

Remember Their Names

Liturgy of Remembrance of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women

One: On this Day let us give honor to those who hallowed this earth by their prayers and by the way they walked in the light of God and to those who hallowed and continue to hallow the struggle for Justice by the love that they have shown to create a beloved community. Let us remember the giants of faith on whose shoulders we stand today.

Anne Marshall	Lois Neal
Suanne Ware-Diaz	Sandi Cianciulli
Barbra Jackson	Carol Eastin
RagghiRain	boe Harris
Becky Thompson	Tweedy Sombrero Navarrete
Cynthia Kent	Anita Phillips

One: Let us remember those whose lives have been cut short.

ALL: We remember before you all the Indigenous girls and very young women who have suffered abuse, rape, and violence. All those who are missing or have been confirmed to be murdered.

We remember before you all the Indigenous women, who have been violated, beaten, and cut down.

We remember before you all the Indigenous women, who, as mothers of girls and women who have been brutalized, are seared with the burning pain of grief.

Speak Their Names

At this time you may come forward to name the person you written on your slip of paper and place their name upon the altar. You may also name a particular person or group of people you know out loud as you feel led.

Ashley Loring Heavy Runner, Blackfeet Res MT, 2017

Mary Bercier, Spokane 2018

Patricia YellowRobe, Seattle 1998

Sandra Smiscon, Seattle 2003

Ashton Reyes, Seattle 2012

Nicole Westbrook, Seattle 2018

Eveona Cortez, Seattle 2018

Dusti Grey, Portland 2017

Teekah Lewis (age 3) , Tacoma WA1999

Teresa Davis, Tacoma 1973

Jacqueline Salyers, Tacoma 2016 Pregnant when killed by law enforcement

Jennika Suazo, Eureka CA 2016

Heather Cameron, Redding CA
Jezzeille Murdock, San Francisco 2017
Peggy Humber, Bakersfield 2000
Linda Hewitt, San Diego 1978
Lori Dee Wilson, Juneau AK 2016
Angeline Dundas, Ketchikan AK 2015
Annie Mann, Anchorage AK
Vera Hapoff, Anchorage AK
Della Brown, Anchorage AK
Genevieve Tetpon, Anchorage AK
Sophie Sergie, Fairbanks AK raped and killed in her dorm room 1993
Nancy Brower (15) , Utqiagvik AK 2002
Stella Evon, Bethel AK 1996
Sandra Frye, Bethel AK 2017
Tess White, Minnesota 2016 tortured and killed
Barbara Gonzales. Omaha NE 2010
Rose Fields, Omaha NE 2000
Cari Black Elk-Cline, Sioux Falls SD 2017
Alicia Jumping Eagle, Sioux Falls SD 2017
Deziree Martinez, Sioux Falls SD 2017
Jamie Wounded Arrow, Sioux Falls SD 2017
Dawn DeHerrera, Denver CO 2003
Almeda Old Crane, Missoula MT 1981
Melissa Tsosie, Santa Fe NM 2015
Terri Benally, Albuquerque NM
Kelly Watson, Albuquerque NM
Ryan Hoskie, Albuquerque NM
Vanessa Tsosie, Farmington NM
Colleen Lincoln, Gallup NM 2010
Deborah Haudley, Salt Lake City 2010
Nicole Joe, Flagstaff AZ 2017
Jane Velasquez, Tuscon AZ 2003
Mia Henderson, Tuscon AZ 2007

ONE: We ask you to grant eternal rest to these your beloved women and all Indigenous women who have been murdered and are missing. May light perpetual shine on them. Give rest to your children where sorrow and pain are no more, neither sighing, but life everlasting. Give comfort to their families and communities, to mothers, fathers, grandparents, aunties, uncles and children of those missing and murdered.

ONE: We pray for their communities and families and all who mourn.

ALL: May we turn our hearts, minds, souls and bodies to care, to advocate, and to seek justice.

May we seek ways to support the children and families of these women, with true nurture and care.

May their fathers and mothers find healing in memory, and the hope for justice into which are called into partnership.

