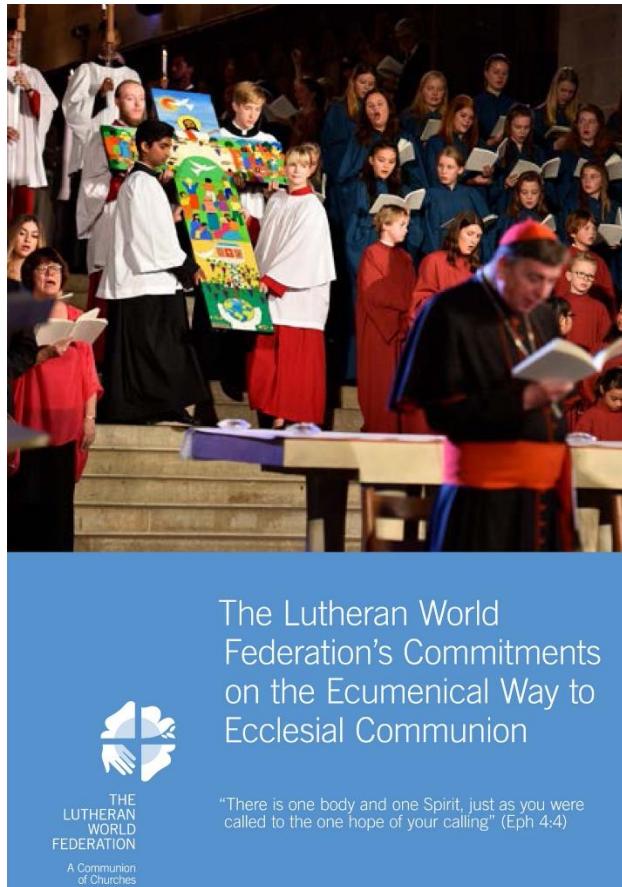


# Morning Prayer with the LWF's Ecumenical Commitments

Ecumenical Centre Chapel, Geneva

Wednesday, 16 January 2019



## Welcome

*Welcome to today's morning prayer. Our prayer focuses on the Lutheran World Federation's "Ecumenical Commitments". There are copies in various languages available for you take, read and share with your networks.*

*The Ecumenical Commitments document strongly reiterates the Lutheran Communion's commitment to ecumenical spirituality. So today as part of the international launch of this document, we pray together with Christians from different traditions for the unity of the body of Christ.*

*Let us keep a moment's silence.*

## Call to Worship

- L: Let us worship the Triune God.  
You are the one God now and forever.
- C: We come to worship you.**
- L: Jesus Christ, you are the source of our unity.
- C: We come to worship you.**
- L: Holy Spirit, you inspire our hearts to long for unity.
- C: We come to worship you.**

# Jesus call us here

John Bell and Graham Maule: Scotland

Gaelic melody

1. Je - sus calls us here to meet him as, through word and song and prayer,  
2. Je - sus calls us to con - fess him Word of Life and Lord of all,  
3. Je - sus calls us to each oth - er: found in him are no di - vides.  
we af - firm God's prom - ised pres - ence where God's peo - ple live and care.  
shar - er of our flesh and frail - ness sav - ing all who fail or fall.  
Race and class and sex and lan - guage: such are bar - riers he de - rides.  
Praise the God who keeps the prom - ise; praise the Son who calls us friends;  
Tell his ho - ly hu - man sto - ry; tell his tales that all may hear;  
Join the hand of friend and stran - ger; join the hands of age and youth;  
praise the Spir - it who, a - mong us, to our hopes and fears at - tends.  
tell the world that Christ in glo - ry came to earth to meet us here.  
join the faith - ful and the doub - ter in their com - mon search for truth.

4. Jesus calls us to his table, rooted firm in time and space,  
where the church in earth and heaven finds a common meeting place.  
Share the bread and wine, his body, share the love of which we sing,  
share the feast for saints and sinners, hosted by our Lord and King.

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Melody: Scots Gaelic traditional. International Copyright Secured. All Rights Reserved. Reproduced by permission.

## Scripture reading: Ephesians 4:4

We will now read a verse from Paul's letter to the Ephesians. This verse has been an inspiration for the writing of the Ecumenical Commitments.

Let us listen to the Word of God.

