

## **SECOND SEDERUNT**

### **WORSHIP**

The Assembly was led in worship by the Rev. Paul Kang, who preached the sermon and was assisted by pianist and liturgist Ferenc (Frank) Szatmari and guitarist Reuben St. Louis.

### **ASSEMBLY CONSTITUTED**

At the Athletic and Recreation Centre of Wilfrid Laurier University, Waterloo, Ontario, on Monday, June 3, 2024 at 9:30 a.m., the Assembly met pursuant to adjournment. The Moderator constituted the Assembly with prayer.

### **TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

The Moderator read the following Territorial Acknowledgement.

Those of us gathered here have come from many places that are the traditional lands and territories of many different First peoples. But today we acknowledge that the land we are gathered on here for our General Assembly is the traditional territory of the Neutral, Anishnaabeg (ah-nish-naw-beg) and Haudenosaunee (hoe-de-no-show-nee) nations; that they have cared for it and lived in relationship with it and with the plants, animals and waters around and within the land for thousands of years.

We acknowledge with respect the importance and sacredness of this land to the Neutral, Anishnaabe and Haudenosaunee nations; the significance the land holds within cultural and spiritual practices, and the rootedness of Neutral, Anishnaabe and Haudenosaunee families and communities within the land we are gathered on today.

We come from a tradition steeped in an understanding of holy ground but we know that we are still learning how to walk humbly on that ground. Part of our learning to walk humbly is learning the history of the land and the history of the peoples first in relationship with it; who first cared for this land and what that relationship means to the people who were the first caretakers and who continue in that role today; what treaties have been made and how they are being lived out.

The Neutral, Anishnaabe and Haudenosaunee people have cared for and protected this land and these waters for millennia and they still care for and remain in relationship with the land today.

Some of that care and protection and living in relationship with the land was treaty-making; this land is part of the Dish with One Spoon Treaty between the Haudenosaunee and Anishnaabeg peoples, which is an agreement about how land and resources are to be shared, and how people are to be in relationship with one another. We acknowledge the ongoing importance that Treaty continues to hold for all people on these lands.

The land we are gathered on today is also part of the 1784 Haldimand Treaty, signed by the British and their allies, the Six Nations, after the American Revolution. That treaty was also to be an agreement about how to be in relationship but we acknowledge that it has not been followed; the Six Nations of the Grand River now reside on less than five percent of the land covered by the original treaty.

Lastly, and only first having acknowledged the Neutral, Anishnaabeg and Haudenosaunee nations, the deep significance and relationship the land hold for them, and the treaties that cover this place, we acknowledge our own identity and relationship with the land and the First Peoples as The Presbyterian Church in Canada, a church that participated in colonization. We acknowledge the harm we have done as well as the commitments we have made to redress that harm. In doing so, we lift up the ongoing work needed for healing and reconciliation.

### **MODERATOR'S CHAPLAIN**

The Moderator announced that the Rev. Kathy Fraser will serve as her chaplain throughout this Assembly. She invited commissioners who have prayer requests to contact Kathy if they would like them included in the Moderator's prayers at the close of sederunts.

### COMMISSIONER ORIENTATION

The Principal Clerk reviewed some of the common General Assembly procedures.

He then announced that commissioners Jennfer Cameron, Henry Hildebrandt, Ross Lockhart, Paul Wu and Joyce Yanishewski will be available throughout the Assembly to those with pastoral concerns.

### COMMITTEE ON BUSINESS (cont'd from p. XXX)

#### Roll and Leave to Withdraw

D.R. Kendall presented the report of the Roll and Leave to Withdraw.

#### Changes to the Roll

**Recommendation No. 1** was moved by J.W. Tait, duly seconded, that regrets from F. Saleh (Presbytery of Oak Ridges) be accepted. Adopted.

#### Leave to Withdraw

**Recommendation No. 2** was moved by J.W. Tait, duly seconded, that the following commissioners be granted leave to withdraw. Adopted

Sederunts 2 and 3 – D. Bruce (Presbytery of Hamilton)  
Sederunts 2 and 6 – L.D. Murray (Presbytery of Barrie)  
Sederunt 4 – B.D. Bertrand (Presbytery of Ottawa)  
Sederunts 8 and 9 – J.J. Crawford (Presbytery of New Brunswick)  
Sederunt 10 – R.B. Sim (Presbytery of Hamilton)

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### ASSEMBLY COUNCIL

The Assembly called for the report of the Assembly Council which, as printed on p. XXX, was presented by C.A. Inksetter, convener.

Consent recommendations were placed before the Assembly.

Commissioners asked that Recommendation ASC-003 (p. XXX) and ASC-004 (p. XXX) be withdrawn from the consent recommendations.

#### Consent Recommendation

C.A. Inksetter moved, duly seconded, that the following recommendations be adopted by consent. Adopted.

ASC-005 (p. XXX)    ASC-008 (p. XXX)    ASC-009 (p. XXX)

**Recommendation ASC-001** (p. XXX) was moved by C.A. Inksetter duly seconded. Adopted.

The Rev. Dr. Hyung Jin (Pablo) Kim Sun was introduced to the Assembly in recognition of his appointment as Intercultural Liaison.

<summary of comments to be inserted >

**Recommendation ASC-002** (p. XXX) was moved by C.A. Inksetter, duly seconded.

#### Amendment

N. Said moved, duly seconded, that Overture Nos. 7, 8 and 9, 2024 be granted.

#### Immediate Vote

W.C. Stewart moved, duly seconded, that the Assembly take an immediate vote on the amendment. Approved.

#### Amendment Defeated

The amendment to Recommendation ASC-002 was defeated.

**Recommendation ASC-002** was adopted.

**Recommendation ASC-003** (p. XXX) was moved by C.A. Inksetter, duly seconded.

**Amendment**

G. Marnoch moved, duly seconded, that the words “and that the originals not be destroyed” be added after the word “digitalized”. Adopted.

**Recommendation ASC-003** was adopted, as amended, as follows.

That sessions be urged to have session minutes and church registers (marriages, baptisms, deaths/burials) digitized, and that the originals not be destroyed, and/or microfilmed through the Archives to ensure a preservation copy is created for these vital records.

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**MODERATOR OF THE 2023 GENERAL ASSEMBLY ADDRESSES THE ASSEMBLY**

The Moderator invited the Rev. Mary M. Fontaine, Moderator of the 2023 General Assembly, to report to the Assembly.

< summary of comments to be inserted >

**ASSEMBLY COUNCIL** (cont'd on p. XXX)

**Recommendation ASC-004** (p. XXX) was moved by C.A. Inksetter, duly seconded.

**Amendment**

Moved by L. Payne, duly seconded, that the words “to an external hard drive or USB drive which should be stored in a secure location” be replaced by the words “a secure external location”. Adopted.

**Recommendation ASC-004** as amended, was adopted, as follows.

That sessions be encouraged to review their congregations’ digital files (e.g., typed minutes, photographs) and apply records management standards to them as they would to physical records and frequently back them up to a secure external location. Information on standards is provided on the Archives website.

**Recommendation ASC-006** (p. XXX) was moved by C.A. Inksetter, duly seconded. Adopted.

**Recommendation ASC-007** (p. XXX) was moved by C.A. Inksetter, duly seconded.

(cont'd on p. XXX)

**ADJOURNMENT**

Announcements having been made, the Moderator adjourned the Assembly with prayer, to meet in the Athletic and Recreation Centre of Wilfrid Laurier University, Waterloo, Ontario, on Monday, June 3, 2024 at 2:00 p.m., of which public intimation was given.