

# National Indigenous Day of Prayer

## Sunday June 21, 2020

### A Service of the Word I

*We are members of the Laurentian Regional Ministry of the Anglican Diocese of Montreal; our churches are located on land which has long served as a site of meeting and exchange amongst Indigenous peoples, including the Anishinaabeg, the Huron-Wendat, and the Omàmiwininiwak (Algonquin), St. Lawrence Iroquoians and Mohawk. Our churches honour, recognize and respect these nations as the traditional stewards of the lands and waters on which we gather today.*

*Responders Nick and Tania*

#### **The Gathering of the Community (BAS 185)**

**Josée, Presider**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
and the love of God,  
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit  
be with you all  
**And also with you.**

Let us pray.

We thank you, O God, that you have again brought us together on the Lord's Day to praise you for your goodness and to ask your blessing. Give us grace to see your hand in the week that is past, and your purpose in the week to come; through Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

*The Presider gives notice of matters affecting the life and work of the congregation.*

#### **THE PENITENTIAL RITE**

We were created from God's loving heart, and that same love embraces us with forgiveness. God's healing and reconciling love helps us to see our brokenness for what it is, in the same moment that grace and forgiveness are offered to us. Let us welcome the gift of God's love, and confess before God and each other the sins that keep us from true friendship with God and with one another.

**Creator and loving God,  
you have searched us out and known us  
and all that we are is open to you.**

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**We confess that we have sinned:  
we have put up walls between ourselves and you,  
closing our hearts to your gifts.**

**We have failed to respect and honor  
the gifts you have given us in creation,  
Mother Earth, and all living things.  
We squander the inheritance of generations to come.**

**We have sinned against each other:  
we have put up walls between ourselves and our neighbours,  
giving in to the fear, ignorance and arrogance that make up racism.  
We have failed to respect the gifts of all your peoples.  
We have failed to respect the gifts of the four directions.**

**We have used our power to dominate  
and our weakness to manipulate;  
We have evaded responsibility and failed to confront evil;  
We have trusted false gods and listened to their promises;  
We have denied dignity to ourselves and to each other;  
we have fallen into deep despair.  
In our despair we have forgotten you,  
and have gone away from your path.**

**Forgive us for what we have done when we have hurt others;  
and forgive those who have hurt us.  
The ways we have hurt Mother Earth.  
Give us your blessing and help.  
Let us walk in your great love;  
through the great peace maker, your Son, Jesus.  
Amen.**

#### **THE PEACE**

**We are all one in Christ Jesus.  
We belong to him through faith,  
heirs of the promise of the Spirit of peace.  
The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
And also with you.**

#### **THE COLLECT OF THE DAY**

**France**

**Dieu créateur, de qui toute famille au ciel et sur terre tient son nom, tu nous as enracinés et rattachés à la terre dans une alliance d'amour, et tu nous as donné, par ton Esprit la force de proclamer ce qui est vrai, avec amour, et de cheminer avec justice et constance. Dans ta bonté, accorde à ton peuple de poursuivre son pèlerinage dans l'unité, d'être renforcé et guidé afin que chacun aide l'autre dans l'atteinte de la pleine stature du Christ, notre lumière et notre vie.  
Amen.**

Or

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. **Amen.**

### **HYMN CP #292 – WE CANNOT MEASURE HOW YOU HEAL**

1. We cannot measure how You heal  
Or answer every sufferer's prayer,  
Yet we believe Your grace responds  
Where faith and doubt unite to care.  
Your hands, though bloodied on the cross,  
Survive to hold and heal and warn,  
To carry all through death to life  
And cradle children yet unborn.

2. The pain that will not go away,  
The guilt that clings from things long past,  
The fear of what the future holds,  
Are present as if meant to last.  
But present too is love which tends  
The hurt we never hoped to find  
The private agonies inside,  
The memories that haunt the mind.

3. So some have come who need Your help  
And some have come to make amends,  
As hands which shaped and saved the world  
Are present in the touch of friends.  
Lord, let Your Spirit meet us here  
To mend the body, mind, and soul,  
To disentangle peace from pain  
And make Your broken people whole.

### **The Proclamation of the Word**

#### **THE FIRST READING**

Adrian

A reading from the Book of Isaiah (*Is 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.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM 19 (BAS p. 725)**

Elizabeth

- 1 The heavens declare the glory of God, \*  
**and the firmament shows his handiwork.**
- 2 One day tells its tale to another, \*  
**and one night imparts knowledge to another.**
- 3 Although they have no words or language, \*  
**and their voices are not heard,**
- 4 Their sound has gone out into all lands, \*  
**and their message to the ends of the world.**
- 5 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.**
- 6 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.**
- 7 The law of the Lord is perfect and revives the soul; \*  
**the testimony of the Lord is sure and gives wisdom to the innocent.**
- 8 The statutes of the Lord are just and rejoice the heart; \*  
**the commandment of the Lord is clear and gives light to the eyes.**
- 9 The fear of the Lord is clean and endures for ever; \*  
**the judgements of the Lord are true and righteous altogether.**
- 10 More to be desired are they than gold, more than much fine gold, \*  
**sweeter far than honey, than honey in the comb.**
- 11 By them also is your servant enlightened, \*  
**and in keeping them there is great reward.**
- 12 Who can tell how often he offends? \*  
**cleanse me from my secret faults.**
- 13 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.**
- 14 Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, \*  
**O Lord, my strength and my redeemer.**

Glory to the Father, to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,

**As it was in the beginning, is now and will be for ever. Amen.**

**THE SECOND READING**

France

Lecture tirée de la lettre au Philippiens (*Phil 4 :4-9*)

