

Land Acknowledgement

A Liturgy for the Land and its People

"The land is the LORD's and everything in it"
(Psalm 24). And upon his lands the LORD placed a people created in His own image, and He granted unto them the stewardship and care of His creation.

For many newcomers, immigrants and their ancestors, hospitality, treaty and covenant had been extended unto us by Creator's original hosts. Over time, however, these covenants became corrupted, and a people abused. The story of our shared soil has been spoiled, and yet, it is not beyond redemption. Which is why the God of Israel always calls us to remember.

"Remember this and stand firm, recall it to mind, you transgressors, remember the former things of old; for I am God, and there is no other." Isaiah 46:8-9

And so, we offer ourselves up to Christ our Creator, and invite His reconciling Spirit to continue to do a new work in us. To restore us to treaty and covenant, to bring us into right-relationship with our beloved brothers and sisters, and revive us together, for the sake of healing and His future.

"All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation." 2 Corinthians 5:18

And so we, the Free Methodist Church in Canada, acknowledge that our places of worship across this country include the traditional lands and homelands, on both treaty and unceded territories, of many Indigenous nations and people groups. And with the guidance of the Holy Spirit, we are committed to right-relationship with our beloved brothers and sisters, and the ongoing work of truth and reconciliation.