

Jammin' with the Wisdom of Jesus

Some Notes for the Reflection on Aug 9, 2017



A Prayer for Indigenous Peoples Day – Aug 9, 2017

God of rocks and rivers, animals and birds, trees and plants that provide food and medicine, we thank you for the good earth you have made.

We thank you for the original inhabitants of the land, who learned its shape, discovered ways to live on and with the land and the environment. Open our ears to the wisdom of those who have lived on and learned from the land, which you have made.

We celebrate the range of cultures and languages lived out by the Indigenous people of the world. We thank you for the opportunities that are ours to connect with and walk together with the Indigenous peoples of the world, of Canada, and in our community.

We pray for the Indigenous people of the world that:

- where their languages are oppressed, they would be given freedom to speak their language;
- where their access to traditional lands are ignored or abused, they would find their rights restored;
- where they face discrimination and the pressure to assimilate into the dominant culture, they would find their difference seen as a blessing and their diversity encouraged; and
- where they have been hurt and harmed, they would find individuals and governments prepared to apologize and to seek good ways of walking together.

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us that we might be agents of the transformation we have prayed for, working with you in our communities, in Canada, and throughout the world.

We thank you for the many of the world's Indigenous people who are our sisters and brothers in following Jesus Christ. And in Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Peter Bush, Moderator, The Presbyterian Church in Canada

The Brentwood Manifesto of the Christian Faith

How We See God, the World, Humanity, and the Future

*In the beginning, God created the world
and delighted in its diversity and development.
God created human beings
and nourished them to flourish in blessing all of creation.*

*But humanity rebelled, rejecting the limits of their power.
Their rebellion against God's vision of justice, peace, and joy
brought tyranny, suffering, and death.*

*God never tired of calling humanity home
to work in common to cultivate the well-being of the world.
Through the law and the prophets,
God's Spirit invited love of God, love of others, and love of self
as the empowering energy for engaging in this mission.*

*In a unique and decisive act of reconciliation and revelation,
God overcame our alienation and loneliness.
God took flesh and dwelt among us,
full of grace and truth.
In the life, death, resurrection, and ascension of Jesus Christ,
the creation is restored to its original purpose.
God continues to craft the completion of this redemption.*

*Through the church universal, visible and invisible,
the Holy Spirit empowers people
to participate consciously in their reconciliation
through worship, learning, fellowship, and service.*

*By God's grace in Jesus Christ through the work of the Spirit,
we know what it is to be loved and to love
amidst all the problems of the world.
We are equipped and sent to sow seeds of God's SHALOM
in all of our circles of influence.*

*In the end, God's love, healing, and forgiveness
will transform heaven and earth
and bring justice, peace, and joy to full realization.*