



WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY
January 18-24, 2021

On behalf of the Wisconsin Council of Churches and each of the participants involved, we welcome you to this ecumenical gathering of voices to mark the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. You might ask, what does it mean to talk about, work and pray for Christian Unity today? For us, it's about honoring what unites the church across time and space – being able to come together for common efforts spanning differences in denomination, tradition and life experience; finding the places where we have shared values and hopes; offering hospitality and generosity when faced with varied practices.

The outline of this prayer service comes from an ecumenical monastic community in Switzerland; you can learn more about this on the post about the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity on our website, wichurches.org. More information about participants is available at the end of this guide. Following the opening, there are three vigils, each with their own take on the theme of Unity. You'll find a liberal use of silence and a meditative spirit throughout.

*As you follow along with this worship guide, the parts in **bold print** are intended for you to join in. We invite you to sing along with the psalms and hymns. We hope you'll enjoy this opportunity to pray with a wider expression of the church.*

PRELUDE

Drum Improvisation, Ms. Trish Bailey
McFarland United Church of Christ

INVITATION TO PRAYER

OPENING HYMN

Sing A New Church

NETTLETON

1. Sum - moned by the God who made us Rich in
 2. Trust the good - ness of cre - a - tion; Trust the
 3. Draw to - geth - er at one ta - ble All the

our di - ver - si - ty, Gath - ered in the name of
 Spir - it strong with - in. Dare to dream the vi - sion
 hu - man fam - i - ly; Shape a cir - cle ev - er

Je - sus, Rich - er still in u - ni - ty:
 prom - ised Sprung from seed of what has been.
 wid - er And a peo - ple ev - er free.

Let us bring the gifts that dif - fer And, in
 splen - did, var - ied ways, Sing a new church in - to
 be - ing, One in faith and love and praise.

Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, © 1993, OCP Publications. All rights reserved.
 Tune: NETTLETON, 8 7 8 7 D; Wyeth's *Repository of Sacred Music*, Pt. H. 1813

WORDS OF WELCOME

L: May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God
 and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you always!

C: **And also with you.**

L: Brothers and sisters and siblings in Christ, this year's theme of the Week of Prayer for Christian
 Unity, is "Abide in my love... you shall bear much fruit."

It is God's desire, and expressed by Jesus, for us to come and abide in him. He waits for us tirelessly, hoping that, united to him in love, we will bear fruit which will bring life to all. Faced with the difference of "the other", we risk withdrawing into ourselves and seeing only that which separates us. But let us listen to how Christ calls us to abide in his love, and so bear much fruit.

In our prayer today, we remember the call of Christ, as we turn to Christ's love, the center of our life. The path of unity begins in our intimate relationship with God. Abiding in God's love strengthens the desire to seek unity and reconciliation with others. God opens us up to those who are different from us. This is an important fruit, a gift of healing for the divisions within us, between us, and in the world.

In peace we pray to the Lord: Lord, you are the vinedresser who cares for us with love. You call on us to see the beauty of each branch united to the vine, the beauty of each person. And yet, often the differences in others makes us afraid. We withdraw into ourselves. Our trust in you is forsaken. Enmity develops between us. Come and direct our hearts toward you once again. Grant us to live from your forgiveness so we may be together and praise your name.

C: Amen.

TE DEUM

Mr. Kirby Metoxen, Church of the Holy Apostles
Episcopal Diocese of Fond du Lac

LITANY OF PRAISE

The Rev. Rodger Patience, Church of the Holy Apostles
Episcopal Diocese of Fond du Lac

L: Let all God's people join in praise!
We sing your praise in the midst of the world and among all peoples.

C: Praise and glory to you!

L: We sing your praise among suffering and tears.

C: Praise and glory to you!

L: We sing your praise in the places of conflict and misunderstanding.

C: Praise and glory to you!

L: We sing your praise in the midst of rifts and divisions.

C: Praise and glory to you!

L: We sing your praise in the midst of life and death, the birth of a new heaven and a new earth.

C: Praise and glory to you!

FIRST VIGIL • ABIDING IN CHRIST: THE UNITY OF THE WHOLE PERSON

PSALM 103/God Can Only Give Faithful Love

Pastor Felix Malpica & Ms. Cherie Norquay
 Faith Lutheran Church (ELCA)
 South Central Synod of WI

God can on - ly give faith - ful love:
 Dieu ne peut que don - ner son a - mour,

ten - der - ness and for - give - ness!
 no - tre Dieu est ten - dres - se!

