



A Liturgy for The National Indigenous Day of Prayer

Adapted from All Saint's Church, Minneapolis, MN

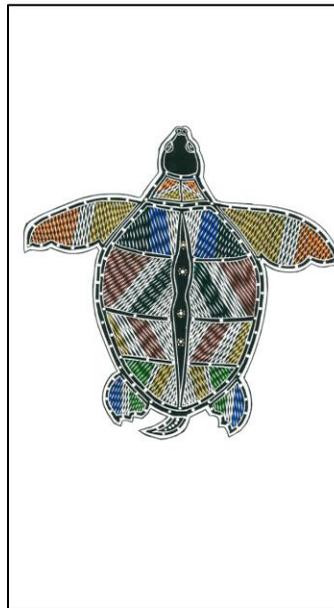
Worship lies at the heart of the Christian life. It is in worship that we express our theology and define our identity. It is through encountering God within worship that we are formed and transformed as the people of God. One of the glories of the Anglican Church of Canada is its liturgical worship. Liturgy refers to the patterns, forms, words, and actions through which public worship is conducted.

Call to Worship

CELEBRANT Christ our true and only Light: receive our prayers and songs, and illumine the secrets of our hearts with your healing goodness, that no evil desires may possess us who are made new in the light of your heavenly grace. Amen.

Acknowledgement and Thanksgiving for the Land

Creator, you made all people of every land. It is our responsibility to give thanks and respect to those who first occupied this land we are upon. We give thanks to Mi'Kmaki, the first people of this land. We offer our respect to those ancestors who may be interred in this land. We are also thankful for the gifts of the People of



National Indigenous Day of Prayer

Creator God, from you every family in heaven and earth takes its name. You have rooted and grounded us in your covenant love, and empowered us by your Spirit to speak the truth in love, and to walk in your way towards justice and wholeness. Mercifully grant that your people, journeying together in partnership, may be strengthened and guided to help one another to grow into the full stature of Christ, who is our light and our life.

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the land. Creator let us be of Good Mind to reconcile the mistreatment of this land and to those who have been displaced.

Generous Creator;

We give you thanks for your creation of water and all life within it. Water is central to our physical and spiritual lives today and in the past.

(Pour sea water)

The water from the sea is a source of food, taken by the Mi'kmaw but in keeping as a resource for seven generations into the future.

(Pour lake water)

The water from rivers and lakes provided transportation and connection from summer to winter habitation and from Mi'kmaw community to community.

(Pour tap water)

The water we drink, taken into our bodies to sustain our lives. We give thanks especially for the commitment of First Nations to bring clean drinking water to all of their communities. We thank you Creator for water. With thankful and respectful hearts we pray in Your name, Your son the Peacemaker and the Sacred Spirit. Amen.

Opening Hymn: Draw the Circle Wide (CP418)

The Song to the Four Directions

Leader: God the Creator, the strength of the people, we honor you. Listen to the thoughts of your people. We respect the truth of your spirit world and care for your creations to the east, to the south, to the west and to the north. We honor you by deeds and not words. We live by the ways you have entrusted to us within the circle of life.

FIRST READER

Come Great Spirit as we gather in your name.

We face East: To your symbol color gold the breath of the morning sun, to your animal sign the Eagle which soars ever upward in the praise of the Creator and calls us to do the same, to your words calling us to balance our minds in the spirit of humility and truth. We invoke your Spirit of illumination and far sighted vision. The

ways have shown us how to love you and each other with heart, mind, and soul, and we pray.

ALL Come Holy Creator's Spirit, Come

SECOND READER

We turn to the South: To your symbol color red the hue of revelation, to your animal sign the Wolf... strong and enduring. The ways call us to balance of Spirit and harmony with all nations, tribes and clans. We invoke your wisdom, grace and goodness of the ages, and we pray. **ALL Come Holy Creator's Spirit, Come**

THIRD READER

We turn to the West: To your symbol color black the stillness of night, to your sign thunder mighty and bold, to your animal sign the Buffalo. The ways calls us to balance emotions in the tradition of truth and honesty. We invoke your spirit ways of seeing within the community and its strength to endure, and we pray.

ALL Come Holy Creator's Spirit, Come

FOURTH READER

We turn North: To your symbol color white the truth of clarity and brightness, to your animal sign, the Bear, which touches us with earthiness and all things growing, to your words calling us to balance of our body in the spirit of a good sense and humor. We invoke your spirit of innocence, trust and love. The ways open our eyes to the sacredness of each living thing, and we pray. **ALL Come Holy Creator's Spirit, Come**

FIFTH READER

We turn to complete the circle: To God the Creator who cleanses the world with snow wind and rain, to the Creator's Son, Jesus the Christ, who fills us with mercy and loving embrace of all nations and to the Holy Creator's Spirit who guides us, and we pray.

