches |
| 3 June | Reconciled to God | |
| | How do you envisage the Church united in purpose and reconciled to God? | |
| | Micah 6: 6-8 | Methodist/Congregational |
| 4 June | Pentecost | Baptist/Pentecostal Churches
Pentecostal Churches |