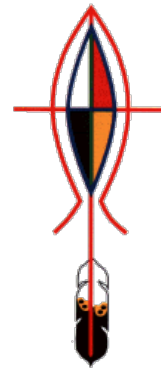


# Parish Picnic & Eucharist

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost  
National Indigenous Day of Prayer

June 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2025



*Gathering*

*Territorial Acknowledgment*

As we gather, we do so physically on traditional territory long tended and treasured by peoples of First Nations including the Mississaugas of the Credit, the Neutrals, the Anishinaabe, and the Haudenosaunee. These lands were shared under the Dish with One Spoon wampum—a treaty that continues to this day, and that reminds us to strive to live in peace and harmony with justice. May we always strive to live up to our responsibilities as members of this treaty.

*Honouring the Four Directions*

Come Great Spirit, as we gather in your name.

We face East: To your symbol colour Red, the hue of revelation; To your animal symbol the Eagle, strong and nurturing; To your lessons calling us to the balance of your Spirit in Harmony with brothers and sisters; To invoke your wisdom and grace, the goodness of the ages, We pray:

**Come, Holy Spirit, Come.**

We turn to face South: To your symbol colour Gold for the morning star. To your symbol Brother Sun that enlightens our intellect and brings light on our path to live responsibly; To your lessons calling us to balance of Mind in the Spirit of humility; To invoke your spirit of illumination and far sighted vision; Help us to love you and one another with our whole heart, our whole mind, and our whole soul,  
We pray:

**Come, Holy Spirit, Come.**

We turn to face West: To your symbol colour Black, still and quiet. To your animal symbol the Thunderbird; To your symbol the Thunder mighty and purposeful; To your lessons calling us to balance our emotions in the spirit of Gentleness and Honesty; To invoke your spirit of introspection, seeing within; Give us your strength and the courage to endure, We pray:

**Come, Holy Spirit, Come.**

We turn to face North: To your symbol colour white of clarity and brightness. To your animal symbol the swan which brings us in touch with Mother Earth and growing things; To your lessons calling us to balance of our Body in the spirit of a good sense of humour; To invoke your spirit of innocence, trust and love; Help us to open our eyes to the sacredness of every living thing,  
We pray:

**Come, Holy Spirit, Come.**

We turn to complete the circle and to look: To God, our Creator who cleanses our Mother Earth with snow, wind and rain; To Jesus Christ, the Peacemaker who fills us with the wideness of mercy and lovingly embraces all, and the Holy Spirit who inspires us to action:  
We pray Come, Holy Spirit, Come.

**Come, Holy Spirit, Come.**

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.**

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.**

### *The Collect of the Day*

Lord, you trouble our peace, you step upon our guarded shore and confront our chaos: may we who are divided and colonized by the forces of death learn from you to speak our own name and proclaim your works of life; through Jesus Christ, the Tamer of Legions.

**Amen.**

# Unfolding the Scriptures

## *First Reading*

A reading from the first book of Kings.

Ahab told Jezebel all that Elijah had done, and how he had killed all the prophets with the sword. Then Jezebel sent a messenger to Elijah, saying, 'So may the gods do to me, and more also, if I do not make your life like the life of one of them by this time tomorrow.' Then he was afraid; he got up and fled for his life, and came to Beer-sheba, which belongs to Judah; he left his servant there.

But Elijah himself went a day's journey into the wilderness, and came and sat down under a solitary broom tree. He asked that he might die: 'It is enough; now, O LORD, take away my life, for I am no better than my ancestors.' Then he lay down under the broom tree and fell asleep. Suddenly an angel touched him and said to him, 'Get up and eat.' He looked, and there at his head was a cake baked on hot stones, and a jar of water. He ate and drank, and lay down again.

The angel of the LORD came a second time, touched him, and said, 'Get up and eat, otherwise the journey will be too much for you.'

Elisha got up, and ate and drank; then he went in the strength of that food for forty days and forty nights to Horeb the mount of God. At that place he came to a cave, and spent the night there.

Then the word of the LORD came to him, saying, 'What are you doing here, Elijah?'

He answered, 'I have been very zealous for the LORD, the God of hosts; for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away.'

The word of the LORD said, ‘Go out and stand on the mountain before the LORD, for the LORD is about to pass by.’

Now there was a great wind, so strong that it was splitting mountains and breaking rocks in pieces before the LORD, but the LORD was not in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake; and after the earthquake a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire; and after the fire a sound of sheer silence. When Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave.

