

Resources for Parishes Marking the National Aboriginal Day of Prayer (June 21st)

(can be used on Sunday June 20th, 2010)

Collect of the Day

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

Readings

Isaiah 40:25-31; Psalm 19; Philippians 4:4-9; John 1:1-18

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.

Preface for Weekdays

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
strength to our bodies, and seal us with your Holy Spirit.
We ask this in Christ's name. Amen.

Sentence

The heavens are telling the glory of God; and the firmament proclaims his handiwork. Psalm
19:1

National Aboriginal Day - June 21st
and our partnership with Indigenous Anglicans in Canada

(from the national church website)

In 1971 the General Synod of the Anglican Church of Canada declared June 21 as a "National Indian Day of Prayer" and requested all dioceses to commend this day to parishes and congregations throughout Canada. In 1995, participants of the Sacred Assembly in Hull, Quebec - a national meeting of Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people - revived an earlier campaign to observe June 21 as a national day to recognize the contributions of Aboriginal peoples to Canada. The summer solstice, the longest day of the year, falls on June 21. For generations, this was a sacred day for many Aboriginal people on which they celebrated their culture and heritage. On June 13, 1996, Governor General Romeo Leblanc declared June 21 ***National Aboriginal Day***.

In Winnipeg in 1994, representatives of the Indigenous people gathered and made a Covenant to build a truly Anglican Indigenous Church in Canada, claiming their place and responsibility "as equal partners in a new shared journey of healing, moving towards wholeness and justice."

In July of 2001, the General Synod of the Anglican Church of Canada commended for study and implementation the working document *A New Agape: A Plan of Anglican Work in Support of a New Partnership between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Anglicans*. This plan expresses the commitment of the Anglican Church of Canada to a new relationship with the Indigenous (or Aboriginal) Peoples of Canada based on a partnership which focuses on the cultural, spiritual, social, and economic independence of Indigenous communities.

The Day is about celebrating the gifts of Indigenous people and giving thanks to God who has created the diversities of peoples of the world and gifted Aboriginal peoples of Canada with many treasures of wisdom, spirit and vision. Celebrate!

As we mark the passing of the summer solstice, let us pray in thanksgiving to God for the gifts that Aboriginal peoples have brought to Canada and to the church. Let us pray that we might all walk in the spirit of the Covenant made by the Indigenous partners in Canada to "do all we can to call our people into unity in a new, self-determining community within The Anglican Church of Canada".

Possible Intercessions

Direction Intercessor

Jesus Christ is the light of the world.

People

A light no darkness can extinguish.

East candle is lit followed with a prayer

O Creator, Great Spirit of Light the giver of the gift of a new day,
come to us out of the East with the power of the rising sun.
Let there be light always in our words and on the paths that we walk.
We ask, Spirit keeper of the East, Brother Eagle to be with us.
Fly high as you carry our prayers to our Creator.
Give us the sharpness of your eyes, so we are able to see truth
and hope on the path we have chosen.
Guide our every step and give us courage to walk the Circle of life
with honesty and dignity.
In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

West candle is lit followed with a prayer

Holy and Almighty God, Creator of Heaven and earth,
we give you our thanks and praise for
your grace that lifts us up and bears us each day.

As the daytime begins with the rising of the sun
your eternal light shines on us.
Even as this day is completing its circle,
Emmanuel, be with us, as the sun set approaches.

May our mortal bodies be refreshed and restored this night
with your precious gift of sleep and rest.
Surround us with your loving kindness during the nighttime.

As the eternal dawn shall come so will your appearing.
And we shall be known as you are known.
And in love and joy you will receive us.

Into your holy name we commend our spirit. Amen.

North candle is lit followed with a prayer

Almighty God, our Father, the giver of all good gifts from every
direction, send down your love from the North that all who
minister to your call may faithfully and truthfully serve you and
to the benefit of your Holy Church, in serving one master and

looking for one reward, in Jesus Christ. Amen.

South candle is lit followed with a prayer

Gracious God, Creator of the Universe
you speak to us through your prophets
and through Jesus Christ your son.

Through Jesus comes grace and truth,
healing and justice.

Your love has freed us from the bondage of fear
to become your disciples.

That love gives us the strength
and compassion to do your will
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.