

Great and Holy Mystery, known and unknown,
We thank you for the blessing of this day. We thank you for the blessings of this place: for its great beauty, for the power and the majesty of the land and the waters. And we thank you especially for the people who live here, for our friends, our families, and all the people of this community.

We pray especially this morning for the original peoples of this land. We think with gratitude about the welcome Indigenous peoples gave to the first visitors who arrived here from afar, from other parts of the world, and settled in this place. We imagine that there must have been misunderstandings and hardship in these early relationships, but we also know from the stories we have been told that working relationships, bonds of friendship and even bonds of kinship and love, grew out of these early encounters.

Lord God, you know that we have a deep love for this place. As your faithful disciples, we long to know what we can do to best show that we love our neighbours as ourselves.

Help us to use our gifts, our knowledge, our skills, our positions in society, and our strength in Christ, as a community of faith, to support each other. Give us humility and the wisdom to know when and how to follow in seeking solutions, and in making positive changes.

At this time In our faith community, we look to you, Inspiring God, to guide the people of Kamloops United Church: Centre for Community and Spiritual Discovery throughout our transition to a new Minister. Especially help those who have trouble with change. In our Pacific Mountain Regional Council Prayer Cycle We think today of Mt Paul: we offer prayers for stability and for a supply minister; for Zion Ashcroft: we pray for the growth and deepening spiritual health; for Plura Hills: we pray that they may find the leadership they are seeking, and strength to carry on without ministry personnel; and for Trinity Merritt: we offer prayers for leadership in the Sunday School (Jan – June) and for a successful fundraising for the Murray Church project. Your churches everywhere are experiencing change and we all need to remember the upholding guidance of Jesus in navigating through these changes. Help us to follow in your way...

Holy Spirit, fill us with the power and the courage to trust in you and to trust in others. Help us to trust in the deep wisdom and traditional knowledges that you have gifted to our Indigenous sisters and brothers. Help us to accept the gift of learning from each other that we may broaden and deepen our understanding of how to live together, to share resources, to put our complementary skills to work together, and most of all to build on our common desire to live in wholeness together as all of your peoples. We thank you for the blessing you have given us to know you better by getting to know each other better in all of our beautiful diversity.

Lord, in silence, we pray for those known to us today by name who are especially in need of your healing touch at this time. *[Silence]* [Prayer Box prayers]

We pray for the health and well-being of the people and of this place, Holy One. Guide us, Mother/Father guide us on a new and different path, a path of love, of understanding, of compassion, and of commitment to serving others, loving all those, every one, known to us, and known only to you, all who you love so much.

Lord of all Power, we pray for reconciliation between Indigenous peoples and all those who live with them together in this place that Indigenous peoples call Turtle Island, in this place we now also call Canada. We know that it is you who call us and are leading us to reconciliation. Help us to remember that we may rely on you to sustain us, that you give us no burden that is too great

for us, that we may, at all times, place our burdens upon you and find our load lightened and our Spirits lifted.

We lift all of these prayers, spoken and unspoken, all of the longing of our hearts for healing and for reconciliation up to you, O God, our strength, our rock, and our redeemer and friend.

Remembering all our relations in love, we pray in the paraphrase of the prayer that Jesus taught us.....