

# Church

## Unity

### Commission



## Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

### 2020

## Ascension to Pentecost

21 May – 31 May 2020

*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

God van liefde en warmhartigheid,  
U roep en stuur ons om die goeie boodskap aan almal te bring;  
help ons om vriendelikheid te bewys aan almal in nood,  
deur die bekendmaaking van die Goeie Nuus van U dood en opstanding,  
deur aanmoediging aan almal om die nuwe lewe wat U bied, na te streef,  
en deur die versekering dat U altyd met hulle sal wees,  
deur Jesus Christus onse God  
wie lewe en regeer saam met U en die Heilige Gees,  
een God tot in ewigheid. **Amen**

### ENGLISH

God of steadfast love and compassion,  
you call us and send us to proclaim good news to all;  
help us to show unusual kindness to all in distress,  
by sharing the Good News of your death and resurrection,  
by encouraging all to follow the new life you offer,  
and by assuring them that you will be with them always;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God in glory everlasting.

**Amen**

### ISIXHOSA

Thixo oluthando olungunaphakade nemfesane,  
Uyasibiza, usithuma ukuba sivakalise iindaba ezilungileyo  
kuboboanke abantu;  
sincede sibonakalise uvelwano kwabo babandezekileyo,  
ngokushumayela iindaba ezilungileyo  
ezingokufa novuko lwakho,  
si khuthaze boonke balandele ubomi obutsha esibuzuzo  
kuwe, sibaqinisekisa ukuba uyakuba nabo naphakade  
ngaye uYesu Krestu iNkosi yethu ohleliyo elawula  
kwakunye nawe noMoya oyiNgcwele, uThixo emnye  
kubuqaqawuli baphakade. **Amen**

## UNITY PRAYER

### ISIZULU

Nkulunkulu wothando nomusa ongunaphakade,  
Usibizela ukushumayela izindaba ezilungileyo kubo bonke abantu,  
Sisize sibonise isihawu kulabo abacindezelwe,  
ukushumayela iZindaba eziLungile zokufa nokuvuka kwakho. Sibakhuthaze bonke abangcwele balandele emkhondeni wokuphila okungunaphakade,  
Sithi ke ekupheleni sibanikezele emseni wakho, wena Yise wabo bonke abantu, kuze kube phakade,  
ngaye uJesu Kristu iNkosi yethu,  
ohlezi elawula nawe kunye noMoya oNgcwele, uThixo omunye, ebungcweleni baphakade. **Amen**

### PORTUGUESE

Deus de amor e compaixão inabaláveis,  
Você nos chama e nos envia para anunciar Boas Novas a todos;  
ajude-nos a mostrar bondade incomum a todos os que sofrem,  
compartilhando as Boas Novas da Sua morte e ressurreição,  
incentivando todos a seguirem a nova vida que Você oferece,  
e assegurando-lhes que Você estará sempre com else, através de Jesus Cristo nosso Senhor,  
que está vivo e reina conSigo e com o Espírito Santo,  
Um Deus em glória eterna. **Amen**

### Sotho

Molimo oa lerato le tiileng le kutloelo-bohloko, oa re bitsa 'me o re romella ho bolela litaba tse molemo ho bohle; re thuse ho bonts'a mosa ho bohle ba mahlomoleng, ka ho otlwahatsa ditaba tse lokileng tsa lefu tsoho ea hao, ka ho khothaletsa bohle ho latela bophelo bo bocha boo u bo fang,  
le ka ho ba tiisetse hore o tla ba le bona kamehla, ka Jesu Kreste Morena oa rona, ea ntseng a phela, ea bosang le uena le Moea o Halalelang,  
Molimo o le mong ka khanya e sa feleng. **Amen**

## UNITY PRAYER

### FRENCH

Dieu d'amour et Compassion Inébranlable,  
Tu nous appelle et nous demande de proclamer la bonne nouvelle à tous.  
Aide-nous à être bon envers ceux qui sont dans la misère en partageant la nouvelle de ta mort et de ta résurrection.  
Encouragé de la promesse de la vie éternelle,  
Tu nous assures de Ta présence pour toujours à travers Jésus-Christ Ton Fils et l'Esprit-Saint qui règnent en nous.  
Un seul Dieu dans la gloire éternelle. **Amen**

