

**Sunday, June 21st, 2026**  
**National Indigenous Day of Prayer**  
**(Green or other appropriate colour)**

**First Reading**

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF ISAIAH (40:25-31)

To whom then will you compare me, or who is my equal? says the Holy One. Lift up your eyes on high and see: Who created these? He who brings out their host and numbers them, calling them all by name; because he is great in strength, mighty in power, not one is missing. Why do you say, O Jacob, and speak, O Israel, "My way is hidden from the Lord, and my right is disregarded by my God"? Have you not known? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable. He gives power to the faint, and strengthens the powerless. Even youths will faint and be weary, and the young will fall exhausted; but those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

**Psalm 19**

The heavens declare the glory of God, and the firmament shows his handiwork.  
One day tells its tale to another, and one night imparts knowledge to another.  
Although they have no words or language, and their voices are not heard,  
Their sound has gone out into all lands, and their message to the ends of the world.  
In the deep has he set a pavilion for the sun; it comes forth like a bridegroom out of his chamber; it rejoices like a champion to run its course.  
It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens and runs about to the end of it again; nothing is hidden from its burning heat.  
The law of the Lord is perfect and revives the soul; the testimony of the Lord is sure and gives wisdom to the innocent.  
The statutes of the Lord are just and rejoice the heart; the commandment of the Lord is clear and gives light to the eyes.  
The fear of the Lord is clean and endures for ever; the judgements of the Lord are true and righteous altogether.  
More to be desired are they than gold, more than much fine gold, sweeter far than honey, than honey in the comb.  
By them also is your servant enlightened, and in keeping them there is great reward.  
Who can tell how often he offends? cleanse me from my secret faults.  
Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins; let them not get dominion over me; then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent of a great offence.

Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O Lord, my strength and my redeemer.

### **Second Reading**

A READING FROM THE LETTER OF PAUL TO THE PHILIPPIANS (4:4-9)

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

### **Gospel**

THE HOLY GOSPEL OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST ACCORDING TO JOHN (1:1-18)

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being 4 in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. (John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

## Hymns

### Open: **When Jesus Called You Father**

Tune: Aurelia Text : Carolyn W. Gillette (C) 2015

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When Jesus called you "Father" in teaching folks to pray,  
And when he said we're children who need to trust your way,  
O God, he knew your closeness, your guidance from above.  
Perhaps in Joseph's caring, he'd learned to trust your love.

Some cannot call you Father; they will not use that name.  
The fathers they have known here have caused them fear and pain;  
And though you're like a father, you're like a mother, too.  
No single name can ever tell all we know of you.

Yet Jesus in his teaching described a father's joy  
When, at his son's returning, he ran to greet the boy.  
O God, when we have hurt you and struggled on our own,  
Just like that loving parent, you run to bring us home.

O God, you seek to save us, no matter what the cost;  
Our Father, your intention is no one will be lost.  
As Jesus called you "Abba," and trusted in your plans,  
We trust in you to guide us! Our lives are in your hands.

You hold your children's future when all will be made new.  
Your house has many dwellings so we may live with you.  
Just like a loving father, you answer when we pray.  
In thanks, may we your children now follow you each day.

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Gradual : CP609 **Far, Far Away from my Loving Father** v1,2,3 /5

Tune: Restoration Text: P.P. Bliss (P.D.)

Far, far away from my loving father,  
I had been wand'ring, wayward, wild,  
fearing only lest his anger  
overtake his sinful child.

Fain had I fed on the husks around me,  
till to myself I came, and said,  
"Plenty have my father's servants;  
perish I for want of bread."

I will arise, though faint and weary,  
home to my father I will go.  
Woe to me that e'er I wandered,  
ah, that I such need should know.

----gospel ---

Then I arose and came to my father.  
Mercy amazing! Love unknown!  
He beheld me, ran, embraced me,  
pardoned, welcomed, called me "son"!

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Offertory: **This is My Father's World**

Tune: Terra Beata - F. Sheppard Text: M. Babcock (P.D.)

This is my Father's world,  
And to my listening ears  
All nature sings, and round me rings  
The music of the spheres.  
This is my Father's world:  
I rest me in the thought  
Of rocks and trees, of skies and seas--  
His hand the wonders wrought.

This is my Father's world:  
The birds their carols raise,  
The morning light, the lily white,  
Declare their Maker's praise.  
This is my Father's world:  
He shines in all that's fair;  
In the rustling grass I hear Him pass,  
He speaks to me everywhere.

This is my Father's world:  
O let me ne'er forget  
That though the wrong seems oft so strong,  
God is the Ruler yet.  
This is my Father's world:  
Why should my heart be sad?  
The Lord is King: let the heavens ring!  
God reigns; let earth be glad.

Close : **Great is Thy Faithfulness**

Tune: Wm. Runyan Text: T. O. Chisholm (P.D.)

Great is Thy faithfulness, O God, my Father  
There is no shadow of turning with Thee  
Thou changest not, Thy compassions they fail not;  
As Thou hast been Thou forever wilt be

Refrain:

Great is Thy faithfulness, great is Thy faithfulness  
Morning by morning new mercies I see  
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided  
Great is Thy faithfulness Lord unto me

Summer and winter and springtime and harvest  
Sun moon and stars in their courses above  
Join with all nature in manifold witness  
To Thy great faithfulness, mercy and love  
[Refrain]

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth  
Thy own dear presence to cheer and to guide;  
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow  
Blessings all mine with ten thousand beside!  
[Refrain]