

National Indigenous Day of Prayer
Acknowledging the Land We Reside On
Sunday June 19, 2022



Chalmers United Church
Faith United Church
Sydenham Street United Church

**National Indigenous Day of Prayer
Acknowledging the Land We Reside On
Sunday June 19, 2022**

Opening Music Drumming and singing **Helena Neveu**

Welcome and Announcements **Juliet Huntly and Jim Leake**

Acknowledging the Land **Pat Roebuck**

Singing **MV #41** **O Beautiful Gaia**

Refrain:

O beautiful Gaia, O Gaia, calling us home.

O beautiful Gaia, calling us on.

Soil yielding its harvest, O Gaia, calling us home.

Soil yielding its harvest, calling us on.

Waves crashing on granite, O Gaia, calling us home.

Waves crashing on granite, calling us on.

Pine bending in windstorm, O Gaia, calling us home.

Pine bending in windstorm, calling us on.

Loon nesting in marshland, O Gaia, calling us home.

Loon nesting in marshland, calling us on.

Refrain...

*The term Gaia represents “Mother Earth” inviting us to live into our care
and respect for all creation.*

Words & music copyright © Carolyn McDade Music

Arrangement copyright © 2006 by Lydia Pedersen

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Scripture Psalm 104: 1-4 and 10-24 **Bruce Elliott**

Reflection Honouring the land: the meaning and practice of
The Dish with One Spoon
Helen Neveu in dialogue
with **Michael Cooke**

Singing Helena will lead in singing

Response to the Word

*You are invited, at first individually and then with your neighbour(s),
to reflect on what you have heard*

Questions:

1. What spoke to you in the dialogue with Helena?
2. What makes a land acknowledgement meaningful to you in worship (or in your own spiritual practice)?
3. What is one thing you would like to hear included in our land acknowledgement?
Take a few moments to write a phrase or a few key words
(paper and pens provided).

Offering

*Everyone is invited to place their words of acknowledgement in a bowl.
Helena will offer each person a strawberry as s/he/they place her/his/their
offering in the bowl.*

Dedicating our Offerings **Catherine Elsdon**

Singing **MV #37** **Each Blade of Grass**

Each blade of grass, ev'ry wing that soars,
the waves that sweep across a distant shore,
make full the circle of God.
Each laughing child, ev'ry gentle eye,
a forest lit beneath a moon-bright sky,
make full the circle of God.

Each silent paw, ev'ry rounded stone,
the buzz that echoes from a honey'd comb,
make full the circle of God.
Each fire-brimmed star, ev'ry outstretched hand,
the wind that leaps and sails across the land,
make full the circle of God.

Each icy peak, ev'ry patterned shell,
the joyous chorus that the dawn foretells,
make full the circle of God.
Each cosmic hue, ev'ry creature's way,
all form the beauty of this vast array,
making full the circle of God.

Words: Keri K. Wehlander, 2005 Music: Anonymous, from The United States' Sacred Harmony, 1799, adapted; arrangement: Linnea Good, 2005 Words copyright © 2005 Keri K. Wehlander,

Commissioning Catherine Elsdon and Helena Neveu

Singing MV #30 It's a Song of Praise to the Maker

It's a song of praise to the Maker,
the thrush sings high in the tree.
It's a song of praise to the Maker,
the gray whale sings in the sea,

Chorus:

And by the Spirit
you and I
can join our voice to the holy cry
and sing, sing, sing to the Maker too.

It's a call of life to the Giver,
when waves and waterfalls roar.
It's a call of life to the Giver
when high tides break on the shore,

Chorus:

And by the Spirit
you and I
can join our voice to the holy cry
and sing, sing, sing to the Maker too.

It's a hymn of love to the Lover;
the bumblebees hum along.

It's a hymn of love to the Lover;
the summer breeze joins the song,

Chorus:

And by the Spirit
you and I
can join our voice to the holy cry
and sing, sing, sing to the Maker too.

It's the chorus of all creation;
it's sung by all living things.

It's the chorus of all creation;
a song the universe sings,

Chorus:

And by the Spirit
you and I
can join our voice to the holy cry
and sing, sing, sing to the Maker too.

Used with Permission LicenSing 610384 One License A-717003 CCLI 308623

Grace before the picnic meal

Thank you for Talents Shared Today

Helena Neveu

Reverend Catherine Elsdon

Howard Lopez, Music Director at SSUC

Members of the Joint Truth and Reconciliation Action Group:

Michael Cooke

Bruce Elliott

Pat Roebuck

Bill Egnatoff

Juliet Huntly

James Leake

We are delighted and thankful to welcome special guest Helena Neveu to our shared service today. Helena is a proud Ojibway woman from the Batchewana First Nation in Northern Ontario, and a member of the crane clan. As the Knowledge Keeper in Residence at St. Lawrence College, Helena works to build a safe and welcoming space for Indigenous students and create a positive and inclusive atmosphere for learning and indigenous cultural awareness for all members of the St. Lawrence College community.

The Joint Truth and Reconciliation Action Group

People from Chalmers, Faith, and Sydenham Street United Churches as well as others who share an interest in and commitment to advancing reconciliation with Canada's first peoples make up the membership of JTRAG. We seek:

- to educate ourselves and others on the legacy of colonialist policy and practice on Canada's first peoples, including hosting events;
- to listen, learn and share new knowledge about the priorities, opportunities, and options for reconciliation of Canada's many peoples;
- To share information on events being held within the broader community on indigenous culture and history, public policy, and related themes.

We meet monthly between September and June and offer one another loving mutual support and encouragement while advancing our goals. We are always eager to welcome new members. If you would like to join us, please contact one of our co-chairs:

James Leake leakejl43@gmail.com or Juliet Huntly jhuntly6@gmail.com