### GERMAN - DEUTSCH

Beständig liebender, barmherziger Gott  
Du rufst uns und sendest uns aus, allen die gute Nachricht zu verkündigen.  
Du hilfst uns, allen die in Not sind, mehr als nur Güte zu schenken  
- wir sollen ihnen von deinem Tod und deiner Auferstehung erzählen  
- wir dürfen ihnen sagen, dass du immer bei ihnen bist durch Jesus Christus, unseren Herrn, der mit dir und dem Heiligen Geist lebt und regiert. Dir sei Ehre für immer und ewig! **Amen**

### TSHIVENDA

Murena wa lufuno na upfela vhutungu, vha a ri uhidza na uri ruma uri ri tshimbidze Mafungo avho Madifha kha vhothe, vha ri thuse uri ri sumbedze vhuthu kha vhothe vho dzhakiwaho, nga u nea mafhungo madifha a lufulwawho na u vuwa, nga u tutuwedza vhothe uri vha teuhele vhutshilo vhuswa vhune vha vha nea, nga u vha fulufhedzisa uri vha do dzula vha navho misi yothe, nga Yeso Kristu murena washu, ane u a tshila na u vhusa na vhone, na Muya Mukhethwa, na murena muthi na vhugala havho vhusa fheli. **Amen.**

## UNITY PRAYER

### SISWATI

Nkulunkulu wemusa nelutsandvo  
lolungunaphakadze, usibita, usitfumele kuhambisa tindzaba letimnandzi ebantfwini bonkhe  
Sisite sibonise kulabacidzetelekile umusa wakho  
Ngekushumayela ngekufa nekuvuka kwakho  
Sibakhutsate bonkhe kute balandzele imphilo lensha  
lesiyitfolo kuwe Sibanikete siciniseko sekutsi utawuba nabo kute kube ngunaphakadze  
Nga Jesu Krestu iNkhosi yetfu  
Lophilako, lobusako nawe nemoya loyingcwele  
Nkulunkulu munye ekukhatimuleni  
lokungunaphakadze.

## PLAN YOUR CELEBRATION OF THE WEEK

### THE FEAST OF THE ASCENSION

*The day is no longer a Public Holiday, but is an opportunity for churches to combine at an evening celebration together. A Service is provided giving material adapted from WCC material developed by churches in Malta.*

### 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 that day is from John 17, Jesus' prayer that we might all be One.*

### THE FEAST OF PENTECOST

*The afternoon 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 several persons who assisted with the translation of the prayer for the 2020 Week of Prayer.*

*The readings and worship materials are adapted from resources published by the World Council of Churches for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, 2020*

## READINGS FOR THE WEEK 2020

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

- 21 May Feast of the Ascension:** Pray for African Independent Churches
- 22 May Reconciliation:** Throwing the cargo overboard  
What do I need to release to be reconciled?  
Pray for Roman Catholic Church
- 23 May Enlightenment:** Seeking and showing forth Christ's light. Where can I shine Christ's love today? Pray for Covenant Churches
- 24 May Seventh Sunday of Easter**  
Pray for World Council of Churches, SACC, Church Unity Commission, Ministers Fraternal
- 25 May Hope:** Paul's message to those on the boat.  
How can I encourage those with whom I work?  
Pray for Reformed Churches
- 26 May Trust:** Do not be afraid, believe!  
What fears should I address in my community?  
Pray for Lutheran/Moravian Churches
- 27 May Strength:** Breaking bread for the journey.  
How can I reach out to those who hunger daily?  
Pray for Methodist Churches
- 28 May Hospitality:** Showing unusual kindness  
To whom can I show true hospitality to those among whom I live?  
Pray for Presbyterian/Congregational Churches
- 29 May Conversion:** Changing our hearts and minds.  
What do I need to change in my life so that I can help others in their journey?  
Pray for Baptist/Pentecostal Churches
- 30 May Generosity:** Receiving and giving.  
How must I change to be able to receive and give with real compassion for the other?  
Pray for Orthodox Churches
- 31 May Pentecost:** Open to receive the Spirit afresh.  
How can I be more open to the guidance of the Holy Spirit? Pray for Anglican/Episcopal churches