L’Église presbytérienne

au Canada

The Presbyterian Church

in Canada

**Worship Planner**

**4th Sunday after Pentecost**

**National Indigenous People’s Sunday**

**June 16th, 2024**

**Year B**

**Colour** *Green*

**Scripture Readings**

1 Samuel 15:34 - 16:13 and Psalm 20

OR

Ezekiel 17:22-24 and Psalm 92:1-4, 12-15;

2 Corinthians 5:6-10, (11-13), 14-17;

Mark 4:26-34

**Hymns**

328 – This is my Father’s world

301 – Many and great, O God, are your works

58 – To render thanks unto the Lord (Psalm 92)

632 – Help us accept each other

763 – To show by touch and word

489 – Help us to help each other, Lord

412 – Come, let us sing to the Lord a new song

**Call to Worship**

It is good to give God thanks, to sing praises to the Most High!

**We will sing for joy to God who has made us glad.**

Let us declare God’s steadfast love in the morning,

**and God’s faithfulness by night.**

So come to worship God with thankful, joyful hearts!

**Let us praise God’s holy name together.**

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

Living God,

from you come vitality, love and joy.

Your peace is our companion,

your love is our strength,

your Son is our hope.

Your Spirit nurtures tiny seeds of purpose and potential,

hidden deep in the soil of life,

to surprise us with new life.

While the earth begins to bloom around us,

we bring you our prayers and praise,

trusting that your Spirit will renew in us

the gifts we need to serve you in faithfulness

in the example of Christ our Lord.

**Living, loving God,**

**as we watch our gardens and our children grow,**

**we confess we often resist the change growth can bring.**

**We form opinions about many things – and cling to them.**

**We fear new insights and new directions.**

**Forgive us when we think already know enough.**

**Grant us faith like the mustard seed,**

**able to grow with your blessing**

**to become a mighty sign of your lively kingdom among us. Amen**

**Assurance of Pardon**

Hear the good news! Who is in a position to condemn us? Only Christ – and Christ died for us; Christ rose for us, Christ reigns in power for us, Christ prays for us. Friends, believe the good news of the gospel. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and set free by God’s generous grace! Rejoice in God’s good gift.

**Prayer for Understanding**

God of patience and persistence, speak through the Scriptures, and inspire our growth and gratitude, so that we may be changed by what we hear. Open our

minds and hearts to a fresh encounter with Christ, your Living Word. Amen.

**Invitation to the Offering**

The parables of St Mark remind us that God’s kingdom grows from small beginnings with surprising results. So give to God as you are able, and trust that God will honour your generosity for the purposes of God’s Spirit at work among us and beyond us.

**Prayer of Dedication**

God of small seeds and secret growth, bless the gifts we bring to you. Use them as seeds of new life in our community and in your world. Grow results we cannot even imagine – within us, among us, because of us and beyond us, for the sake of Christ, our Living God. Amen.

**Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession**

Gracious God, you hold all things in your hands.

We may plant seeds

but it is your mysterious power that brings forth growth.

We play our small parts but you awaken new life.

Thank you for our place in your purposes.

Guide our plans for ministry in the days ahead.

 Plant seeds of your kingdom in our midst, O God.

**May we bear the fruits of new life.**

We pray for the work of our church and our government

in pursuing Truth and Reconciliation with Canada’s indigenous peoples.

We pray for indigenous communities

which lack clean water to drink and health care close at hand,

and for all those mourning

the loss of missing and murdered indigenous women and girls .

Guide decision makers to act with timely courage and compassion

for justice to be done.

Awaken understanding in those who feel no empathy

for the struggles of others.

 Plant seeds of your kingdom in our midst, O God.

**May we bear the fruits of new life.**

On this day that celebrates fathers,

we pray for families in war-torn communities

where celebration is an impossible dream.

We pray for fathers and families who face financial hardship

and worry for the well-being of their children.

And we pray for any who feel empty or lonely this day,

who fear the future or mourn the past.

As summer holidays draw closer,

guide families to find meaningful opportunities

to enjoy each other and the world on their doorsteps.

 Plant seeds of your kingdom in our midst, O God.

**May we bear the fruits of new life.**

Gracious God, you hold all things in your hand, including us.

Be with all those who carry on in spite of loss or grief,

and with those who face pain or uncertainty about their future.

Keep us open to your Spirit’s leading.

In all that we do with and for each other,

help us embody the love of our Lord Jesus Christ, who taught us to pray, saying

**The Lord’s Prayer**

**Commissioning and Benediction**

Walk gently on the earth God has entrusted to us all and cherish God’s amazing creation.

Deep peace of the running wave to you,

Deep peace of the flowing air to you,

Deep peace of the quiet earth to you,

Deep peace of the shining stars to you.

Deep peace of the Son of Peace to you. Amen.

**PRAYER PARTNERSHIP**

**MISSION MOMENT: Sunday, June 16**

Am Salama reflects on her life in Sudan before the outbreak of war. Following a political crisis in 2023, she and her family, once prosperous farmers and restaurant owners, were forced to flee their bustling town in East Darfur due to escalating tensions. The war separated Am Salama from her husband, who stayed behind to care for his blind mother. Facing numerous challenges during their journey to South Sudan, including being robbed of the little money and clothing she had managed to bring with her and frequent illness, Am Salama and her children found refuge at the Wedwil Refugee Camp. The safety and food assistance they received at the camp, supported by PWS&D, played a critical role in their survival.

**DAILY PRAYERS**

**Sunday, June 16 (National Indigenous Peoples Sunday)** We pray for the NIMC (National Indigenous Ministries Council) and the leaders and ministers of the eight Indigenous ministries of the PCC. We pray for blessings and healing of the leaders and communities they serve across Canada.

**Monday, June 17** We pray for the Presbyterian Church Heritage Centre as they prepare to open their doors with an invitation to view hundreds of artefacts and promote our denomination’s heritage.

**Tuesday, June 18** We give thanks and ask God’s strength, wisdom and joy for the women and men who serve as the Executive of the Atlantic Mission Society.

**Wednesday, June 19** We give thanks for Saskatoon Native Circle Ministry as it provides prayer, crisis counselling, nourishment, clothing and a weekly worship Circle to people on the margins of society.

**Thursday, June 20 (World Refugee Day)** We pray for peace everywhere and remember in prayer families forced from their homes because of war and persecution. We ask God to encourage the hearts of refugees on their journey to find stability and peace.

**Friday, June 21 (National Indigenous Peoples Day)** We give thanks for Indigenous leaders who nurture and strengthen their communities and the whole nation, and pray for their well-being.

**Saturday, June 22** As warmer days appear and as the end of June brings holiday time and respite for people, may they, with guidance from God, find the meaningful and restful time they are seeking.