



Sunrise Prayer, Diane Montreuil

DAY OF TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION

September 30, 2025

Opening - Acknowledgement

We wish to acknowledge that we are gathered on the traditional lands of many indigenous peoples. We are grateful for their care of the land through countless generations. We acknowledge with sorrow the harms and sufferings of our shared history and current reality. We are committed to listening to the truth and learning

as we continue to walk together on this land. As First Peoples have done since time immemorial, we strive to be responsible stewards of the land, and to respect the cultures, ceremonies, and traditions of all who call it home. This is our earthly home.



Song: Every child Matters <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9BAXsvj1NPI>

Readings

- ✚ Yet he took note of their distress when he heard their cry; for their sake he remembered his covenant and out of his great love he relented. *Ps. 106:44-45*
- ✚ *Without truth, justice, and healing, there can be no genuine reconciliation.* (Summary of Final Report of the Truth and Reconciliation commission (TRC))
- ✚ *In 2022 Mary Simon, first Indigenous Governor General wrote, "The path of reconciliation is a migration, not a destination. It is...a societal shift. It includes conversations...courageous, honest and ... essential to healing. It is about relationships we build and sustain between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Canadians, generations and with our land and waters."*

Prayer:

Creator God, today, on this national day of Truth and Reconciliation, we mourn with those who mourn. We recall again the great pain, harm and evil done to our First Nations brothers and sisters. We grieve that this harm has so often been accomplished in your name. Father, we ask again, have mercy on us.

Lord, we pray that your kingdom will come. We ask that your light would shine into the darkness to expose both truth and lies. We pray that you will help us to see. To truly see the ones that you see. As your kingdom comes, we pray that a visible mark of its appearing would be reconciliation. We ask for the healing of wounds and relationships. We pray for the mending of things that have been so deeply broken.

Jesus, by your Spirit, we pray that all of our First Nations neighbours would sense the great covering of their Creator on this day. And in this covering, may they also know that they are the cherished, beloved of God. Amen.

Prayer Blessing:

May the Warm Winds of Heaven blow softly upon your house.
May the Great Spirit bless all who enter there.
May your Moccasins make happy tracks in many snows,
and may the Rainbow always touch your shoulder