ONE: We remember before you all the Indigenous women Elders who bring the wisdom of their lives to guide the younger generations.

Many: We give thanks for their strength and courage, for those who have shared their healing journeys.

ONE: We pray for continued healing and relief for them for the grief they carry for their grandchildren, Indigenous girls and women missing or murdered, as they near the end of their days.

Many: May we so honour these Elders that their stories of survival and healing from violence may guide us and teach us deeply.

ALL: May all who inhabit this sacred space today, in body, soul, mind and heart, be drawn even more deeply through compassion into love for our Indigenous sisters and all their relations; may they be renewed in your hope; and may they be strengthened to serve along the pathways to which they are called.

Commitment to Never Forget

ONE: Strengthen us as we seek to serve your mission of healing of your beloved creation. As you cradle the world and all its creatures in your love, help us to trust in the firm and gentle hold of that embrace, that we might commit ourselves with steadfast faith and persistent hard work to pursue justice, to speak truth where violence tries to hide. Sustain and guide us as we seek to heal the festering conditions that breed violence and hatred. Be our teacher in the ways of compassionate care.

I invite us all to make a commitment to never forget and fight this insidious violence.

Will you resist the powers and structures of evil that create violence and abuse, racism and sexism, and, when you come face to face with your place of privilege, will you turn in repentance and keep the circle strong?

ALL: I will, with God' s help.

One: Will you proclaim the names you have spoken as a sign of repentance and honor their names by remembering that their stories are the legacy of colonial powers that perpetuate violence.

ALL: I will, with God' s help.

ONE: As you live out this commitment, will you work to recognize your own needs for healing, will you seek out and serve all Creation, loving your neighbour as yourself?

ALL: I will, with God' s help.

ONE: The whole creation yearns for us, the children of God, to be revealed in our care for each other and for all of creation. Will you join the struggle against the social, racial, economic and land injustices that affect the lives of Indigenous peoples and harm the earth?

ALL: I will, with God's help.

Closing the Circle

ONE; I Invite each of us today particularly the non-Natives present to make a commitment to create an awareness of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls.

Consider: What will you tell your community? Your neighborhood? Or your political leaders?

Closing Prayer

One: Creator, we come to you with humility, respect, courage, and honesty, seeking your wisdom, generosity and love. Help us to understand those things that lead your people into despair; guide us to help make changes and restore the spirituality of all people. For all the Murdered and Missing Indigenous Women and Girls, we give thanks for their lives and pray that they have found peace with You.

Give your comfort to family and friends, help them to heal and find ways to honour their loved ones. Give us strength to prevent our people from falling into mind changing substances and ways of life that are not in harmony with your teachings. Creator, mend our circle, restore us to the good way; we ask this in your name and the name of your Son, the Peacemaker.

As you are comfortable let us sing the Lord's prayer together that the non-violent kin-dom may come in its fullness.

The Lord's Prayer

words adapted by Mark Miller and Laurie Zelman
music by Mark Miller

flowing

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It features a treble and bass clef with a key signature of three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat) and a 6/8 time signature. The melody is marked 'flowing'. The lyrics are: 'Our God, in hea-ven, ho-ly is your name, your reign come, your will done, on earth as in hea-ven. Give us to-day our dai - ly bread, and help us for-give, as we have been for - giv - en. In the time of tri - al lead us in - to light, for yours is the kin - dom, and the po - wer, and the glo - ry, for - e - - - ver. Our God, in hea-ven, ho - ly is your name, ho - ly is your name.'

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ALL: Amen.

Worship Notes:

Communion Liturgy: Adapted by Rev. Dr. Suzanne Wenonah Duchesne from The Africana Worship Book, Year C, UMC Discipleship Resources 2008 and a litany prepared by the Rev. Canon Ginny Doctor, Henriette Thompson and a Sacred Circle advisory group, September 2015

Companion music for communion: The Faith We Sing, Abingdon Press, 2000.

Created by Rev. Dr. Suzanne Duchesne for EPA CoNAM – April 28, 2019