## \*\*Welcome! Bienvenue!\*\*

## Your Church Name Here

4th Sunday after Pentecost, June 20, 2021

Indigenous Day of Prayer

### Reflection

No one can paddle two canoes at the same time. *Bantu proverb*

### WE GATHER AS COMMUNITY

#### Welcome

#### Acknowledging Our Kinship

One: Creator, we come together today as diverse, united peoples to give thanks to you, Maker of Heaven and Earth.

**All: We come to listen, to learn, to sing and pray, to consider our place in the order of things you have created and are creating.**

One: It is right and good to give thanks for the land on which we stand, for this is wisdom we learn from Indigenous peoples of this land―that we are one with the earth, its waters, air, animals, and plants.

**All: Such wisdom, our interdependence with all life, is something too easy to forget in our busy lives! It is a gift and a challenge to us to remember.**

One: And so we take time to acknowledge the lands on which we now live.

**All: Many of us have come from other places, arriving from distant shores, our families arriving years ago or some of us more recently. When settlers came, they were met by others who** **were already here, already knew these lands, already lived rich and full lives based on ancient and proud cultures.**

One: Let us take time to name the peoples of this land now. I invite you to speak out loud or in silence the local people(s) who traditionally and still call these lands home. If you are aware of the status of Indigenous claims to this land (*unceded, treaty, etc.*), please name this too (*the people speak the names…*).

O God, as we acknowledge the peoples who have lived on and stewarded these lands since time immemorial, and their continued claims to the land, help us to become neighbours that we might live together in better ways.

**All: For we are all kin in Christ, “All My Relations,” with each other and this earth, its waters, air, animals, and plants.**

#### Gathering Hymn

“Like a Rock” (*More Voices* 92)

#### Call to Worship (adapted from Psalm 62)

One: Be still my soul and wait for God: from God comes my salvation.

**All: God alone is my rock; I shall never be shaken.**

One: On God rests our deliverance and our honour.

**All: My mighty rock, my refuge, my strength is in God.**

One: Trust in God at all times, O people.

**All: In love, we pour out our hearts before the Lord our God.**

#### Prayer of Approach

**Holy One, you are our rock,   
a foundation upon which we stand.   
Fill our hearts now with joy at your deep, abiding presence.  
Encourage us by the teachings of Christ to live  
with care and compassion for self, friend, and neighbour.  
Bless us now as we reflect on our relations  
with Indigenous peoples―our kin―  
as diverse yet united peoples. Amen.**

#### Hymn of Praise

“Teach Me, God, to Wonder” (*Voices United* 299)  
“Called by Earth and Sky” (MV 135)

#### For the Kid in All of Us

### WE ENCOUNTER SACRED STORY

#### Scripture

Genesis 1:26‒27 – Humans shall have “dominion”  
Matthew 22:34‒40 – You shall love your neighbour as yourself

#### Meditation: “Finding Neighbours Everywhere”

#### Hymn

“As a Fire Is Meant for Burning” (VU 578)  
“What Does the Lord Require of You” (VU 701)  
“They’ll Know We Are Christians by Our Love” ([by Peter Scholtes](https://hymnary.org/text/we_are_one_in_the_spirit#Author), [Tune: ST. BRENDAN’S](https://hymnary.org/text/we_are_one_in_the_spirit#tune))

### OUR RESPONSE TO LISTENING AND HEARING

#### The Offering

(*Suggested to benefit a local Indigenous friendship or other service organization*)

#### Prayer of Dedication

#### Prayers of the People

#### The Lord’s Prayer, Notre Père

### WE GO FORTH TO BE THE CHURCH IN THE WORLD

#### Hymn

“Though Ancient Walls” (VU 691)  
“If You Will Trust in God to Guide You” (VU 286)  
“Praise with Joy the World’s Creator” (VU 312)

#### Commissioning and Benediction

One: As God’s united yet diverse peoples, we go to become neighbours to each other and to the earth.

**All: For in Christ we are all kin. We are called to be neighbours, to share generously with each other.**

One: As we learn more, respect more, love more, we all can gain, not lose!

**All: God as Creator will be our rock. Christ and Spirit be our guides.**

#### Choral Benediction

“Many and Great, O God, Are Your Works” (VU 308)