

**Liturgical Resources for the
National Aboriginal Day of Prayer,
Sunday, June 21, 2015**

Diocese of Algoma

The propers and lectionary readings for the day are available here:
<http://www.anglican.ca/faith/worship/resources/nadpprobers/>

The formatting of the following resources has been kept simply to make it easier for you to adjust for your own use.

The response to each petition in the Prayers of the People may be sung or said.

If the response is sung, a cantor or the choir should introduce the response. The response may be accompanied with the ringing of the church bell.

Another sung or said response may be substituted.

Acknowledgement for "May Your Holy Spirit Guide Us":

"May Your Holy Spirit Guide Us Into Truth," music by D. Jay Koyle. Copyright © 1992. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Refrain for "God we call to you for help" (from Voices United):

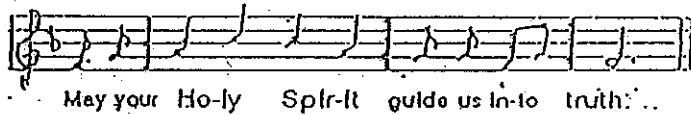
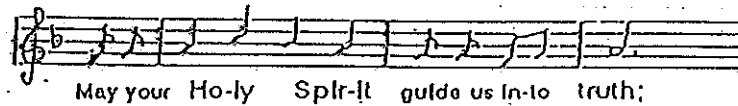
Joseph Parry 1879

God we call to you for help, in your mercy hear our prayer.

The image shows a musical score for a refrain. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff on top and a bass clef staff on the bottom. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The melody is written in the treble clef, and the accompaniment is in the bass clef. The lyrics are written below the treble staff. The music ends with a double bar line.

Prayers of the People

God is our strength and our redeemer, the everlasting God, Creator of all. Ours is the God who does not faint or grow weary, the One whose understanding is unsearchable. That God's mercy and justice may take flesh in our hearts and lives, and be made known in our community, our nation, and our world, let us lift our hearts in prayer as we sing/say:



O God, from you nothing is hidden and no plea for mercy goes unheard. Hear our cry of lament. Your heart grieves, O God, for all those displaced from homeland or family by human injustice. We remember how Indigenous children were taken away from parents and sent to residential schools, and the actions that dehumanized and degraded so many them. We remember those who continue to carry pain, and those who left this world having heard no words of apology. That we may refuse to be comforted until the violence of the strong has been confounded and the broken everywhere mount up on wings like eagles, we lift our hearts in prayer: /R/

O God, as the sun chases away the night, so the light of your Christ scatters the power of sin and death. Hear our cry of repentance. We acknowledge that the church was part of a system that dishonoured the heritage and dignity of so many Indigenous people. We confess that fear of vulnerability, rejection, shame or guilt sometimes makes us reluctant to seek truth and reconciliation in our own time. Have mercy on us and forgive us. Fill our hearts with courage and guide us so that ancient wrongs may be redressed, broken promises forgiven, and a new covenant forged. We lift our hearts in prayer: /R/

O God, you create all things, calling forth each light in the sky by name. Hear our cry for unity. You created us in your image, blessing us with our many differences. You made us male and female, yellow and red, black and white. You formed us as people with a variety of gifts and needs, cultures and tongues. Yet, too often, it is these differences that we have condemned. As you draw us together in one body, open our eyes to perceive the beauty and holiness of humanity's diversity. That your people may demonstrate your power to reconcile and make all things new, we lift our hearts in prayer: /R/

O God, you invigorate the exhausted and give fresh strength to the powerless. Hear our cry of hope. We give thanks for those who have shared their sacred stories with others as a way to healing and wholeness. We fix our minds on their testimony that, although hurt, they have not been destroyed; although humiliated, they have not lost their integrity; although love for them was violated, they have not lost their capacity to love. We look to the day when children are no longer harmed and never again removed from a parent's loving embrace. That we may live today by the promise of this vision, we lift our hearts in prayer: /R/

If desired, one or both of the following petitions may be included.

O God, your grace and truth have been made known to us through the Word made flesh. Hear our cry of petition. You have established your church to be a sign and herald of your promised Kingdom. With Anglicans around the world, we pray for the church in the Diocese of Olympia in the State of Washington, and their Bishop, Gregory Rickel. We pray for our own Diocese of Algoma, and for our Bishop, Stephen. That animated by your Holy Spirit, the grace and truth of Christ Jesus may be evident in our life and witness, we lift our hearts in prayer: /R/

O God, your peace passes all understanding, keeping watch over human hearts and minds. Hear our cry of intercession. We pray for the sick and all who suffer any need, especially *N*. We remember those who have died, especially *N*, and pray for those who most keenly feel their absence. That your compassion for those who suffer and mourn may be made known through the care of many sisters and brothers, we lift our hearts in prayer: /R/

The Presider may conclude the Prayers of the People with the following Collect:

O God, in Baptism you anoint us
and seal us as your own forever.
Give us grace to walk in newness of life,
that your gifts of healing and reconciliation
may be enjoyed by every race and nation.
We ask this through Jesus Christ, the Word made Flesh,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

If used during Morning or Evening Prayer (BAS rite), the Prayers of the People conclude with the Collect of the Day.

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For congregations desiring to include a prayer for Father's Day, the following prayer may be used or adapted:

A Father's Day Prayer

Holy God, whom we call Father,
we give you thanks for the people
who have been our earthly fathers in this life,
and we pray for all sorts and conditions of fathers.

For fathers who have striven to balance the demands
of work, marriage, and children
with an honest awareness of both joy and sacrifice.

For fathers who, lacking a good model,
have worked to become a good father.

For fathers who by their own account
were not always there for their children,
but who continue to offer those children, now grown,
their love and support.

For fathers who have been wounded
by the neglect and hostility of their children.

For fathers who, despite divorce,
have remained in their children's lives.

For fathers whose children are adopted,
and whose love and support has offered healing.

For fathers who, as stepfathers,
freely choose the obligation of fatherhood
and earned their stepchildren's love and respect.

For fathers who have lost a child to death,
and continue to hold the child in their heart.

For those men who have no children,
but cherish the next generation as if they were their own.

For those men who have "fathered" us
in their role as mentors and guides.

For those men who are about to become fathers;
may they openly delight in their children.

And for those fathers who have died,
but live on in our memory and in the communion of your Saints,
whose love continues to nurture us.

All this we ask in the name of your beloved Son,
who is both father and mother to us all.

Source:

<http://lemburgordinarytime.blogspot.ca/2010/06/prayer-for-fathers-day.html>