

LITANY OF RECONCILIATION

Leader: We stand together at this Friday noon hour to join with all those churches, schools, and other institutions who have committed themselves to the Community of the Cross and Nails. We search for reconciliation between us and all those who have been harmed by war, by violence, by the effects of colonization and abuses of power, and by greed, selfishness, thoughtlessness, and indifference.

In particular, in this country we acknowledge the need for greater understanding and reconciliation between the settler peoples and the first nations of this land, and we acknowledge that we are gathered on lands occupied by the Haudenosaunee and Anishinaabe peoples, nations at the time of the "Dish With One Spoon" wampum agreement. We honour and respect these nations and commit ourselves to walk together gently upon this land.

I ask you to join with me in the Litany of Reconciliation.

All have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God.

All: The hatred which divides nation from nation, race from race, class from class,
Father forgive.

Leader: The covetous desires of people and nations to possess what is not their own,
All: **Father forgive.**

Leader: The greed which exploits the work of human hands and lays waste the earth,
All: **Father forgive.**

Leader: Our envy of the welfare and happiness of others,
All: **Father forgive.**

Leader: Our indifference to the plight of the imprisoned, the homeless, the refugee,
All: **Father forgive.**

Leader: The lust which dishonours the bodies of men, women, and children,
All: **Father forgive.**

Leader: The pride which leads us to trust in ourselves and not in God,
All: **Father forgive.**

Leader: Be kind to one another, tender hearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.

Today, we pray for the Community of the Cross of Nails, for areas of conflict and trauma, for perpetrators of violence and for those who suffer, and for peace and reconciliation amongst all peoples.

All: **Today, we commit to learning from history, from those who are different from us, and from those whom we find it difficult to love.**

Leader: Today, Lord, help us to heal the wounds of history, to live with difference and celebrate diversity, and to build a culture of peace. Lord, use us to be kind, tender-hearted, and forgiving, as God in Christ forgave us.

All: **Amen.**

(Adapted from a form used in Morning Prayer at Coventry Cathedral)

Leader: Let us pray together.

All: **Let us remember before God all the victims of violence in our world, and their loved ones who grieve.**

Let us pray for all those seriously injured and traumatized and those who tend them in hospitals.

Let us pray too for all who are perpetrators of religiously-based violence and the chaos it brings.

Pray for the conversion of hearts.

Pray that the world be free of such crimes against humanity.

Pray that we all live by the counsel given by God through his servant Micah:

“What does the Lord require of you but to do justice, to love kindness, and to walk humbly with God”. Amen.

(Adapted from a prayer by Archbishop Fred Hiltz, Primate of Canada)

Leader: God of infinite mercy, grant that we who know your compassion may rejoice in your forgiveness and gladly forgive others for the sake of Jesus Christ our Saviour who is alive with you and the Holy Spirit, one God now and for ever.

All: **Amen.**

(Adapted from NZPB p. 576b)