



We will all be **Changed**

Yr ydym i gyd i gael ein newid
Tiocfaidh claochlú orainn go léir



www.ctbi.org.uk/weekofprayer

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 2012

The 2011 theme: We will all be changed

“We will all be changed by the victory of our Lord Jesus Christ”

1 Corinthians 15.51-58

Should we follow the January dates?

Traditionally the ‘Week’ is observed from 18th to 25th January (the days between the feasts of St Peter and St Paul). However, some groups observe it at other times of the year, for example around Pentecost which is also a symbolic date for the unity of the church, and you are free to make your own decision, according to local factors. To allow for use at any time in the year, the material for the days uses the notation 1-8.

How do we use the resources?

The main ecumenical worship service and reflections for the eight days are available to buy as a printed booklet, as are a bilingual Welsh/English version, a large print version and a publicity poster. Send in the attached order form by post or order by phone or online – see the back of this leaflet. If you are organising the Week of Prayer service for your church/Churches Together, you will probably need multiple copies of some items: enough pamphlets for those who attend the service plus additional ones for those who may pray the ‘eight days’ at home, in church, or as part of a group during the Week of Prayer. Alternatively, the order of service is in the centre of the pamphlet so those pages can be pulled out and photocopied if you wish.

Resources on our website

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 2012 resources in the pamphlet will also be available to download from the CTBI website from August 2011, along with additional material and background information. Find them at www.ctbi.org.uk/weekofprayer

Can the material be adapted for local use?

Yes – very much so. If you wish to do this you will probably prefer to access the materials in electronic form from www.ctbi.org.uk/weekofprayer so you can adapt and edit them. Material from previous years is also available on the website should you wish to make use of it.

How can we encourage church members to pray for unity during the eight days of the Week of Prayer?

You can order – or download – pamphlets for the congregation to use during the main ecumenical service, at home, in church or in prayer groups. Pamphlets contain:

- Outlines for eight days of daily prayer, Bible readings and reflections;
- An ecumenical order of service which you may choose to use on the Sunday or on a weekday or evening during the Week.

We will all be changed

Are there other ways of observing the Week of Prayer?

We hope that local churches will be creative in the ways they mark the Week of Prayer and we are always pleased to hear of what is tried and whether it works. Sometimes a pilgrimage around the churches is organised – on each of the eight days in a different church, following the daily Bible readings. This permits each church to worship in its own style and offer hospitality to others. Some people organise daily prayers in their place of work. Church schools may put on services and events.

What is the reason for this year's theme?

The particular history of Poland gives rise to the worship material provided by the churches in Poland for the 2012 Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. The secular and ecclesiastical histories of Poland intertwine and the Polish writers remind us of “the many times that Poland was invaded, the partitions, oppression by foreign powers and hostile systems.” The secular history has prompted a particular perspective for the issue of church unity. “As we pray for and strive towards the full visible unity of the church we – and the traditions to which we belong – will be changed, transformed and conformed to the likeness of Christ”. The – often heartbreaking – history of the Polish nation makes such a perspective all the more inspiring. Further details can be found at www.ctbi.org.uk/weekofprayer

Who is responsible for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity?

The international material is developed by the International Committee for the Week of Prayer composed of members of the Faith and Order Commission of the World Council of Churches and the Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity. This has been used as a basis for our national resources, developed by writers from England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales on behalf of Churches Together in Britain and Ireland.

What are the aims of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity?

- To pray as Christ prayed “That they may be one”.
- To pray for the unity of all Christian people as we share in Christ's ministry. The Week of Prayer offers opportunities to meet and pray with fellow Christians of different denominations in your locality. Often new local initiatives emerge out of such meeting and praying together.

Is there all-age material for the Week of Prayer?

All-age material for the Week of Prayer will be available from ROOTS, the worship and learning resource.

See their website www.rootsontheweb.com

How do we advertise the Week of Prayer locally?

A3 size posters are available to order or from the website. You can add local details to the bottom of the poster.

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