

Kamloops United Church Worship Bulletin

June 30, 2019 – Reconciliation Sunday

Opening Music / Time for Quiet Reflection

Anishinaabe Morning Prayer

Creator, Great Spirit, Grandfathers and Grandmothers.
Great thanks this one that you gave us, this day.
We offer our prayers, tobacco and our hearts.
Thank you for the Grandfathers and Grandmothers of yesterday, today and tomorrow.
Thank you spirits of the winds, water, fire and earth.
Thank you spirits of the north, east, south and west.
Please help us to live a good life.
Thank you for this beautiful day.
Let us be willing to forth the effort to succeed.
Watch over all of us.
We all hope our relatives will be well.
Help all our relations on the road to recovery as a people.
Give us strength for what we will realize.
Give us the strength and wisdom to make healthy choices.
We listen to you, to what you give us.
We are listening to you when you give us guidance.
Aho.

Land Acknowledgement

Words of Welcome

Call to Worship: (Responsive)

With gratitude we gather as a community to praise the Creator, to seek transformation, and to celebrate the power of the Spirit within us.

We gather to receive gifts of deep emotion, deep wisdom, and deep love.

We gather to acknowledge past wrongs and begin the healing that will take us towards reconciliation.

We gather to hold each other up and share the Creator's dream of abundant life for all.

Centering Music, Lighting the Christ Candle and Placing the Prayer Box

Nuu-chah-nulth Prayer: (Responsive)

wai kaš nas haa łapi hawaał / **Praise the light of day, the creator**

wai kaš nas haa łapi hawaał / **Praise the light of day, the creator**

łak łak^was suu tił hawaał / **I am pleading with you, creator**

qaa cii?is lim'aaq sti / **Give me strength**

haa?ak^wap's hawaał / **Keep me strong**

čaa maa pił ?a piš / **Help me to stand with honour, dignity, and respect**

Gathering Hymn: MV# 79 "Spirit, Open My Heart"

Prayer for Grace: (Responsive)

Loving God who watches over all, hear our prayers.

We are proud of our country but the Indigenous people, First Nations, Metis, and Inuit, are not always treated equitably.

Help us find the courage to admit our fear, our doubt, our failures.

Over thirty years ago the United Church offered Indigenous people an apology and asked for forgiveness. What effect has it had? Have relationships changed? What healing remains to be done? The church has taken many steps, but many still wonder what the apology really means.

Help us to bring our faith, our spirituality, together, and help us to understand the world view of others.

You remain faithful Creator, gracing us all with strength and courage

We are not there yet —

not all is forgiven or made whole between us. Great Spirit, unite us as we continue to walk towards justice, reconciliation, being family, and living with respect in creation.

All My Relations.

Hymn of Grace: VU# 282 “Long before the Night”

Story Time: “You Hold Me Up” by Monique Gray Smith & Danielle Daniel

Time for Learning: Reconciliation Exploration Circle

Hymn of Peace: VU# 684 “Make Me a Channel of Your Peace”

Wisdom Readings: Christian Scripture - John 13: 34, 35

Traditional Whaling Story, Nuuchan-nulth *

Reflection

A Moment for Meditation

Hymn of Response: MV# 135 “Called by Earth and Sky”

Pastoral Prayers and the Lord’s Prayer – A Paraphrase VU 916

Pastoral Hymn: “This Path We Walk” by S. Curtis Tufts, Tune - VU# 372

Our Offering Invitation

Offering Doxology: MV# 191 “What Can I Do?”

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication: (Unison) - KUC Community

Creator God who gives to life its goodness, Creator of all joy, We return to you the goodness you have given us, the work of our hands, the love of our hearts. Help us to use all of these gifts, wherever they are needed, to bring hope and healing, possibility and love, to our neighbours near and far, that we may hold each other up.

As Jesus’ people, we ask it. Amen

Commissioning

In unison we commission each other:

Go now, as the Spirit of life has called you:

to be a people of grace

to be a people of truth

to be a people who pursue peace

to be a people who forgive

to be a people who remember

to be a people who love
to be a people who honour others in the pursuit of right relations
to be a people who hold each other up.
And may God go with you. Amen.

Closing Hymn: VU# 424 "May the God of Hope Go with Us"

* Traditional Whaling Story, Nuu-chan-nulth: "My Great-Grandfather Keestra"

Every protocol had been observed between the whaling chief and the spirit of the whale. Keestra had thrown the harpoon, and the whale had accepted it, had grabbed and held onto the harpoon according to the agreement they had made through prayers and petitions. Harmony prevailed, whaler and whale were one, heshook-ish tsawalk.

All of a sudden something went wrong. Some disharmony arose, some disunity intruded, and the whale turned and began to tow Keesta and his paddlers straight off shore. Keesta took inventory. Everyone in the whaling canoe remained true to the protocols – cleansed, purified, and in harmony. Prayer songs intensified.

Still, the great whale refused to turn toward the beach, heading straight off shore. Keesta and the paddlers had kept true to their agreements, and now there seemed nothing left to do except to cut the atlu, the rope attached to the whale.

Keesta took his knife, and as he moved to cut the rope, Au-up-whaleek (Wren) landed on the whale and spoke to Keesta: "Tell the whale to go back to where it was harpooned." Keesta spoke to the whale, and immediately the great whale turned according to the word of Wren, the little brown bird, and returned to where it was first harpooned, and there it died.

After the whale had been towed ashore, Keesta discovered, as he had suspected, that the disharmony and disunity had intruded at home. When his wife had heard that the whale had taken the harpoon, she had roused herself and prematurely broken away from her ritual in order to make welcome preparations. At the point when she began to go about her life in disharmony from the rest was exactly when the great whale had begun to tow Keesta and his paddlers off shore.

Participating in Today's Service:

Worship Leadership: Diane Stuart, Patricia McColl, Natika Bock & Eden, Jan Vint,
Marcia Julian, Lynda Fisher (from KUC's Reconciliation Exploration
Circle and KUC's Global and Community Action group.)

Music: Margaret Waldon

Projection: Patricia McColl

Sound System: Dirk Trigg