L’Église presbytérienne

au Canada

The Presbyterian Church

in Canada

**Worship Planner**

**5th Sunday after the Epiphany; PWS&D Sunday**

**February 4, 2024**

**Year B**

*This worship planner is part of a series observing Black History Month, prepared by clergy in the PCC.*

**Colour** *Green*

**Scripture Readings**

Micah 6:6-8;

Psalm 130;

Galatians 3:25-29;

1 John 2:1-11

**Hymns**

307 - God of the sparrow

471 – We are one in the Spirit

472 – We are God’s people

475 – I am the church! You are the church!

**Call to Worship**

God said, “Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness.

**The earth is the LORD’s and all that is in it, the world, and those who live in it;**
**For God has founded it on the seas, and established it on the rivers.**

**Let everything that has breath, praise the LORD!**

There is no distinction between Jew and Greek

**The same GOD is LORD of all and richly blesses all who call on him.**

**Prayers of Adoration** **and Confession**

O Lord our God, Creator and Ruler of the universe, you are great beyond all things. You are clothed in honour and majesty, wrapped in light as a garment. You stretch out the heavens like a tent, you set the beams of your chambers on the waters, you make the clouds yourchariot, you ride on the wings of the wind, you make the winds yourmessengers, fire and flame yourministers. You gave us your son Jesus Christ as Saviour and Messiah and the Holy Spirit as our Helper and Comforter. We give you glory, honour and praise now and forever. Amen.

**Compassionate and merciful God, who sent your Son Jesus Christ to deliver us from all forms of injustices and inequalities. We confess we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves. We have looked down on others because of their race, class and colour. Forgive us our wrongs and create in us new hearts and new minds. Grant us enlarged visions to see your image in everyone we encounter regardless of their background, race and ethnicity. Help us to love like Jesus and create communities of human flourishing in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**Assurance of Pardon**

Friends, the Bible says while we still were sinners, Christ died for us. We are forgiven in Christ, let us accept Christ’s forgiveness and extend it to others. Thanks be to God.

**Prayer for Understanding**

God of word and wisdom, as we read the scriptures, open our eyes to see the wonderful truths in your instructions. And may our hearts embrace these instructions and allow the Holy Spirit to direct us in implementing them in our lives in the name of Jesus.

**Invitation to the Offering**

The Bible reminds us that when we give generously abundant gifts will pour out upon us with overflowing measures. Let us give to God with hearts of thanksgiving and praise for God loves a cheerful giver.

**Prayer of Dedication**

Generous God, all good and perfect gifts come from you. With joy and thanksgiving, we have come to return to you a part of the gifts you gave us. As Jesus blessed the bread and fish and it multiplied, we pray that you will multiply our gifts and bless us with wisdom and direction from the Holy Spirit on how to use it to bless your Kingdom.

**Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession**

God the giver of life and Creator of the universe, your Holy Spirit wells up within your Church: we thank you for your Word which corrects us, rebukes us, teaches us, encourages us and challenges us. We admit that we have promoted divisions, injustice and inequalities, instead of the unity and love you have called us to. By the power of your Holy Spirit equip us with the fruit of the Spirit to live the gospel of Christ. Make us eager to do your will, that we may represent your nature in us and share with the whole creation the joys of eternal life.

God of love and compassion, you see all people as precious and valuable. Help us to always live that truth wherever we find ourselves and with whoever we encounter. If we have mistreated anyone of your children and racism was the author of that hurt, lead us to reconciliation. Lord, reveal to us our misconceptions and prejudices and help us to humbly repent and transform us into the loving beings we were created to be. Guide us to live in ways that portray true justice and righteousness. Help us to never lose sight of the Truth that you created all people in your image and likeness. May we always see hatred of any form – whether initiated or returned as Satan’s tool of division in the Church and on the earth, depriving us from experiencing and sharing the richness of your unconditional love.

