

WEEK OF PRAYER.

The following is the programme of subjects for the World's Week of Prayer, for 1871, as issued by the Committee of the British Evangelical Alliance. We hope that wherever practicable *union meetings* will be held, in which all denominations may join in supplications for the objects named :—

Sunday, Jan. 1.—Sermons—Subject : Inspiration of Holy Scripture ; its sufficiency and sole authority for religious faith and practice.

Monday, Jan. 2.—Prayer : Grateful review of the past, calling for renewed confidence and for increased devotedness ; humiliation for the worldliness of the Church, and for national sins provoking Divine judgments.

Tuesday, Jan. 3.—Prayer : For nations ; for kings and all others in authority ; for soldiers and sailors ; for all who have suffered in recent wars ; for the blessings of peace, and that God would graciously bring good out of recent calamities.

Wednesday, Jan. 4.—Prayer : For the children of Christian parents ; for a blessing on home influence and on all teachers ; for early dedication to God and for more laborers in Christ's service.

Thursday Jan. 5.—Prayer : For the baptism of the Holy Spirit on all who profess and call themselves Christians ; for the increase of charity, and of affectionate communion and co-operation among all in every land who love the Lord Jesus Christ in sincerity.

Friday, Jan. 6.—Prayer : For the circulation of the Word of God ; for the increase of faithful ambassadors for Christ ; for an end of religious persecution ; and for the removal of all hindrances to the spread of the Gospel.

Saturday, Jan. 7.—Prayer : For Christian missions ; for the conversion of the Jews ; for the better observance of the Lord's Day, for a blessing on Christian literature ; and for "the glorious appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ."

Sunday, Jan. 8.—Sermon—Subject : Faith, Hope and Love—essential witness for the truth.

UNION OF CHURCHES FOR PRAYER AND THE CELEBRATION
OF THE LORD'S SUPPER.

For several years past, the first week of the New Year has been observed as a memorial week of prayer to Almighty God for the outpouring of His Spirit, and the extension of the kingdom of Christ on earth. It cannot have been in vain, though the blessings sought have not been so extensively enjoyed as the Christian world would desire. God cannot disregard the prayers of His people, or willingly withhold the influences of His grace, for "He cannot deny Himself." We have the testimony of His Word in many exceeding great and precious promises, that "He waits to be gracious." "I will be sought unto by the house of Israel to do it for them." "In everything—by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known unto God." "Without faith it is impossible to please God." "Ye ask and receive not, because ye ask amiss." Very many so-called prayers have been offered, but where is the holy energy ; the fervent desire ; the strong arm of faith taking hold of God with the confidence of children,