

# Home Prayers

June 20, 2021 • National Indigenous Day of Prayer

(adapted from the *Book of Alternative Services*, pages 685-679)

*If you are praying with one or more others, the service can be divided between the plain and bold text. If you are praying by yourself, you can say all of the prayers aloud or silently.*

## The Preparation

The heavens are telling the glory of God;  
**and the firmament proclaims God's handiwork.**

Jesus Christ is the light of the world.  
**A light no darkness can extinguish.**

*A hymn may be sung. This one can go to the tune Lacquiparle.*

1. Many and great, O God, are your works,  
Maker of earth and sky.  
Your hands have set the heavens with stars;  
your fingers spread the mountains and plains.  
You merely spoke and waters were formed;  
deep seas obey your voice.
2. Grant us communion with you, our God,  
though you transcend the stars.  
Come close to us and stay by our side:  
with you are found the true gifts that last.  
Bless us with life that never shall end,  
eternal life with you.

*Words: Joseph Renville (1842)*

*The collect of the day may be said. This is a collect for the 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.  
**Amen.**

## Reading

*The Gospel of the day may be read. Mark 4:35-41 is appointed for the Fourth Sunday after Pentecost:*

On that day, when evening had come, he said to them, 'Let us go across to the other side.' And leaving the crowd behind, they took him with them in the boat, just as he was. Other boats were with him. A great gale arose, and the waves beat into the boat, so that the boat was already being swamped. But he was in the stern, asleep on the cushion; and they woke him up and said to him, 'Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?' He woke up and rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, 'Peace! Be still!' Then the wind ceased, and there was a dead calm. He said to them, 'Why are you afraid? Have you still no faith?' And they were filled with great awe and said to one another, 'Who then is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?'

*Following the reading you may contemplate in silence, or discuss the scripture passage with others, or read a related work of literature.*

## Apostles' Creed

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.

## A Litany for the Healing and Restoration of our Church

Holy Creator, in whom all things in heaven and earth have their being,  
**Have mercy on us.**

Risen Christ, through whom the whole creation is reconciled to God,  
**Have mercy on us.**

Life-giving Spirit, whose love and truth fills the world and searches the depths of our lives,  
**Have mercy on us.**

Blessed Trinity, source of both unity and diversity,  
**Have mercy on us.**

From our failure to recognize and respect the revelation of your truth and love in the First Peoples of this land,  
**Saviour, forgive and heal us.**

From our participation in the systematic oppression of Indigenous sovereignty, language, culture, and spirituality,  
**Saviour, forgive and heal us.**

From our role in the Indian residential schools, designed to eliminate the unique society, wisdom, and beauty of the Indigenous peoples of this land,  
**Saviour, forgive and heal us.**

From our complicit tolerance of the decimation of Indigenous family structures leaving children vulnerable to abuses of every kind,  
**Saviour, forgive and heal us.**

From our continued acceptance of unjust legal, educational, health and social structures that continue to oppress and destroy the lives of many Indigenous people,

**Saviour, forgive and heal us.**

O God, we pray for the gifts of your grace and your love which never gives up on us and is forever faithful. Inspire our minds with a vision of the reconciliation of your kingdom in this time and place.

**Hear us, O Christ.**

Touch our eyes, that we may see the sacredness in all creation.

**Hear us, O Christ.**

Touch our ears, that we may hear from every mouth of every peoples the hunger for hope and stories of refreshment.

**Hear us, O Christ.**

Touch our lips, that we may speak of the beauty of every tongue and dialect proclaiming the wonderful works of God.

**Hear us, O Christ.**

Touch our hearts, that we may discern your mission in which you call us to be immersed, particularly in partnership with the First Peoples of this land.

**Hear us, O Christ.**

Touch our minds that we may witness to your Good News in our neighbourhoods, communities, and all parts of the world.

**Hear us, O Christ.**

Touch our hands, that we may forever shun violence and embrace the work you give us to do.

**Hear us, O Christ.**

*Here other intercessions can be offered.*

*This concluding prayer can then be said:*

**O God, you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go forward with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us and your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## **The Lord's Prayer**

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

## **Conclusion**

**The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with us all evermore. Amen.**