

Celebrating 2018 Week of Prayer for Christian Unity in Canada

Every year, Christians around the world are invited to celebrate a Week of Prayer for the unity of all Christians, to reflect on scripture together, to participate in jointly-organized ecumenical services, and to share fellowship.

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity was first proposed in 1908 as an observance within the Roman Catholic Church by Fr Paul Wattson, founder of the Franciscan Friars of the Atonement in Graymoor, New York. Since the founding of the World Council of Churches in 1948, many other Christian denominations around the world have come to celebrate the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity.

In Canada, the Canadian Council of Churches and its ecumenical partners, the Canadian Centre for Ecumenism and the Prairie Centre for Ecumenism, work for 'unity in diversity' by supporting the celebrations of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity across Canada. For over 40 years, our Canadian ecumenical writing team has adapted the Week of Prayer materials developed by the World Council of Churches and the Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity for the Canadian context. We also create additional English and French resources for the use of Canadian communities and share them, as well as information about the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity celebrations across Canada, on weekofprayer.ca / semainedepriere.ca, and via social media.

The international resources for the 2018 Week of Prayer for Christian Unity have been prepared by an ecumenical team from the Caribbean, whose members represent various churches and religious organizations. Today, Caribbean Christians of many different traditions see the hand of God active in the ending of enslavement. It is a uniting experience of God's saving action which brings freedom. The Caribbean ecumenical team chose the song of Moses and Miriam (Ex 15:1-21) - a song of triumph over oppression - as the motif of this year's Week of Prayer for Christian Unity.

The Canadian Council of Churches and its ecumenical partners, the Canadian Centre for Ecumenism and the Prairie Centre for Ecumenism, invite you to support and participate in our work. You can learn more at councilofchurches.ca / oikoumene.ca / pcecumenism.ca.

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY 2018

*Your right hand, O Lord, glorious in power
(Exodus 15:6)*