Last time

Last time

Last time

Text: Psalm 103; Taizé Community
 Tune: Jacques Berthier, 1923-1994
 © 1998, Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc., agent

JOHN 15:1-17

The Rev. Afi Dobbins-Mays, Solomon Community Temple UMC
 Wisconsin Conference United Methodist Church

I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful. You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me.

I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. If you do not remain in me, you are like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.

As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. If you keep my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commands and remain in his love. I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends.

You are my friends if you do what I command. I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you. You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit—fruit that will last—and so that whatever you ask in my name the Father will give you. This is my command: Love each other.

INTERCESSIONS

Rev. Fr. Avedis Kalayjian, St. Mesrob Armenian Church
Armenian Church in America

L: God of love, through Christ you said to us: "You did not choose me, but I chose you." You seek us, you invite us to receive your friendship and abide in it. Teach us to respond more deeply to this invitation and grow in a life ever more complete.

C: The joy of our heart is in God.

L: God of life, you call us to give praise in the midst of the world and to welcome one another as a gift of your grace. May your loving gaze, resting upon each person, open us to receive each other just as we are.

C: The joy of our heart is in God.

L: God who gathers, you knit us together as one vine in your Son Jesus. May your loving Spirit abide in us at parish meetings and local ecumenical gatherings. Grant that together we might celebrate you with joy.

C: The joy of our heart is in God.

L: God of the one vineyard, you call us to abide in your love in all we do and say. Touched by your goodness, grant us to be a reflection of your love in our homes and workplaces. May we pave the way for bridging rivalries and overcoming tensions.

C: The joy of our heart is in God.

ABIDING IN GOD'S LOVE

The Rev. Rob Ater, Immanuel Presbyterian Church
Presbytery of Milwaukee

SILENCE

Steven Jensen, organist
 Kathryn Henry, soprano
 Immanuel Presbyterian Church
 Presbytery of Milwaukee



1. Come and find the quiet center in the
 2. Si - lence is a friend who claims us, cools the
 3. In the Spir - it let us trav - el, o - pen

crowd - ed life we lead, find the room for hope to
 heat and slows the pace, God it is who speaks and
 to each oth - er's pain. Let our loves and fears un -

en - ter, find the frame where we are freed: clear the
 names us, knows our be - ing gives us grace, mak - ing
 rav - el, cel - e - brate the space we gain: there's a

cha - os and the clut - ter, clear our
 space with - in our think - ing, lift - ing
 place for deep - est dream - ing, there's a

eyes, that we— can see all the things that real - ly
 shades to show the sun, rais - ing cour - age when we're
 time for heart to care, in the Spir - it's live - ly

mat - ter, be at peace, and sim - ply be.
 shrink - ing, find - ing scope for faith be - gun.
 schem - ing there is al - ways room to spare!

Tune: BEACH SPRING

Text: Shirley Erena Murray, ©1978, Hope Publishing Company. All rights reserved.

SECOND VIGIL • THE VISIBLE UNITY OF CHRISTIANS

PSALM 85/Dona Nobis Pacem

Ann Baltes, Bill Rosholt, vocalists
Grace Rosholt, violin; Lynn Lemberger, organ
Holy Wisdom Monastery

Ostinato Refrain

Do - na no - bis pa - - cem.

Text: traditional
Music: The Community of Taizé, ©1982, 1983, 1984 Ateliers et Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc., agent. All rights reserved.

1 CORINTHIANS 1:10-13, 17

Mr. Craig Richter
Sacred Heart Seminary and School of Theology

I appeal to you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree and that there be no dissensions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment. For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there is quarreling among you, my brethren. What I mean is that each one of you says, "I belong to Paul," or "I belong to Apollos," or "I belong to Cephas," or "I belong to Christ." Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel, and not with eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

INTERCESSIONS/ Óyenos Señor

Ms. Kim Mandelkow
Office of Worship, Archdiocese of Milwaukee

Ostinato Refrain

Ó - ye - nos, Se - ñor. Ó - ye - nos, Se - ñor.
Filipino *Ding - gin mo ka - mi.*

Lis - ten to your peo - ple. Ó - ye - nos, Se - ñor.
Vietnamese *Chúng con cầu xin Ngài.*

Text and music © 1988, 2002, Bob Hurd. Published by OCP. All rights reserved.

R: Holy Spirit, you create and recreate the Church in all places. Whisper in our hearts the prayer of Jesus, addressed to the Father on the eve of Christ's passion: "that they may all be one...so that the world may believe."

