



A Liturgy for The National Indigenous Day of Prayer

(Adapted from liturgy prepared by All Saint's Church, Minneapolis, MN)

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. (source: Gelasian Sacramentary)

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 _____ (name of First Nation or Inuit), 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 the land. Creator let us be of Good Mind to reconcile the mistreatment of this land and to those who have been displaced. With thankful and respectful hearts we pray in Your name, Your son the Peacemaker and the Sacred Spirit. Amen.

PRAYER or SONG

*(The Song to the Four Directions by traditional singer can be used here in place of the prayer.
This may be chanted with drum if appropriate)*

CELEBRANT 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

CELEBRANT 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. Amen

THE WORD

(please be seated)

Isaiah 40:25-31
Psalm 19
Philippians 4:4-9
John 1:1-18

The Homily

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.

(University Episcopal Community at The Univ. of MN)

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

(please stand if able)

CELEBRANT 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,

READER 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 it

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.

CELEBRANT

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

(Prayers of the People, The Church of the Four Winds, Portland Oregon)

Confession I

(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.

(University Episcopal Community at The Univ. of MN)

CELEBRANT 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.

Confession II

CELEBRANT Come, let us return to the lord and say:

ALL Creator God, in our sin we have avoided your call. Our love for you is like a morning cloud, like the dew that goes away early. Have mercy on us; deliver us from judgment; bind up our wounds and revive us; in Jesus Christ our Lord.

CELEBRANT 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

CELEBRANT The peace of Christ be always with you
PEOPLE And also with you.

OFFERTORY SONG

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

(Please stand if able)

After the altar is set for Communion we continue praying,

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.

CELEBRANT Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation: through your goodness we have this bread to set before you, which earth has given and human hands have made. It will become for us the bread of life.

PEOPLE Blessed be God forever.

CELEBRANT Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation: through your goodness we have this wine to set before you, fruit of the vine and work of human hands. It will become for us the cup of salvation.

PEOPLE Blessed be God forever. *(Offertory Prayer, Didache 3rd Century)*

CELEBRANT God the Creator is here.

PEOPLE God's Spirit is with us.

CELEBRANT Lift up your hearts

PEOPLE We lift them to God the Creator

CELEBRANT Let us give thanks to God

PEOPLE It is right to offer our thanks and praise.

CELEBRANT God the Creator, our Great Spirit, from the depths of our hearts we give you thanks. We say thank you, now and forever. From the place of the rising sun in the East, to the South where the warm winds blow, from the West where the soft rain comes, to the coldness of the North. We unite with all creation from the four directions to join in the everlasting thanksgiving and praise for the gift of Jesus Christ.

With hearts lifted, we join with the angels, the guardian spirits, the saints, and all our ancestors as we say

ALL Holy, holy holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.

O Great Spirit, our Creator from whom all holiness comes, we come before you again today. Just as in generations past, like our grandmothers and grandfathers, we come to worship you and acknowledge your greatness. We marvel at your creation.

You sent Jesus into creation because people had turned away from you and no longer loved each other, bringing death and destruction. Sharing our living and dying, Jesus opened our eyes and our hearts to understand that we are all relatives and that you are our Great Spirit the Creator.

Stretching out his arms upon the cross, he became a perfect offering for all, uniting in beauty all that is, with all that has been, and with all that ever will be.

On the night Jesus was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to the disciples, and said, "Take eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper Jesus took the cup of wine; gave thanks, gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you. This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

ALL Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

In this ceremony which Jesus gave us, we celebrate our salvation. In our offering of praise and thanks, we stand in the memory, strength, and love of Jesus' death, resurrection, and ascension. Remembering, we make our offering.

By your Holy Spirit, make our gifts holy, so that they may be spiritual food and drink. + Make us holy, so that we respectfully receive this feast and serve you in each other.

Surrounded now by our ancestor saints, Mary, Enmegahbowh, David Oakerhater, Kateri Tekakwitha, Black Elk, Molly Brant, Henry Budd, James Settee and all saints and all angels, with the heavenly community which gives you worship forever. May we also live in unity and live as relatives to all.

(Eucharistic Prayer revised version from the Liturgy of St. John's, Red Lake, MN)

United in Christ with all who stand before you on earth and heaven, we worship you, God the Creator, our Great Spirit, in songs and dance of infinite praise. Blessing, honor and glory be yours, here and everywhere, now and for ever. **Amen.**

(adapted from NZ Maori PB)

And now we say the Lord's Prayer

THE FRACTION

CELEBRANT Whoever comes to me shall not hunger
PEOPLE and whoever believes in me shall never thirst.

(Invitation, St. Gregory of Nyssa)

THE COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

CELEBRANT So, come to this table, you who have much faith and you who would like to have more. You who have been to this sacrament often, and you who have not been for a long time. You who have tried to follow Jesus, and you who have failed. Come. It is Christ who invites us to meet him here. These are the gifts of God for the people of God.

(From Communion Blessing, Christopher Peters)

POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

CELEBRANT Let us Pray

ALL Jesus Christ, our leader, you are the Son of the Creator. Today we became your children today we became your grandchildren. We will live as you have taught us. We will follow your commandments. Watch over us. Speak to us from the trees, from the grass and herbs, from the breeze, from the passing rain, from the passing thunder and the deep waters. Before us there is beauty, behind us there is beauty. Allow us to walk a long life in happiness completed in beauty. Amen.

(From the Liturgy of St. John's, Red Lake, MN)

Or

ALL Great Creator, you have fed us with bread from heaven. Continue to renew us in your truth, to give light to our minds strength to our bodies, and seal us with your Holy Spirit. We ask this in Christ's name. Amen.

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.**

(Blessing attributed to The Rt. Rev. John Shelby Spong)

DISMISSAL

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

CLOSING SONG