

**An Ecumenical Prayer Service Celebrating
the Annual Week of Prayer for Christian Unity
at
SAINT MARK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
JANUARY 25, 2009
3 PM**



The annual ecumenical prayer service in observance of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity will be held on January 25, 2009 at 3:00 PM at Saint Mark Presbyterian Church, 10701 Old Georgetown Road (near Tuckerman). The Rev. Dr. Roy Howard will preside over the celebration, and Alice McDermott, novelist and parishioner at Saint Bartholomew Church will be the guest speaker. Special music will be provided by the combined choirs of the participating Protestant, Orthodox, and Catholic congregations and the Trinity Lutheran Handbell Choir. Following the service, refreshments and hospitality will be shared.

Each year the text for the service is prepared by Christians from different countries. The text for this year's unity service was prepared by Christians of Korea. Divided North and South — as was the ancient kingdom of Israel — they have chosen a theme from the book of the Prophet Ezekiel, “That they may become one in your hand” (Ezekiel 35:15-19, 22-24a).

A free-will offering will be received for “Habitat for Humanity.” Saint Mark parish has been active in building housing units in Montgomery County through this program. The Holy Cross Social Concerns Committee has assisted them with this project, as well as with the annual “Rebuilding Together” project that repairs homes of needy families

This is the fifteenth year that the service, an initiative of the Holy Cross Social Concerns Committee, has been held in the North Bethesda area. Invite your neighbors and friends to join us in prayer and glorious song on Sunday, January 25th at 3:00 PM. It is our prayerful hope that our ecumenical efforts will bring fruitful development in our community.