

Additional Prayers

Remembering the Children

God of our Ancestors,
who holds the spirits of our grandmothers and
grandfathers
and the spirits of our grandchildren,

Remembering the Children,
we now pledge ourselves to speak the Truth,
and with our hearts and our souls
to act upon the Truth we have heard
of the injustices lived,
of the sufferings inflicted,
of the tears cried,
of the misguided intentions imposed,
and of the power of prejudice and racism
which were allowed to smother the sounds and
laughter of the forgotten children.

Hear our cries of lament
for what was allowed to happen,
and for what will never be.
In speaking and hearing and acting upon the Truth
may we as individuals and as a nation meet the hope
of a new beginning.

Great Creator God
who desires that all creation live in harmony and
peace,
Remembering the Children
we dare to dream of a Path of Reconciliation
where apology from the heart leads to healing
of the heart
and the chance of restoring the circle,
where justice walks with all,
where respect leads to true partnership, and
where the power to change comes from each
heart.

Hear our prayer of hope,
and guide this country of Canada
on a new and different path.

*(by Rev. Lillian Roberts, for the launch of the
Church Leaders Tour which marked the original
launch of the TRC)*

Grief in the Aboriginal Community

Creator, we thank you
that there are different paths to wholeness.
We see your wonder in creation all around us,
in the singing birds and the flowing water.
We give thanks for the opportunity to share,
and for everything that the Creator has given to us.
We give thanks for connectedness to each other
for our interconnectedness to all Creation,
to the whole cosmos, the whole created world.
We give thanks that Jesus Christ
has been in our past and is in our present
and will be with us in our future.
We give thanks for laughter, for humour,
for the many different ways that we are able to be
together, and to be in community and we give thanks
as well for the differentness between us and for the
respect we have for the different paths that people
take.
We give thanks for the Elders,
for the opportunities to be respected no matter what
our views are, and to celebrate the different views
that we have.
We give thanks for different approaches to grief,
and for the sharing, and the opportunities to laugh
and to share and to care
and that we are each different and yet together.
We give thanks for new understandings,
for bridges we are able to build between people.
Help us to be open to new life and to vision,
to bring new life to our homes, to heal
and to be healers
in our families and in our communities.

*(From "The Dancing Sun Vol. V," Anglican Church
of Canada and United Church of Canada, 1994, p.
21).*

A Children's Prayer

(This can be done as a 'repeat after me' prayer)
God, reconciliation is a big word,
Help me to always listen with my heart, as well as
my ears.
Help me to see with my heart, as well as my eyes.
Help me to speak the truth, and to listen for the
truth
And then I will be on the path towards
reconciliation. Amen