**C: Óyenos Señor, Óyenos Señor,
listen to your people, Óyenos Señor**

R: Lord Jesus, Prince of Peace, light the fire of your love in us, may suspicions, contempt and misunderstanding cease in the Church. May the walls separating us fall.

**C: Óyenos Señor, Óyenos Señor,
listen to your people, Óyenos Señor**

R: Holy Spirit, Consoler of all, open our hearts to forgiveness and reconciliation and bring us back from our wanderings.

**C: Óyenos Señor, Óyenos Señor,
listen to your people, Óyenos Señor**

R: Lord Jesus, gentle and humble of heart, give us poverty of spirit so we may welcome the unexpectedness of your grace.

**C: Óyenos Señor, Óyenos Señor,
listen to your people, Óyenos Señor**

R: Holy Spirit, you never abandon people who are persecuted for their fidelity to the gospel. Give them strength and courage, and support those who help them.

**C: Óyenos Señor, Óyenos Señor,
listen to your people, Óyenos Señor**

SHARING A SIGN OF PEACE

Ms. Ellie Kosek, Madison Mennonite Church

AN OFFERING OF MUSIC

Mr. Michael Fischer, First Presbyterian Church (Wausau)
Winnebago Presbytery


While we are not in the same geographical location as one another to offer tangible or visual signs of greeting, we invite you to offer physically distanced signs of peace. Please take a moment during the music to offer peace to those on the event stream or on your social media feed (tag us with #WPCU2021 #wichurches). This is also a good time to pick up your phone and text someone, or send a brief email with a message of Christian peace.

THIRD VIGIL • THE UNITY OF ALL PEOPLES AND ALL CREATION

PSALM 96/Praise and Thanksgiving


Mr. David Melby-Gibbons, Milwaukee
Moravian Church

1.




1. Praise and thanks - giv - ing let ev - 'ry - one bring
2. All peo - ple, join us and sing out God's praise.
3. May we go out from here God's love to share.

2.



Un - to our God for ev - 'ry good thing.
For ev - 'ry bless - ing your hap - py songs raise.
Sing - ing out God's love to all ev - 'ry - where.

3.



All to - geth - er joy - ful - ly sing!

Text: St. 1, Alsatian traditional; tr. Edith Lovell Thomas, alt.; sts. 2, 3, Marie Post, © 1987, CRC Publications, alt.
Tune: LOBET UND PREISET, 10 9 8; Alsatian traditional; acc. by Robert J. Batastini, b.1942, © 2000, GIA Publications, Inc.

REVELATION 7:9-12

Mr. Dean Daniels, Archdiocese of Milwaukee
Office of Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations

After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude which no man could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands, and crying out with a loud voice, "Salvation belongs to our God who sits upon the throne, and to the Lamb!" And all the angels stood round the throne and round the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, saying, "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God for ever and ever! Amen."

HOMILY

The Most Rev. Jeffrey Haines
Auxiliary Bishop, Archdiocese of Milwaukee

SHORT SILENCE

INTERCESSIONS

The Rev. Kelsey Beebe
Union Grove United Church of Christ

THE LORD'S PRAYER

We invite you to join in the prayer with the words most familiar to your own heart.

Our Creator, who art in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come and your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

COMMISSION

Ms. Rhonda Hill, All Peoples Church (Milwaukee)
Pentecostal-Lutheran

L: Spirituality and solidarity are inseparably linked. Prayer and action belong together. When we abide in Christ, we receive the Spirit of courage and wisdom to act against all injustice and oppression. We say together:

C: Pray and work so God may reign. Throughout your day let the Word of God breathe life into work and rest. Maintain inner silence in all things so as to dwell in Christ. Be filled with the spirit of the Beatitudes: joy, simplicity, mercy.

BLESSING

Bishop Katherine Finegan
Northern Great Lakes Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

L: Be one, so that the world may believe! Abide in God's love, go into the world and bear the fruits of this love.

C: May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in faith, so we may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. + In the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

FINAL HYMN

In Christ There Is No East or West

MCKEE

Mr. Maurice Cotton, Milwaukee
St. Mark African Methodist Episcopal Church

1. In Christ there is no East or West,
 2. In Christ shall true hearts ev - 'ry - where
 3. Join hands, then, peo - ple of the faith,
 4. In Christ now meet both East and West,

in Christ no South or North;
 their high com - mu - nion find;
 what - e'er your race may be!
 in Christ meet South and North;

But one great fam - i - ly of love
 God's ser - vice is the gold - en cord
 All chil - dren of the liv - ing God
 One joy - ous, hu - man fam - i - ly

through - out the whole wide earth.
 close - bind - ing hu - man - kind.
 are sure - ly kin to me.
 through - out the whole wide earth.