Hay un solo cuerpo y un solo Espíritu, así como han sido llamados a una sola esperanza de su llamamiento.

Ein Leib und ein Geist, wie auch ihr berufen seid zu einer Hoffnung eurer Berufung.

Il y a un seul corps et un seul Esprit, de même que votre vocation vous a appelés à une seule espérance.

**C: There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling.**

**Song: Somos uno (2x in Spanish)**

# Somos uno

Juan Gattinoni, Argentina

So-mos u - no en Cristo, un cuer-po, miem-bros u - nos de los o - tros.  
Ma-ny mem-bers, but one bo - dy; we're one bo - dy in Christ Je - sus.

Music and words: Juan Gattinoni © WCC, 150 route de Ferney, P.O. Box 2100, CH-1211 Geneva 2, Switzerland.

*Nous sommes tous un seul corps en Christ et membres les uns des autres.  
Wir sind eins in Christus, ein Leib und bilden ein unteilbares Ganzes.*

## The Lutheran World Federation's Commitments on the Ecumenical Way to Ecclesial Communion

This document seeks to promote ecumenism, to give visible expression to the unity of the body of Christ.

The Ecumenical Commitments encourage vibrant interactions between local ecumenical realities and global ecumenical processes. The document promotes bringing forms of ecumenism - such as theological dialogues, diaconal witness, advocacy and shared spiritual life - into closer cooperation. Overall, it is a working document. We encourage you to work with the Ecumenical Commitments, and we very much welcome feedback.

It comes in two parts: The first part offers theological reflections about ecumenism. It looks at the Lutheran understanding of ecumenism and at the LWF's ecumenical relations. The second part is the core of the document. It contains six ecumenical commitments, each of these includes a strong self-commitment to Christian unity as well as suggestions for practical application.

*Please stand as you are able to make these commitments together.*

### Song: Somos uno (1x in Spanish)

#### The LWF's Ecumenical Commitments

**Commitment 1:** We commit ourselves to ecumenism in a variety of forms, locally and globally, to bring the unity of Christ's body into expression in all ways possible.

**Commitment 2:** We commit ourselves to using clear terminology and coherent language in dialogue with our ecumenical partners.

### Song: Somos uno (1x in Spanish)

**Commitment 3:** We commit ourselves to continuing and renewing bilateral dialogues in a way that fully reflects the diversity of our communion.

**Commitment 4:** We commit ourselves to enhancing ecumenical reception, and to being part of local to global reception processes.

### Song: Somos uno (1x in Spanish)

**Commitment 5:** We commit ourselves to an ecumenism which values pastoral challenges and opportunities facing local communities.

**Commitment 6:** We commit ourselves to an ecumenical spirituality that deepens our common prayer life with our ecumenical partners, and helps the spiritual reception of ecumenical processes.

**Song: Somos uno (1x in Spanish)**

*Please be seated.*

**Prayer**

**L:** Let us raise to our gracious God our common prayer for the Church and for the needs of all humanity. We pray for the visible unity of the Church. Lead us to fulfil Jesus' prayer that we may be one and work together to manifest your Kingdom. We ask you:

**C:** **Gracious God, hear our prayer and grant us passion for Christian unity.**

**L:** We thank you for the rich diversity. In our differences, unite us by your love. Enable us to act together to make this world a just and peaceful place for all humanity and to preserve your creation. We ask you:

**C:** **Gracious God, hear our prayer and grant us your peace.**

**The Lord's Prayer (in our many languages)**

**Mayenziwe**

Not too quickly South Africa

Ma - ye (Ma - ye) - nzi - we 'nta - ndo ya - kho. Ma - ye (Ma - ye) - nzi - we 'nta -  
ndo ya - kho. Ma - ye - nzi we 'nta - ndo ya -  
kho. Ma - ye - nzi - we 'nta - ndo ya - kho. Ma - ye - nzi - we 'nta - ndo ya - kho.

*Your will be done on earth.  
Ta volonté soit faite sur la terre.  
Dein Wille geschehe auf Erden.  
Hágase tu voluntad en la tierra.*

**Blessing**

**L:** May God embrace us with love and fill our hearts with compassion for unity. May God grant us humility and give perseverance to nurture unity.

**C:** **Amen.**