ALL Come Holy Creator's Spirit, Come

Leader: Creator, you bent the earth like a bow until it was one, round, shining planet. At your word the land was drawn into mountains and tundra, forests and prairies; the waters were gathered together into rivers, lakes and seas. Many times, when people crossed these seas from other lands they broke the circle of your

creation by their greed and violence and they shattered the lives of others. Creator renew the circle of the earth and turn the hearts of all people to one another; that they and all the earth may live and be drawn toward you through the love of Jesus Christ, who lives with you and the Holy Spirit in the circle of the Trinity, forever One. Amen

(A Prayer to the Four Directions, adapted and revised from the prayer used at the National Cathedral, DC in A Celebration of Native American Survival Service, 1992)

The Gathering Prayer

ALL Creator, we give you thanks for all you are and all you bring to us for our visit within your creation. In Jesus, you place the Gospel in the center of this Sacred Circle through which all of creation is related. You show us the way to live a generous and compassionate life. Give us your strength to live together with respect and commitment as we grow in your Spirit, for you are God, now and forever. **Amen**

Collect of the Day

Creator God,
from you every family in heaven and earth takes its name.
You have rooted and grounded us
in your covenant love,
and empowered us by your Spirit
to speak the truth in love,
and to walk in your way towards justice and wholeness.
Mercifully grant that your people,
journeying together in partnership,
may be strengthened and guided
to help one another to grow into the full stature of Christ,
who is our light and our life.

The Word

First Reading: Isaiah 40:25-31

To whom then will you compare me, or who is my equal? says the Holy One. Lift up your eyes on high and see: Who created these? He who brings out their host and numbers them, calling them all by name; because he is great in strength, mighty in power, not one is missing. Why do you say, O Jacob, and speak, O Israel, “My way is hidden from the Lord, and my right is disregarded by my God”: Have you not known? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable. He gives power to the faint, and strengthens the powerless. Even youths will faint and be weary, and the young will fall exhausted; but those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

Psalm 19

The heavens declare the glory of God, and the firmament shows his handiwork.

One day tells its tale to another, and one night imparts knowledge to another.

Although they have no words or language, and their voices are not heard,

Their sound has gone out into all lands, and their message to the ends of the world.

In the deep has he set a pavilion for the sun; it comes forth like a bridegroom out of his chamber; it rejoices like a champion to run its course.

It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens and runs about to the end of it again;

nothing is hidden from its burning heat.

The law of the Lord is perfect and revives the soul; the testimony of the Lord is sure and gives wisdom to the innocent.

The statutes of the Lord are just and rejoice the heart; the commandment of the Lord is clear and gives light to the eyes.

The fear of the Lord is clean and endures for ever; the judgements of the Lord are true and righteous altogether.

**More to be desired are they than gold, more than much fine gold, sweeter far than honey,
than honey in the comb.**

By them also is your servant enlightened, and in keeping them there is great reward.

Who can tell how often he offends? cleanse me from my secret faults.

Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins; let them not get dominion over me; then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent of a great offense.

Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O Lord, my strength and my redeemer

Second Reading: Philippians 4:4-9

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

Gradual Hymn: Healer of Every Ill (CP612)

Gospel: John 1:1-18

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. (John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

Reflection: *Geri LeBlanc*

Creed (A statement of belief)

ALL We believe in the love of God, embodied in the person of Jesus, spread through the cosmos by the Holy Spirit.

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The Prayers of the People

Prayers for those Ill or in Need: Joan Halsey, Glen, Nancy, Les, Rick, Melba, Shelia Jollimore, Edith, Bob, Christine, Susan, Shelagh, Bev & John Zinck, Faye & Brud Thornham, Deborah Story, Allan, Ross and Residents of the Admiral, Oakwood, Oceanview, Parkland, and all in Care Homes.

Christ Church Prayer Cycle: Valerie Sliming, Anne-Marie Smith, Ida Smith, Kathy, Steve, Thomas, Andrew and Grace Smith & Cheryl and Brad Smith.