Text: John Oxenham, 1908; alt. Words adapted by Grace Moore, Nancy Krody and Ruth Duck, ©1981 The Pilgrim Press. All rights reserved.
 Tune: McKEE C.M., African-American melody, Arr. Harry T. Burleigh, 1939

If you would like to support more programming like this in Wisconsin, please visit wichurches.org/donate to make a one-time or recurring gift. The Wisconsin Council of Churches connects 21 Christian traditions – 2000 churches – as well as faith-based nonprofits and secular partners in work anchored in courage, justice, and holy imagination.

WISCONSIN COUNCIL OF CHURCHES | 30 W Mifflin St, Ste 602 Madison WI 53703 | wichurches.org

*Permission to stream the music in this service obtained
 from ONE LICENSE, License # A-737759. All rights reserved.*

CREDITS

With gratitude for the collaborative team for Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 2021: The Rev. Lois Buchholz (United Church of Christ Congregational, Osseo), Mr. Dean Daniels (Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Milwaukee) Ms. Lynn Lemberger (Holy Wisdom Monastery), Mr. Craig Richter (student at Sacred Heart Seminary and School of Theology, Hales Corners), The Rev. Kerri Parker (Wisconsin Council of Churches Executive Director).

Compilation of submitted videos by the Rev. Breanna Illene, Content Curator/Ecumenical Innovation Coordinator for the Wisconsin Council of Churches. Give thanks for your technical crew!

This prayer service adapted from the text for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity jointly published by the Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity and the World Council of Churches, through the its Commission on Faith and Order. The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity in 2021 was prepared by the Monastic Community of Grandchamp, Switzerland. The theme that was chosen is based on John 15:1-17 and expresses Grandchamp Community's vocation to prayer, reconciliation and unity in the church and the human family. For further information on the international ecumenical text, visit <https://www.oikoumene.org/resources/week-of-prayer-for-christian-unity>.

Prelude

Drum Improvisation by Ms. Trish Bailey, McFarland UCC

Virtual Choir

Barbara Dick	Wellspring United Methodist Church	Soprano
Jenny Hartlaub	North Shore Presbyterian	Soprano
Julie Gaulke	Christ Church Episcopal, Whitefish Bay	Soprano
Anne Stone	Grace Episcopal Church	Alto
Carmen Shaw	First Presbyterian Church, Oshkosh	Alto
Cherie Norquay	Evangelical Lutheran Church in America	Alto
Jane Ferris	Grace Episcopal Church, Madison	Alto
Janet M. Irvine	Trinity Episcopal Church, Janesville	Alto
Sherri Hansen	Holy Wisdom Monastery	Alto
Dean Daniels	Archdiocese of Milwaukee Office of Ecumenical and Interfaith Affairs	Tenor
Peter B. Irvine	Trinity Episcopal Church, Janesville	Tenor
Michael Ferris	Grace Episcopal Church, Madison	Bass
Pastor Felix Malpica	Faith Lutheran Church, Janesville (ELCA)	Bass
The Rev. David Simmons	St Matthias Episcopal Church, Waukesha	Bass
Tom Ludwig	McFarland United Church of Christ	Bass

Arranging, Direction, Orchestration and Audio
The Rev. David Simmons, St. Matthias Episcopal Church, Waukesha

Piano, Video Compositing and Editing
The Rev. Don Fleischman, St. Luke's Episcopal Church and St. Francis House, Madison

Video Preparation
Julie Gaulke, Christ Church Episcopal, Whitefish Bay

"Sing a New Church Into Being"
Lyrics by Delores Duffner, OSB, Copyright 1991, The Sisters of St. Benedict
Tune: NETTLETON, Original Harmonization by Gerre Hancock

Te Deum

Mr. Kirby Metoxen, Oneida Tribal Councilman
Member, Oneida Singers; Parishioner, Church of the Holy Apostles

Church of the Holy Apostles is the oldest Native American mission of the Episcopal Church, dating to the early 1700s in New York state. The first party of the Oneida who made the journey in the 1820s were the first Episcopalians in what is now Wisconsin.

Mr. Metoxen sings the *Te Deum* in the Oneida language. The *Te Deum* is usually sung at Christmas and Easter and whenever the bishop makes a visitation to the parish. It has also been sung at every ordination of a bishop in the Diocese of Fond du Lac. The English text follows.