God of healing and reconciliation, you created all the world and breathed your nature within us. You call us to reflect your love, goodness and justice in the world. Remind us to always show kindness and compassion and to stand up for and speak out for justice, mercy and compassion when the opportunity arises. Teach us to respect and defend your image reflected in all humans and be your true representatives here on earth.

For those who have been on the other end of inequality and injustice, help them to find it in their hearts to forgive those who have been unkind to them. Create loving and peaceful opportunities for us to share how we can treat and accommodate each other respectfully.

For those who still struggle to accept others, give them a new heart and a new spirit.

God of eternity, we pray for all who have died or been injured by acts of violence, war and hatred. We pray for those who have been faithful in every generation to work for justice, peace and equality for all peoples.

We thank you Lord for your everlasting love and compassion. Help us to respond to your call for peace and justice; that we rest in the assurance that you are always with us to nudge us. And now we pray with the words our Lord taught us, saying:

**The Lord’s Prayer**

**Commissioning and Benediction**

Go now, and love one another, because love is from God. Proclaim God’s salvation to every generation. And may the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all now and forever. Amen.

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**Worship Planner**

**6th Sunday After Epiphany**

**Transfiguration Sunday**

**February 11th, 2024**

**Year B**

*This worship planner is part of a series observing Black History Month, prepared by clergy in the PCC.*

**FIRST WORSHIP PLANNER**

**Colour** White

**Scripture Readings**

2 Kings 2: 1-12

Psalm 50: 1-6

2 Corinthians 4: 3 - 6

Mark 9: 2-9

**Hymns**

313 – Oh worship the King

186 – Swiftly pass the clouds of glory

767 – Lord, speak to me

708 - When Israel was in Egypt’s land

376 – Lord, the light of your love is shining

734 – Lord of life and Lord of nations

**Call to Worship**

Lord Jesus, on this day when you revealed your glory to your disciples;

**Reveal your glory to us.**

As we gaze on the splendour of your love;

**Help us to love you and our neighbours around us.**

Emmanuel, Everlasting God, Prince of Peace

**We worship you today, with all our hearts and our minds. Amen**

**Prayers of Adoration and Confession**

Creator God, the one who at the beginning said “let there be light” and there was light: shine the light of your grace, love and mercy on us, as we gather for worship today. Show us who you are and how we can become more like you.

God of all nations, creeds, and peoples, in you all the nations of the world find an equal place of love and security. In your son Jesus Christ, we all receive redemption from our sins and the promise of eternal life. His life also provides us with the perfect example of how we should love and care for each other, regardless of our backgrounds, race, or ethnicity. Jesus is the Prince of Peace and he invites us to lay aside the instruments of war and to live in peace with each other.

On this Transfiguration Sunday, help us to see you in all your glory, the Word made flesh and may this glory, through the Holy Spirit, transform our lives. In a world filled with hate, and injustice, inspire us to build the tabernacles of justice, peace and love, until the earth is full of your glory, as the waters cover the seas. Amen

**Forgiving God, you call us to love each other regardless of our race, colour or creed, but we confess that we find it easier to hate those who do not look like us, share our religion, or our values. We silently participate in unequal systems that are structured to negatively impact some groups of people, and benefit others on the basis of race prejudice.**

**You call us your church to be one, neither Jew nor Greek, neither bond nor free, neither male nor female. But we admit that your church is marked by elements of hate and divisions.**

**Forgive us Lord, remove things that cause us to hate and distrust each other. Help us to follow the example our Lord revealed to us today, remind us of Jesus’ love, mercy and compassion.**

**Make us instruments of your love and peace in our world today. Amen.**

**Assurance of Pardon**

Hear the good news: Christ died for our sins and rose again that God may free us from the tyranny of judging others to live fully in the power of God's grace. In the name of Jesus Christ, God forgives your sins and offers you a transformed future. Live fully into God's grace. Amen.

