



Lutheran Catholic Covenant Commission
Northeastern Ohio Synod of the Evangelical Church in America
Diocese of Youngstown



2017 OBSERVANCE OF THE LUTHERAN CATHOLIC COMMON COMMEMORATION OF THE REFORMATION

SUGGESTED INTERCESSORY/UNIVERSAL PRAYERS

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

Bind us together as Your holy people, especially with our Roman Catholic/Lutheran brothers and sisters. Make us one in faith, hope and love. Draw our hearts towards Your ways and purposes, which transcend the boundaries we draw amongst ourselves.

Holy God, open our eyes and our hearts to Your desire for unity among your people. Move us toward a stronger relationship with our brothers and sisters at *(name of local Lutheran congregation/Roman Catholic parish)*, as You form us into the body of Christ with many different, but necessary parts.

Almighty God, as You overcame the greatest of challenges through Christ to be in relationship with us, guide us through the divisions and challenges that burdened the relationships between Roman Catholics and Lutherans for so long. Grant us Your faith, Your forgiveness, Your gift of reconciliation so that we may be one as You are One, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Pentecost

Come Holy Spirit, burn in our hearts, that we may know the truth of faith in God through Christ. Renew our faith and the faith of our brothers and sisters at *(name of local Lutheran congregation/Roman Catholic parish)*, that we may bear witness to the good news of Jesus in this community together.

We pray for the witness of the Church, especially for the *congregation/parish of (name local Lutheran/Catholic church)*. Continue to send your Spirit into their hearts, that their faith may be strengthened and their witness may reach the hearts of those who need to hear the gospel of Christ.

Holy Spirit, our wisdom and guide, provide us with words of encouragement to share with our fellow disciples of the *Lutheran/Roman Catholic church*, that we all would be strengthened to proclaim the good news of Christ together.

Reformation Sunday

Ever-present Holy Spirit, keep our hearts and our eyes open to your reforming work. Renew our relationship with our *Lutheran/Roman Catholic* brothers and sisters, that we may be partners in proclaiming the good news today.

Almighty God, your truth has always been true, but our hearts do not always perceive it. Grant us the presence of your Holy Spirit, that we here at *(name your congregation/parish)* as well as our brothers and sisters at *(name local Roman Catholic parish/Lutheran congregation)* have an ever-present guide to bring us back to your truth when we have strayed.

We give you thanks, Holy God, for the meaningful ways that the Reformation has affected our Lutheran and Roman Catholic traditions. Help us to remember that your Holy Spirit is always a reforming presence among us.