



Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 2020

“They showed us unusual kindness”

(Acts 28:2)


churches
together
IN BRITAIN AND IRELAND





GATHERING





Processional hymn

“For the healing of the nations”


Stand





Words of Welcome

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be
with you all.
And also with you.





The Sign of Peace...



Introduction of theme





Listening to the Living Word of God





R Father in heaven, open our hearts and
minds to Your Word.

C **Your words are spirit and life!**

R Lead us to grow closer to each other in
unity and charity.

C **Your word is a lamp to our path!**





The Word of God

Acts 27: 18-26





Invocation of the Holy Spirit





L Spirit, breath of God's loving, come upon
this gathering and dwell among us.

C **Come, Holy Spirit!**
(or Veni Sancte Spiritus!)





L Spirit and Consoler, shine Your light in our
darkness.

C **Come, Holy Spirit!**
(or Veni Sancte Spiritus!)





L Spirit and Advocate, be our hope when we
feel abandoned

C **Come, Holy Spirit!**
(or Veni Sancte Spiritus!)





L Spirit, helper and guide, bring us to eternal safety.

C **Come, Holy Spirit!**
(or Veni Sancte Spiritus!)





L Spirit and Comforter, help us heal and restore what we have damaged and lost.

C **Come, Holy Spirit!**
(or Veni Sancte Spiritus!)





The Word of God

Acts 27: 27-32





PRAYERS OF PARDON AND RECONCILIATION





L Forgive us, Lord, for remaining in darkness rather than seeking Your light.

C **Lord, have mercy! (or Kyrie eleison!)**





L Forgive us, Lord, for our failure to sound the depths
of Your presence in other Christian traditions.

C **Lord, have mercy! (or Kyrie eleison!)**





L Forgive us, Lord, for past mistakes, mistrust and misdeeds
between Christians from different Churches and communities.

C **Lord, have mercy! (or Kyrie eleison!)**





L Forgive us, Lord, for isolating ourselves and trying to escape God's desires for us.

C **Lord, have mercy! (or Kyrie eleison!)**





L Forgive us, Lord, for our lack of faith and for our failure to be people of hope and authentic love

C **Lord, have mercy! (or Kyrie eleison!)**





L Forgive us, Lord, for remaining indifferent, instead of showing hospitality to all, especially strangers and refugees.

C **Lord, have mercy! (or Kyrie eleison!)**





L

The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. As the heavens are high above the earth, so great is His steadfast love towards those who fear Him; as far as the east is from the west, so far He removes our transgressions from us (Psalm 103:8,11-12)..

C

Amen



Song of Praise





The Word of God

Acts 27: 33-38







The Apostles' Creed


Stand


L Dear brothers and sisters, St Paul gave encouragement to those on the ship by breaking bread. Let us take encouragement from our common faith, proclaiming words which have resounded in the Church throughout the centuries:







We believe in God,
the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried;






he descended into hell;
on the third day He rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of God the
Father almighty;
from there He will come to judge the living and the dead.





We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and life everlasting. Amen.





The Word of God

Acts 27: 39-44





The Word of God

From the Psalms

Psalm 107:8, 19-22, 28-32






Let them thank the Lord for His steadfast love, for His wonderful works to humankind. For He satisfies the thirsty, and the hungry He fills with good things.

C **The Lord has delivered us from the mighty waves.**






L Then they cried to the Lord in their trouble, and He saved them from their distress; he sent out His word and healed them, and delivered them from destruction.

C **The Lord has delivered us from the mighty waves.**





Let them thank the Lord for His steadfast love, for His wonderful works to humankind. And let them offer thanksgiving sacrifices, and tell of His deeds with songs of joy.

C **The Lord has delivered us from the mighty waves.**





L

Then they cried to the Lord in their trouble,
and He brought them out from their distress;
he made the storm be still,
and the waves of the sea were hushed.
Then they were glad because they had quiet,
and He brought them to their desired haven.

C

**The Lord has delivered us from the
mighty waves.**





L

Let them thank the Lord for His steadfast love, for His wonderful works to humankind.
Let them extol Him in the congregation of the people, and praise Him in the assembly of the elders.

C

**The Lord has delivered us from the
mighty waves.**





The Word of God

Acts 28: 1-10





R This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God who saves and who
heals!



Homily / Sermon / Reflection



Let us pray...





R Gracious God, strengthen our confidence in Your providence when we feel overwhelmed by the storms of life.

C **Hear our prayer for Trust.**





R

Gracious God, teach us to fix our course on Christ, the True Light who brings us to safe harbour.

C

Hear our prayer for Perseverance.





R Gracious God, transform our many painful separations into harmony and our mistrust into mutual acceptance.

C **Hear our prayer for Harmony.**





R Gracious God, give us the courage to speak the truth with justice in love.

C **Hear our prayer for Courage.**





R Gracious God, help us to welcome with unusual kindness our sisters and brothers who are in peril or in need.

C **Hear our prayer for Unusual Kindness.**





R Gracious God, change our hearts and the hearts of our Christian communities, that we may be agents of Your healing.

C **Hear our prayer for Transformation.**





R Gracious God, open our eyes to see the whole of creation as Your gift, and our hands to share its fruits in generous solidarity.

C **Hear our prayer for Generosity.**






R Gracious God, listen now to the prayers of our hearts which we pray either in silence or softly aloud. (You may wish to amend this according to your tradition.).




The Lord's Prayer...





Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be Your name,
Your kingdom come,
Your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.



Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory
now and for ever. Amen.

are Yours





**We are sent out together to
proclaim the Good News**





L

We have come together as Christians,
and therefore as fellow disciples.

As we yearn for Christian unity,
let us commit ourselves anew
to work for this common goal.





Lord God, we thank You
for calling us into the company of those
who trust in Christ and seek to obey His will.
May Your Spirit guide and strengthen us
in mission and service to Your world:
For we are strangers no longer
but pilgrims together on the way to Your

Kingdom. Amen.



The Blessing





L May God the Father, who called us from darkness into light, make us true bearers of God's light.

C **Amen.**





L May God the Son, who redeemed us by His precious blood, empower us to follow His example in serving others.

C **Amen.**





L May God the Holy Spirit, who is Lord and giver of life, strengthen us to endure the shipwrecks of life and reach the shores of salvation.

C **Amen.**





L May the Almighty and Merciful God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, bless and protect us, now and forever.

C **Amen.**



We set out together, to proclaim the
wonders of God's love.
Amen! Alleluia! Amen!

C





A Song of Unity

**“Love is the boat for the
journey”**

