

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE: SUNDAY OF TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION 2023

Together with one heart and one mind, let us pray, **“Teach us and show us the way.”**

Creator, Eternal Word, and Great Spirit, as we approach you in prayer, help us to walk in beauty and balance, assist us to open our hearts and minds, and support us to speak the truth in love. We pray first for your Community, the Church, the Body of Christ. We pray also for all our relatives in the circle of life throughout all Creation, for those chosen to be our teachers.

We call upon the earth, our Mother and home, with her soaring heights, rolling plains, and deep waters, her vitality, and abundance of life. Together with one heart and one mind, let us pray:

Teach us and show us the way.

We call upon the mountains and tundra, the high green valleys and prairies filled with grasses and wildflowers, the snows, the summits of intense silence. Together with one heart and one mind, let us pray:

Teach us and show us the way.

We call upon the land which grows our food, the nurturing soil, the fertile fields, the abundant gardens and orchards, the plants being berries, the flowing waters. Together with one heart and one mind, let us pray:

Teach us and show us the way.

We call upon the forests, the great trees reaching strongly to the sky with earth in their roots and the heavens in their branches, the fir, the spruce, the birches, the cedars, the maples, the oaks. Together with one heart and one mind, let us pray:

Teach us and show us the way.

We call upon the creatures of the fields, forests, mountains, and the waters, the wolves and deer, the eagle and bear, the fox and caribou, the otter and beaver, the great whales and the fish, the seals and shellfish, all those who crawl upon and in the earth. Together with one heart and one mind, let us pray:

Teach us and show us the way.

We call upon those who have lived on this earth, our Ancestors and our friends who dreamed the best for future generations, and upon whose lives our lives depend:

Teach us and show us the way.

Creator and Great Spirit, you made the universe and declared her to be good. We give thanks for the beauty of the trees, for the softness of the air, for the fragrance of the flowers and grasses, for the summits of the mountains, for the thunder in the sky, for the rhythm of the waters, for the light of the stars in the night skies, for Grandfather Sun, For Grandmother Moon, for the freshness of each new day, and for the gathering darkness of each evening. In each of these gifts, you speak to us and teach us. But above all, you speak to us in Jesus the Human One, the Eternal Word, the Peacemaker, the Light of the World, the Christ, in whose name we offer these prayers.

Amen.