

LITANY FOR MISSING AND MURDERED INDIGENOUS PEOPLE
No More Stolen Relatives
August 26, 2021
Week of Action
Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

ONE: For those who are lost and alone – the red hand covers the face of an Indigenous person in honor and memory of our missing and murdered Indigenous relatives,

ALL: We lift up our prayers in solidarity.

ONE: For those who are faced with words of degradation, accusations, misunderstandings of their accounts, and for the trickery of human trafficking,

ALL: We lift up our prayers for the encouraging language of our ancestral heritage.

ONE: For those dealing with the suicide epidemic and alcohol and drug addiction disorder, we remember those who are searching for loved ones and for answers,

ALL: We lift up our prayers for discovery and resolution.

ONE: In a world of systemic racism, utilizing the Doctrine of Discovery to steal land that once belonged to many nations, exploiting cultural appropriation through sports mascots, and for those who work to dismantle the systems of oppression and for those seeking justice against the crimes and the sins committed against the lost, the seeking and the grieving,

ALL: We lift up our prayers for unrelenting perseverance in voicing our truth.

ONE: For the 215 children found at Kaloops Residential School in Canada and the others yet to be discovered and counted at the more than 350 government-funded and church-funded Indian Residential schools in the United States and for those who are counting and waiting,

ALL: We lift up our prayers for Indigenous healing wisdom and for convoys that bring loved ones home.

ONE: For those who are on the front lines battling the Black Snake of oil pipelines and for clean water for all and for those who feel invisible,

ALL: We lift up our prayers for land and water protectors who are insistent on bringing justice for those who cannot protect themselves.

ONE: For Indigenous people battered by their abusers and for their children separated from families by the policies of the Indian Child Welfare Act, and for those who feel silenced,

ALL: We lift up our prayers that our justice systems recognize that we are all related, and we are connected to all things.

ONE: For those getting educated about historical trauma and the colonized culture of oppression, and for those who are inspired to step up and shout their voice, and for those who know they can do something but fear retaliation,

ALL: We lift up our prayers that the courage and bravery within our DNA drives the force of our resilience.

ONE: For those who need healing from the trauma over generations of genocide, removal, and the punishments in the name of "Conversion,"

ALL: We lift up our prayers in the sure proclamation that "We are STILL here" in the Creator's presence forever.

ONE: For all of us, we recognize the meaning of seeing a red dress and the sacredness of the red hand that covers the face of an Indigenous person, in honor and in memory of a missing and murdered Indigenous relative,

**ALL: We lift up our prayers in solidarity.
We lift up our prayers in solidarity.
We commit ourselves to learn and to act.
Amen.**

Written by

*The Rev. Danelle McKinney, Dakota Presbytery of the Synod of Lakes and Prairies
Madison McKinney, Advocacy Committee on Women's Concerns, PC(USA)*