**Prayer for Understanding**

Almighty God, in you are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge. Open our minds that we may perceive the wonders of your word; and give us grace that we may clearly understand and freely choose the way of your wisdom; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Invitation to the Offering**

Every good thing is a gift from God — the food we eat, the things we have, the time we spend, our whole lives. We give our lives back to God as a way of saying thank you — sharing money with those who are in need, giving food to those who are hungry, and spending our time to help others.

**Prayer of Dedication**

God of new life, out of the abundance of our lives we offer these gifts to you.

Through your blessing and our willingness to share, may these offerings become a source for hope and love in this church family, and in the community beyond us,

in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

**Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession**

God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come; we bow before your throne in prayer today with thankful hearts. You are merciful and gracious. You always hear our cries and so we come boldly and confidently: thank you for continuing to reveal yourself to us, giving us direction as to how we should live with each other. There is so much trouble in our world, so we bring our concerns to you, especially the plight of the Black community.

**God of justice, hear our prayers.**

Attentive God, the people of African descent who reside in North America, the Caribbean and other places around the world have suffered so much. They were forced to endure the savage uprooting from their homes in Africa, the trauma of the Atlantic slave trade and the hundreds of years in slavery. The abolition of slavery did not remove many of the structures of that period of bondage that have remained in place to the present time. We seek your mercies.

**God of Justice, hear our prayers**

Creative God, we celebrate the achievements of our brothers and sisters around the world, those who have excelled in music and entertainment, science, business, politics and other areas of community development. We thank you for your continued presence, blessings and inspiration and guidance.

**God of justice, hear our prayers**

Universal God, we pray for other peoples and nations around the world, who struggle to survive from day to day. We bring to you those who grapple with the lack of options, inequality and injustice, wars, crime and violence, inadequate health care, and potable water. We pray for those who are sick, shut-in, lonely and depressed. May the light of your presence shine on us bringing hope and peace to all.

**God of justice, hear our prayers.**

Supreme head of the church, we pray for your church, the body of Christ in the world. We pray for Christians in countries where the gospel is forced to remain underground. We pray for all denominations and groups that represent your kingdom here on earth. Bless each leader and follower alike. Unite us in witness and in service as we confront the many challenges we face. Make us instruments of your peace, people committed to being your light in this dark world.

**God of our Church, hear our prayers.**

**The Lord’s Prayer**

**Commissioning and Benediction**

May God’s arms enfold and protect you.

May God’s word inform and inspire you.

May God’s love infuse and transform you.

May God’s Spirit flow and empower you now and always.

“The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face shine on you

and be gracious to you; the Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace.” Amen

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**Worship Planner**

**1st Sunday in Lent; Heritage Sunday**

**February 18th, 2024**

**Year B**

*This worship planner is part of a series observing Black History Month, prepared by clergy in the PCC.*

**FIRST WORSHIP PLANNER**

**Colour** Purple

**Scripture Readings**

Genesis 9:8–17;

Psalm 25:1–10;

1 Peter 3:18–22;

Mark 1:9–15

**Hymns**

French Hymn suggestions from “Sur Les Ailes de la Foi”

603 – My Jesus, I love you (I love you, oh Jesus)

350 - Wherever you want, I want to follow you

65 - In Christ alone is my hope.

615 – Good luck, friends

English hymn suggestions from Book of Praise

367 – Jesus the very thought of thee

634 – Will you come and follow me OR 648 – I’m gonna live so God can use me

671 – I heard the voice of Jesus say OR 567 – Eternal light, shine in my heart

712 – Arise, your light has come

**Call to Worship**

On this day when we approach our creator God, we all remember the suffering of our Lord Jesus Christ in this world. Jesus suffered to redeem us and make us heirs of the kingdom of his Father, our God and Creator of our humanity. Jesus Christ welcomes us in his grace and welcomes us all to this divine service in love and peace. Amen.