English text: *Te Deum laudamus*, from the Book of Common Prayer

*You are God: we praise you;
You are the Lord: we acclaim you;
You are the eternal Father:
All creation worships you.
To you all angels, all the powers of heaven,
Cherubim and Seraphim, sing in endless praise:
Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
The glorious company of apostles praise you.
The noble fellowship of prophets praise you.
The white-robed army of martyrs praise you.
Throughout the world the holy Church acclaims you;
Father, of majesty unbounded,
your true and only Son, worthy of all worship,
and the Holy Spirit, advocate and guide.*

*You, Christ, are the king of glory,
the eternal Son of the Father.
When you became man to set us free
you did not shun the Virgin's womb.
You overcame the sting of death
and opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers.
You are seated at God's right hand in glory.
We believe that you will come and be our judge.
Come then, Lord, and help your people,
bought with the price of your own blood,
and bring us with your saints
to glory everlasting.*

Psalm 103/God Can Only Give Faithful Love

The Rev. Felix Malpica, Faith Lutheran Church ELCA
Ms. Cherie Norquay, ELCA, piano
Text: Psalm 103; Taizé Community
Tune: Jacques Berthier, 1923-1994 ©1998
Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications Inc., agent

Come and Find the Quiet Center

Mr. Steven Jensen, organist; Ms. Kathryn Henry, chancel choir, soprano
Immanuel Presbyterian Church, Milwaukee
Lyrics by Shirley Erena Murray, Copyright 1992 Hope Publishing Company
Music Arr. Copyright 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship (Admin Augsburg Fortress)
Tune BEACH SPRING

Psalm 85/Dona Nobis Pacem

Ann Baltus, Bill Rosholt, vocalists
Grace Rosholt, violin
Lynn Lemberger, organ
Text: traditional
Music: The Community of Taizé, © 1982, 1983, 1984
Ateliers et Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications agent. All rights reserved

Óyenos Señor

Text and music ©1988, 2002, Bob Hurd. Published by OCP. All rights reserved.
Ms. Kim Mandelkow, Office of Worship, Archdiocese of Milwaukee, piano and vocals

Passing of the Peace

Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing
Words by Robert Robinson
Traditional American Melody
Performed and Arranged by Michael Fischer
Arrangement ©2000 Lillenas Publishing Company (SESAC)
All rights reserved

Psalm 96 / Praise and Thanksgiving

Mr. David Melby-Gibbons, guitar and vocals
Text: Edith Thomas & Marie J Post
Tune: LOBET UND PREISET
St 2,3 ©1987 by CRC Publications
Harm ©1987 by CRC Publications

In Christ There Is No East or West

Mr. Maurice Cotton, piano
Music Director, St. Mark African Methodist Episcopal Church
Words: John Oxenham (1852-1941), Used by permission of Desmond Dunkerly
Tune McKEE, Traditional Spiritual Melody, Arr. By Harry T. Burleigh, 1866-1949

MC KEE was originally an Irish tune taken to the United States and adapted by enslaved African Americans. The spiritual was adapted into a hymn tune by famous African-American composer and songwriter, Harry T. Burleigh. The recording we hear today is from the sanctuary of St. Mark African Methodist Episcopal Church in Milwaukee. St. Mark AME is the oldest African-American congregation in Wisconsin.

Readers and Speakers (in order of appearance)

The Rev. Kerri Parker, Executive Director, WI Council of Churches
The Rev. Breanna Illene, Content Curator & Ecumenical Innovation Coordinator, WI Council of Churches
Dr. Peter Bakken, Justice & Witness Coordinator, WI Council of Churches
The Rev. Rodger Patience, Oneida, Episcopal Diocese of Fond du Lac
The Rev. Afi Dobbins-Mays, Milwaukee, Wisconsin Conference United Methodist Church
Rev. Fr. Avedis Kalayjian, Racine, Armenian Church in America
The Rev. Rob Ater, Milwaukee, Presbytery of Milwaukee
Mr. Craig Richter, Hales Corners, Sacred Heart Seminary and School of Theology
Ms. Kim Mandelkow, Milwaukee, Office of Worship, Archdiocese of Milwaukee
Ms. Ellie Kosek, Madison, Madison Mennonite Church
Mr. Dean Daniels, Office of Ecumenical and Interfaith Affairs, Archdiocese of Milwaukee
The Most Rev. Jeffrey Haines, Auxiliary Bishop, Archdiocese of Milwaukee
The Rev. Kelsey Beebe, Union Grove, Wisconsin Conference United Church of Christ
Ms. Rhonda Hill, Milwaukee, Greater Milwaukee Synod ELCA
Bishop Katherine Finegan, Northern Great Lakes Synod, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