Then there came a voice to him that said, ‘What are you doing here, Elijah?’ He answered, ‘I have been very zealous for the LORD, the God of hosts; for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away.’ Then the LORD said to him, ‘Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus.’

*1<sup>st</sup> Kings 19. 1 – 15<sup>a</sup>*

Listen for the Leading of the Spirit.

**Thanks be to God.**

### *Introduction to the First Nations Version*

The First Nations Version is a retelling of the Creator’s Story from the Scriptures, attempting to follow the tradition of the storytellers of our oral cultures. It is in English because over 90% of First Nations people do not speak their tribal language, and even fewer can read it—the result of several generations of governmental assimilation policies that attempted to eradicate over 250 languages spoken on Turtle Island (North America). Native naming traditions, using the meaning of names for persons and places are used throughout. Similarly, names for God reflect traditional uses in

many cultures: Great Spirit, Great Mystery, Maker of Life, Giver of Breath, One Above Us All.

The most frequently used name for Jesus in this translation is “Creator Sets Free.”

### *The Gospel*

The Honoured Chief be with you.  
**And also with you.**

Shining Light Tells the Good Story.  
**We open our ears to listen.**

When they finished crossing, they came to the territory of the people of Honoured in the End, across the Lake of Circle of Nations. As soon as Creator Sets Free stepped from the canoe, a man from the village was there. This man had been tormented with evil spirits for a long time. His clothes had worn off him, and he was homeless, so he lived in the local burial grounds.

When the man saw Creator Sets Free, he fell to the ground in front of him. The evil spirit cried out through the man, “Creator Sets Free, Son of the One Above Us All, what do you want with me? I beg you not to torment me! He said this because Creator Sets Free had ordered the evil spirit to leave the man.

In the past this evil spirit had often taken hold of the man, so the villagers had kept the man bound with chains and under close watch. But the man had broken the chains, and the evil spirit had forced him out into the desert.

Creator Sets Free asked, “What is your name?”  
“Many Soldiers,” he answered, because thousands of spirits had entered into him. They begged Creator Sets Free not to send them into the deep dark pit of the world below.

There was a large herd of pigs feeding on a nearby mountainside, so the spirits begged him to permit them to enter the pigs. When he gave them permission, the evil spirits left the man and entered into the herd of pigs. Then the whole herd stampeded down the mountainside headlong into the lake and drowned.

The ones who were watching over the pigs were scared to death and ran away. They went to the nearby village and told them everything that had happened. As word spread, people came from the villages and the countryside to see for themselves. There they found the man whom the evil spirits had come out of, sitting quietly at the feet of Creator Sets Free. He was clothed and in his right mind. This filled the hearts of the people there with awe and fear.

The ones who had seen what happened told the people how the man with evil spirits had been set free. Then the people from the territory of Honoured in the End begged Creator Sets Free to go away from their land.

As Creator Sets Free entered the canoe to return to the other side, the man who had been set free from the evil spirits begged him to take him along.

Creator Sets Free would not permit it and said to the man, "Return home to your family and friends. He told the man, "Tell them all the powerful things the Great Spirit has done for you."

*Luke 8. 26 – 39*

The Good Road of Creator Sets Free.

**Thanks be to the Great Spirit.**

*Reflection*

*At the picnic and service at 10 am, we'll bless artificial flowers for the altar in memory of the late Bill Pleydon.*

*We'll also bless the garden benches in memory of the late The Reverend Jack Pearce.*

*Prayers of the People*

✠ Gracious God,  
✠ **graciously hear us.**

*The Peace*

The peace of Christ be always with you.  
**And also with you.**

*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.**

*The Great Thanksgiving*

God be with you.  
**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.  
**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**



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

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord.  
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:

**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.

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, honour and glory be yours, here and everywhere, now and for ever.

**Amen.**

## *The Lord's Prayer*

As our Saviour teaches, let us pray.

**Our Father in heaven**

**hallowed be your name,**

**your kingdom come,**

**your will be done,**

**on earth as in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread.**

**Forgive us our sins**

**as we forgive those who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power,**

**and the glory are yours, now and for ever. Amen.**

## *Breaking of Bread*

Creator of all, you gave us golden fields of wheat,

whose many grains we have gathered and made into this one bread.

**So may your Church be gathered**

**from the ends of the earth into your reign of justice and peace.**

## *Prayer after Communion*

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

**Amen.**

## *Announcements*

*Blessing*

*Dismissal*

Go in peace. Live by the Spirit.  
**Thanks be to God.**