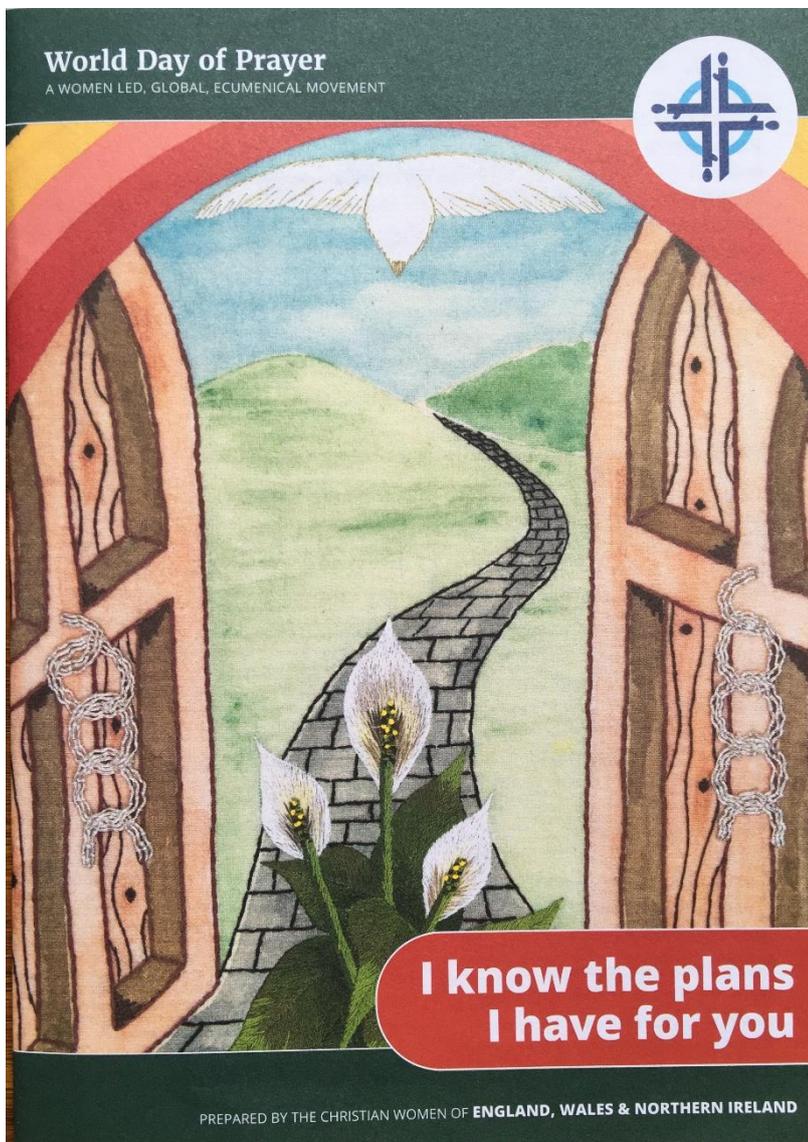
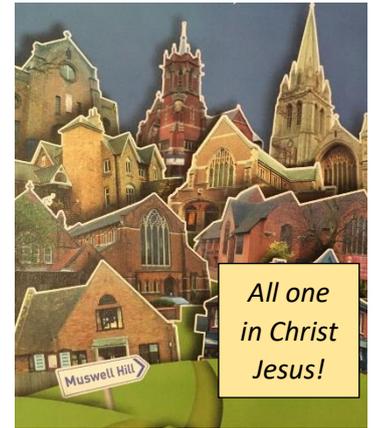


## The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

always takes us by surprise, being just into the New Year! Nevertheless, a prayer gathering on Zoom was arranged for 22<sup>nd</sup> January, with worship led by Rev. Stephen and points for prayer and praise provided by some of the local churches. A common theme was gratitude that the churches were able to keep going during the lockdowns, and that Christmas could be celebrated in person this year! It was great to welcome (on screens at least!) Fr. Andy Coates, who came to St. Andrew's during 2021, and we prayed for other churches with forthcoming changes. We all look for God's guidance as we progress cautiously into new patterns of worship and witness, and rejoice in a sense of being family together in Muswell Hill.



On the first Friday in March, all around the world, services take place bringing together people from different denominations to join in a service that has been prepared by one particular country on the chosen theme.

On **Friday 4<sup>th</sup> March**, this is very close to home for us: firstly, because the service for 2022 has been written by an ecumenical group of women from England, Wales and Northern Ireland (not sure why, but Scotland do their own thing!) – **and secondly because our church is hosting the Muswell Hill service!** (The last time this happened was in 2005 with a colourful service from The Bahamas.)

The 2022 service is a thoughtful, hopeful reflection about life and faith here at home, and how churches are responding to the

ever-changing needs in our society. **Please come and join us at 10.30am if you can!**

*The artwork on the front of the service sheet illustrates Freedom (open door), Justice (broken chains), God's peace and forgiveness (dove and peace lily) and an overarching rainbow – unity and God's promise. These themes are all explored in the service.*