



World Council of Churches

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To:
WCC member churches

Geneva, January 14, 2021

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Greetings in the name of our Saviour Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace.

On behalf of the World Council of Churches, I extend an invitation to you to join us in a global ecumenical prayer on Monday 25 January 2021 at 14:00 CET via oikoumene.org/live. This ecumenical prayer will culminate this year's annual Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, traditionally observed from 18 – 25 January especially in the northern hemisphere. This year's theme is "***Abide in my love and you shall bear much fruit***" (cf. Jn 15:5-9, www.oikoumene.org/week-of-prayer).

As restrictions in many places due to the coronavirus pandemic are making it difficult to physically gather, this global online celebration will allow us to pray together wherever we are. Please do share the invitation with your constituency, especially with those who may not be able to organize their own celebrations this year.

As we gather in prayer, we do so as an affirmation and expression of our common vocation to pray for Christian unity and reconciliation among our human family.

This time of prayer will also be an opportunity to get to know ***Pilgrim Prayer***, the new volume for the Ecumenical Prayer Cycle. This resource book, complementing the online version available at www.oikoumene.org/prayer-cycle, will assist us each week in our commitment to pray with and for the peoples and churches in the world.

Prayer is one of the fruits that is borne out of our abiding in Christ's love. May our time of praying together on 25 January renew our commitment to the call made in 1 Thessalonians 5:17 to '***pray without ceasing.***'

In the everlasting peace of Christ,

Rev. Prof. Dr Ioan Saucă
Interim General Secretary and
Director of the Ecumenical Institute Bossey