

Unauthorized distribution or dissemination of this article is strictly prohibited. The copyright for this content is held exclusively by Everyday God-talk, Office of Theology and Worship, A Corp, PC(USA). You can access this on our Everyday God-talk blog (<https://www.presbyterianmission.org/every-day-god-talk>).



***International Day of the  
World's Indigenous Peoples***  
*August 9, 2023*

*(PLEASE MUTE YOUR CONNECTION)*

**Welcome and Land Acknowledgment**

*(Rev. Irvin Porter)*

For thousands of years, the continent where we prayerfully gather, the Western Hemisphere, was under the care of thousands of Indigenous tribes who thrived, lived, loved raised their families and left legacies of strength to their descendants. Because we are meeting by electronic means today, and have been since March of 2020, we don't acknowledge the territory of one Indigenous nation but acknowledge the territory of the hundreds of Indigenous tribes for whom this continent was, and is, home, for thousands of years. Indigenous presence on this continent and around the world is remembered and woven into the history of our communities. On this International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples and every day, we are encouraged to be mindful of healing past harms while moving forward with awareness and respect, celebrating, and embracing the contributions of the original inhabitants of the Western Hemisphere.

**Opening music:** "Mother Earth" Wuauquikuna played on the pan flutes. The name of the group is Wuauquikuna. They are Quechua means "Brothers". Both men are brothers.

*(Music will be provided by video clips – please mute your connection)*

**Call to Worship:**

*(Carla Alexander)*

Leader: Christ the Lord is risen today!

**People: Alleluia!**

Leader: What shall we return to the Lord for the abundance we have received?

**People: Our hearts are burning to praise God today.**

Leader: We lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord.

**People: Our hearts are burning to connect with one another.**

Leader: We pray to the Lord in the presence of all God's people.

**People: Our hearts are burning with recognition of the risen Christ among us.**

Leader: Christ the Lord is risen today!

**People: Alleluia!**

**A Gathering Prayer:**

*(Carla Alexander)*

O Great Spirit, whose breath gives life to the world, and whose voice is heard in the soft breeze; We need your strength and wisdom. Cause us to walk in beauty. Give us eyes ever to behold the red and purple sunset. Make us wise so that we may understand what you have taught us. Help us learn the lessons you have hidden in every leaf and rock. Make us always ready to come to

Unauthorized distribution or dissemination of this article is strictly prohibited. The copyright for this content is held exclusively by Everyday God-talk, Office of Theology and Worship, A Corp, PC(USA). You can access this on our Everyday God-talk blog (<https://www.presbyterianmission.org/every-day-god-talk>).

you with clean hands and steady eyes, so when life fades, like the fading sunset, our hearts come to you without shame. We stand before you – we worship you, Creator of the universe. Amen.

**Hymn:** “Blessed Assurance” *A capella*  
(Sung in Nez Perce after the English version by Rev. Irvin Porter)

**Meditation:** (Rev. Irvin Porter)

**The Lord’s Prayer** (Carla Alexander)

“O Great Spirit, Creator of the universe, You are our Shepherd Chief in the most high place. Whose home is everywhere, even beyond the stars and the moon. Whatever you want done, let it, also be done everywhere. Give us your gift of bread day by day. Forgive us our wrongs as we forgive those who wrong us. Take us away from wrong doings. Free us from all evil. For everything belongs to you. Let your power and glory shine forever. Amen.”

(Translation by: Hattie Enos, Nez Perce, Irvin’s great grandmother)

**A Time of Giving:** (Rev. Irvin Porter)

As we are virtual today, we are asking you to consider giving your offering today to the Native American and Native Alaskan Peoples Fund at the Presbyterian Foundation. The Fund will be used for the repair the 98 Native American Presbyterian churches and chapels across this country. We have funds that we can use for these grants now though the need is greater than what we can possibly grant to these churches at this time. Please use this link:

[www.presbyterianfoundation.org/nativeamericanchurches](http://www.presbyterianfoundation.org/nativeamericanchurches) if you wish to donate. Thank you!

**Benediction:** (Rev. Irvin Porter)

**Hymn:** “I’ll Fly Away” (Nat’l Cherokee Youth choir)

Excerpt from the Native American Writing Group of the Open Source Liturgy Project  
[https://s3.amazonaws.com/Website\\_UMCGiving/resource-files/2020\\_NAMS\\_Liturgy.pdf](https://s3.amazonaws.com/Website_UMCGiving/resource-files/2020_NAMS_Liturgy.pdf)

### Worship leaders:

- Rev. Irvin Porter, Associate – Native American Intercultural Congregational Support Puyallup, WA (Pima, T’hono O’odham, Nez Perce)
- Carla Alexander, Elder – Brook Presbyterian Church, Hillburn, NY (Ramapough-Lenape)

Unauthorized distribution or dissemination of this article is strictly prohibited. The copyright for this content is held exclusively by Everyday God-talk, Office of Theology and Worship, A Corp, PC(USA). You can access this on our Everyday God-talk blog (<https://www.presbyterianmission.org/every-day-god-talk>).



\* The clipart above represents the tribe's those who participated in the service come from: Pima and Ramapough-Lenape tribes.