**Prayer of Confession**

Lord our God, your eyes are pure, and they see all our wrongdoings. You know our sins: to ourselves in ignorance, and to others in willfulness, and by our selfish and faithless ways, we have grieved your Holy Spirit. Therefore, we plead with you.

**Assurance of Pardon**

Hear the Word of Grace.

You know that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your forebearers, not with perishable things such as silver or gold, but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish.

**Prayer for Understanding**

O Lord, grant your people grace to enter into the season of Lent as a people consecrated to you, that we may live through it in love and fervour which no trouble may disturb; through Jesus Christ, your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns together with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

**Invitation to the Offering**

Our Lord Jesus Christ invites us to imitate the poor widow who gave everything she had to live. She gave the most precious thing of her life. She offered her life and her heart to Jesus Christ. We can do the same through our offerings by offering what costs us dearly and not what costs us nothing.

**Prayer of Dedication**

O God, the source of all good things, we bring to you our gifts:, our earthly things, the love of our hearts, and the service of our lives. All this we give through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.

**Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession**

Almighty and everlasting God, you love all that you have made, and you forgive the sins of all who are penitent. Create in us new and contrite hearts, that we, lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness, may receive your merciful forgiveness; through Jesus Christ, your Son our lord, who lives and reigns together with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

Almighty God, assembled around the throne of your majesty, we give you most humble and hearty thanks that you have visited us from on high and have enriched us with your heavenly blessings, help us, we pray you, not to lose them by the attractions and distractions of this world, through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.

**The Lord’s Prayer**

**Commissioning and Benediction**

You are the blessed God and God’s son Jesus Christ. "The gaze of this savior is constantly on you. Abide in Grace, in peace, in joy and in hope at all times and in all places in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit: Amen.

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**Worship Planner**

**2nd Sunday in Lent**

**February 25, 2024**

**Year B**

*This worship planner is part of a series observing Black History Month, prepared by clergy in the PCC.*

**FIRST WORSHIP PLANNER**

**Colour** *Purple*

**Scripture Readings**

Genesis 17:1–7, 15–16

Psalm 22:23–31

Romans 4:13–25

Mark 8:31–38

OR

Mark 9:2–9

**Hymns**

675 - Precious Lord Take My Hand

670 - Amazing Grace How Sweet The Sound

651 - Guide Me, O Thou Great Redeemer

635 - Brother, Sister, Let me Serve You

777 – Send me Lord/Thuma Mina

328 – This is my Father’s World

**Call to Worship**

One: How shall we come before our God?

**Many: We come to celebrate God’s goodness and grace.**

One: As we worship, what does the Lord require of us?

**Many: God calls us to do justice and to love kindness.**

One: As we serve, what does the Lord require of us?

**Many: God calls us to walk and worship in humility**

One: Let us worship, love and serve each other. Amen

**Prayers of Adoration**

Faithful God,

who fulfilled the promises made to the generations before us,

Thank you for your grace,

May everyone tell of your goodness and your grace.

Generous God, we praise you for gracious presence with us

throughout the years and for sending Jesus Christ

to deliver us from all manner of injustices and inequalities.

Your glorious Spirit fills this world and renews our hearts and visions so that

We can see your image in every person irrespective of background, race, and ethnicity.

Your love moves beyond divides and borders and works in us to end

misunderstanding, racism, and injustice;

creating communities of human flourishing.

We praise you for reconciling your world and making us one in Christ. Amen.

Forgiving God, we do not readily open our hearts to others who are different from us.

We want to follow the example set by Jesus to love everyone, but we are scared of the

unknown and scared that we might lose ourselves.

We fail so often to share your unconditional love with others.

Forgive us, Lord, and remind us of Jesus’ sacrificial love for us and all humanity.

Strengthen us where we are weak, that we may faithfully respond to

your call to love one another as you have loved us.