Réjouissez-vous dans le Seigneur en tout temps ; je le répète, réjouissez-vous. Que votre bonté soit reconnue par tous les hommes. Le Seigneur est proche. Ne soyez inquiets de rien, mais, en toute occasion, par la prière et la supplication accompagnées d'action de grâce, faites connaître vos demandes à Dieu. Et la paix de Dieu, qui surpasse toute intelligence, gardera vos cœurs et

vos pensées en Jésus Christ. Au reste, frères, tout ce qu'il y a de vrai, tout ce qui est noble, juste, pur, digne d'être aimé, d'être honoré, ce qui s'appelle vertu, ce qui mérite l'éloge, tout cela, portez-le à votre actif. Ce que vous avez appris, reçu, entendu de moi, observé en moi, tout cela, mettez-le en pratique. Et le Dieu de la paix sera avec vous.

La Parole du Seigneur.

**Nous rendons grâce à Dieu.**

*Or*

A reading from the letter to the Philippians (*Phil 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.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**THE GOSPEL**

*Nick*

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

A reading from the Gospel according to John. (*John 1:1-18*)

**Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

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.

The Gospel of Christ.

**Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

## SERMON

Tania

### THE APOSTLES' CREED

Josée

Let us confess our faith as we say,  
**I believe in God,  
the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.  
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the Virgin Mary.  
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.  
He descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again.  
He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again  
to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

### INTERCESSIONS AND THANKSGIVINGS

Hugh

In peace let us pray to God, our Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer, saying 'God of Love and mercy, hear our prayer'.

Creator God, Great Spirit, whose compassion has been known in our lives more times than we can count, we open our hearts and souls to the needs of this world. On this Indigenous Day of Prayer, we acknowledge the great injustices perpetrated against those who lived on and cared for this land long before our ancestors arrived. We pray that with compassion and determination we will continue to make ourselves aware of the impact of Residential Schools, the Sixties Scoop, and the suppression of Indigenous culture and tradition so that the legacy of colonization is acknowledged by each of us. God of love and mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Creator God, Great Spirit, you call us to relationships rooted in equality and respect. This day we covenant to be more aware of the racism that the Indigenous, Métis and Inuit people of this country experience. We commit ourselves to raise our voices when we hear prejudiced comments, to guide others in the sacred direction of celebrating diversity that is Your gift to humanity. God of love and mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Creator God, Great Spirit, in the quiet of our hearts and through the witness of our beings we pray thanks for Your accompaniment on the journey toward individual and communal wisdom and understanding. Let us who are the Church stand in solidarity and true to Jesus' call to reconcile with sisters and brothers. God of love and mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Creator God, Great Spirit, whose love was poured out in Jesus, give us the strength and the vision to so care for your world and its peoples, that we may be faithful stewards of all your creation, working in the power of your Holy Spirit. God of love and mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Creator, you are the Holy One, the God of all creation and time. You give to us Sacred Places and Sacred Times. We give you thanks for the First Peoples of the World and for the special gifts which you have given to them of the World and for the special gifts which you have given to them to enrich our world. We give you thanks for all those who have gone before, who have prepared the way for us, walking in faith and in covenant with God.

Creator God, hear our prayers and guide our actions from this moment on.

*Other intercessions may be added*

Gracious God,  
you have heard the prayers of your faithful people;  
you know our needs before we ask,  
and our ignorance in asking.  
Grant our requests as may be best for us.  
This we ask in the name of your Son  
Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

#### **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

Hugh

Gathering our prayers and praises into one, let us pray as our Saviour taught us,  
**Our Father in heaven,**  
**hallowed be your name,**  
**your kingdom come,**  
**your will be done,**  
**on earth as in heaven.**  
**Give us today our daily bread.**  
**Forgive us our sins**  
**as we forgive those who sin against us.**  
**Save us from the time of trial,**  
**and deliver us from evil.**  
**For the kingdom, the power,**  
**and the glory are yours,**  
**now and forever. Amen.**

#### **DOXOLOGY**

Josée

**Glory to God**  
**whose power, working in us,**  
**can do infinitely more**  
**than we can ask or imagine.**  
**Glory to God from generation to generation,**  
**in the Church and in Christ Jesus,**  
**for ever and ever. Amen.**

## **The Sending**

### **BLESSING**

May the Creator watch over you.  
May the Spirit guide and lead you.  
May Jesus be present in all that you do.  
And the blessing of God Almighty,  
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit  
be with you, within you and surrounding you and those you love,  
this day and always.

**Amen.**

### **HYMN CP #397 – PRAISE THE ONE WHO BREAKS THE DARKNESS**

1 Praise the One who breaks the darkness  
With a liberating light.  
Praise the One who frees the pris'ners,  
Turning blindness into sight.  
Praise the One who preached the gospel,  
Healing ev'ry dread disease,  
Calming storms and feeding thousands  
With the very bread of peace.

2 Praise the One who blessed the children  
With a strong yet gentle word.  
Praise the One who drove out demons  
With a piercing, two edged sword.  
Praise the one who brings cool water  
To the desert's burning sand.  
From this well comes living water,  
Quenching thirst in ev'ry land.

3 Praise the One true love incarnate:  
Christ who suffered in our place.  
Jesus died and rose for many  
That we may know God by grace.  
Let us sing for joy and gladness,  
Seeing what our God has done.  
Praise the one redeeming glory;  
Praise the One who makes us one.

### **DISMISSAL**

Let us bless the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

Josée

Josée