Diocesan Prayer Cycle: St. Paul's, Halifax, Nova Scotia Rev. Canon Dr. Paul Friesen and Janet, Rev. Canon Gordon Redden, Honorary Assistant, and Mary Lu, Rev. Neale Bennet, Honorary Assistant, and Sharon, Rev. Debra Burleson, Honorary Assistant, and Chris, Rev. Michael Tutton, Associate Parish Priest. Trinity, Halifax, Nova Scotia Rev. Benjamin Lee, Priest-in-Charge, and Andrea, Emmanuel, Spryfield, Nova Scotia Rev. Michelle Bull, and Charles, St. Peter's, Birch Cove, Nova Scotia Rev. Tory Byrne, Priest-in-Charge

Leader: Creator and Redeemer, as we approach you in prayer, make us walk in beauty and balance, make us open our hearts and minds, make us speak the truth. We pray first for your Community, the Church, The Body of Christ. We pray for all our relatives in the circle of life throughout all Creation; for those chosen to be our leaders and teachers.

Reader: In peace, we pray to you, Lord God, We call upon the earth, our Mother and home, with its beautiful depths, soaring heights and deep waters, its vitality and abundance of life, and together we ask that we would be good stewards of the world.

People: Teach us and show us the way.

Reader: We call upon the mountains and tundra, the high green valleys and prairies filled with wild flowers, the snows, the summits of intense silence, and we ask that they:

People: Teach us and show us the way.

Reader We call upon upon the land which grows our food, the nurturing soil, the fertile fields, the abundant gardens and orchards, and we ask that they:

People: Teach us and show us the way.

Reader: We call upon the forests, the great trees reaching strongly to the sky with earth in their roots and the heavens in their branches, the fir and the pine, the cedar and the maple, we ask them to:

People: Teach us and show us the way.

Reader: We call upon the creatures of the fields and forests and the waters, our brothers and sisters the wolves and deer, the eagle and bear, the great whales and the fish. We ask them to:

People: Teach us and show us the way.

Reader: We call upon all those who have lived on this earth, our ancestors and our friends, who dreamed the best for future generations, and upon whose lives our lives are built, and with thanksgiving, we call upon them to:

People: Teach us and show us the way.

Leader:

Creator, you made the world and declared it to be good: the beauty of the trees, the softness of the air, the fragrance of the grass speaks to us; the summit of the mountains, the thunder of the sky, the rhythm of the waters speak to us; the faintness of the stars, the freshness of the morning, the dewdrops on the flower speak to us. But above all, our heart soars, for you speak to us in Jesus the Christ, in whose name we offer these prayers.

Amen

The Confession

(Confession lets us set down the heavy things we carry with us, putting us in right relationship with one another & with God.)

Reader: For all that separates our hearts from God and from all that closes our eyes to God's love... *silence*

Reader: For what we have done, left undone, and what has been done on our behalf... *silence*

Reader: For the pride that prevents us from forgiving others, as we have been forgiven... *silence*

All: Jesus, forgive us. Create in us clean hearts, O God, and renew rights spirit within us.

Minister: The Lord enrich you with grace, and nourish you with many blessings; the Lord defend you in trouble and keep you from all evil; the Lord accept your prayers, and absolve you from your offences, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Savior.

The Peace

Minister: The peace of Christ be always with you

People: And also with you.

Offertory Hymn: Spirit of God in the Clear Running Water

Prayer over the Gifts

Creator, you bless us
with many good gifts
returned to you from your creation.
Feed us with the Bread of Life,
your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer: Maori & Polynesia

Eternal Spirit,
Earth-maker, Pain bearer, Life-giver,
Source of all that is and that shall be,
Father and Mother of us all,
Loving God, in whom is heaven:

The hallowing of your name echo through the universe;
The way of your justice be followed by the peoples of the world;

Your heavenly will be done by all created beings;
Your commonwealth of peace and freedom
sustain our hope and come on earth.

With the bread we need for today, feed us.
In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.
In times of temptation and test, strengthen us.
From trial too great to endure, spare us.
From the grip of all that is evil, free us.
For you reign in the glory of the power that is love,
now and forever. Amen.

(New Zealand Maori translation of the Lord's Prayer.)

The Blessing:

Send us anywhere you would have us go, only go there with us. Place upon us any burden you desire, only stand by us to sustain us. Break any tie that binds us, except the tie that binds us to you.

And the blessing of God; the Creator, who made and knows us; the Savior, who redeems and befriends us; and the Spirit, who enlightens and sustains us, be with you this day and always. **Amen.**

Closing Hymn: All People That on Earth do Dwell (CP349)

Minister: In the name of the Light that came into the world go in peace.
PEOPLE Thanks be to God.



The Anglican Church of Canada



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