Make us channels of your peace and people,

who will build your kingdom of love and justice. Amen**.**

**Assurance of Pardon**

As descendants of Abraham we are covered by God’s grace that has set us free. Let us give God thanks that we have received salvation through the resurrection of Jesus. Go, live in peace, love the Lord, and love others. Amen.

**Prayer for Understanding**

Gracious God, your Word instructs us how we live and how we should grow in relationship with all you have created. Open our hearts to receive your Word of truth and may your truth lead to our liberation. May your Word help us to strive for justice, peace and equality for all people and set us on fire with love for you. Amen.

**Invitation to the Offering**

God has blessed us in so many ways and everything our world needs come from the Lord. We have been made to thrive and live in abundance. We have the power to make a difference by giving to the life changing work of sharing the gospel of grace. Come now, let us offer our gifts, our love; our everything on the altar as the Lord will bless, keep, and shape us.

**Prayer of Dedication**

Generous God, you have blessed our lives with many diverse gifts and peoples. We pause with grateful hearts to offer you gifts of money that you have provided for us. We also give to you our hands, our feet, our voices, our time, and our abilities. Use all that we are along with these gifts to spread your love throughout the world. We dedicate ourselves and all that we are to your work. We pray this in the name of Jesus. Amen.

**Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession**

God of grace and mercy, we come as a broken and sinful people before your throne thanking you for your grace. There is so much for people of African descent to fear as we live in these days. The trauma of the transatlantic slave trade is still vivid in many contexts across the world.

**Lord hear the cries of our hearts.**

The legacy of slavery still exists in many ways and systems here in North America. We pray that we will be bold enough to speak out against oppression as we seek to reflect your glory. May we, enlightened by the light of Christ, rebuke the tyranny and lies of racism and white supremacy.

**Lord hear the cries of our hearts.**

Lord there are many who are downtrodden by inequality and injustice. In your mercy hear our prayer: we pray for a better society for all people where dividing walls are broken down giving way to the redeeming love of Jesus Christ. May the choices we make help to liberate all people, especially those who have been marginalized, and who are held captive by inequality and injustice.
**Lord hear the cries of our hearts.**

Lord, we bring before you people throughout the world who struggle with poverty, food insecurity, lack of clean water and proper resources to aid their survival. We lift up people who are displaced and those who must migrate in and from places like South Sudan, Central America, and other places where the most vulnerable are being exploited and enslaved.

**Lord hear the cries of our hearts.**

We lift up to you all people in all places who are weary from war, starving because of famine, broken by human trafficking, sexual exploitation, and violence. May they know you as the one who can renew their strength. God of grace, show your love to them through us, and grant us ways to help them in this difficult day.

**Lord hear the cries of our hearts.**

We pray for comfort for families who must lay their relatives to rest as the have experienced death due in violent situations. We pray that the proliferation of guns may cease across the world and , instead, your love and grace will increase among humanity. We pray for all who mourn and especially parents who mourn their children that as they cast their cares upon you, they will find consolation in your love. We pray for peace, justice, and equality that only you can give through your grace.

**Lord hear the cries of our hearts.**

Emmanuel, God with us, move through communities across the world where Black people struggle to find hope because of years of colonialism and cause your hope to find the depths of each heart. Lord every life matters so may we end the actions that reflect the erroneous belief that some lives matter more than others.

**Lord hear the cries of our hearts**

God of the Universe, we bring ourselves to your throne of grace. We are all facing different situations as we grapple with changing times, but you are aware of who we are, and what we are going through. Activate your hope within us so that we may rely on the strength and comfort you offer. Have mercy on us, O God. Help us to regard all persons as made in your image. We ask all this in Jesus’ name. Amen.

**The Lord’s Prayer**

**Commissioning and Benediction**

Today, God send us into the world in peace.

We go out to lift up those who have fallen,

We will comfort the week and strengthen all people.

We will do no harm, but we will love our neighbours,

as we love ourselves.

And may the blessing of God be with us wherever we

work, worship and serve, today and always. Amen.