

# A Service to mark Canada's National Day of Truth and Reconciliation

September 30 2022



Church of St. John the Evangelist, Elora

O God, make speed to save us.

**O Lord, make haste to help us.**

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

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

Cast your burden upon the Lord,

**And he will sustain you.**

Create in me a clean heart, O God,

**And renew a right spirit within me.**

Cast me not away from your presence

**And take not your Holy Spirit from me.**

Give me the joy of your saving help again

**And sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.**

Blessed be the Lord day by day,

**The God of our salvation, who bears our burdens.**

A reading from the 40th chapter of Isaiah beginning at the 25th verse.

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.  
Here ends the first reading.

### **Pslam 130**

Out of the depths have I called you, O Lord; Lord, hear my voice; \*

**let your ears consider well the voice of my supplication.**

If you, Lord, were to note what is done amiss, \*

**O Lord, who could stand?**

For there is forgiveness with you; \*

**therefore you shall be feared.**

I wait for the Lord; my soul waits for him; \*

**in his word is my hope.**

My soul waits for the Lord,

more than watchmen for the morning, \*

**more than watchmen for the morning.**

O Israel, wait for the Lord, \*

**for with the Lord there is mercy;**

With him there is plenteous redemption, \*

**and he shall redeem Israel from all their sins.**

A reading from the 3rd chapter of Paul's letter to the Ephesians, beginning at the 14th verse.

For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth takes its name. I pray that, according to the riches of his glory, he may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through his Spirit, and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love. I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

Here ends the second reading.

Hear, O Israel,

**the Lord our God, the Lord is one.**

**Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul,  
with all your mind, and with all your strength.**

**This is the first and the great commandment. The second is like it:  
Love your neighbour as yourself.**

**There is no commandment greater than these.**

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

*Anglican Diocese of Rupert's Land, 2017*

The Lord be with you.

**And with thy spirit.**

Let us pray.

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.**

Look with pity, O heavenly Father, upon those in this land who live with injustice, terror, disease, and death as their constant companions. We remember the survivors of residential schools of Canada, all those who died or did not return to their homes. Have mercy upon us and help us to eliminate cruelty wherever it is found. Strengthen those who seek equality for all. Grant that every one of us may enjoy a fair portion of the abundance of this land; through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### **Collect for 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**

### **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.**

Let us bless the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing through the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

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## **Statement on the Indian Residential Schools from Indigenous Survivors and Leaders, Anglican Church of Canada.**

September 30, 2021

There are no words to describe what we feel in our hearts, as we face, once again, the fear and pain of all that has happened. We are not surprised by the discovery of the children's remains, but the strength of our feelings now has become overwhelming. We are reliving childhood feelings of helplessness, made even larger by our now adult understanding of the things that were intended for us by government and churches.

We understand that the children whose remains have been discovered—and those who are yet to be discovered—are speaking to the heart of every individual, every community, and every institution in this Land. The children are witnesses to the betrayal, by government and churches, of the values and ideals that they say are their essence, foundation, and purpose. In this betrayal, colonization became a genocidal reality.

The good life for this Land and its peoples will not be achieved without truth and justice. Truth and justice will only appear on the way of repentance. The reality that is represented by the remains of the children can no longer be denied or dismissed. The healing that will lead to the good life on this Land will come from a real and dedicated turn from the deceit of colonization to the restoration of Indigenous rights and authority. It is impossible to separate the future well-being of all that is called Canada from Indigenous justice.

The first step must be involvement and support for the pursuit of the truth of the Indian Residential Schools and Day Schools. This work will make clear the fullness of the need for healing for non-Indigenous peoples and Indigenous peoples alike. Beyond that, there must be a focused and full commitment towards enabling Indigenous justice and well-being. Such a commitment will acknowledge and make possible the full authority of Indigenous Peoples across this Land. All who truly hear the witness of the children will show this commitment in every aspect of their on-going life on this Land.

