



Day of Mourning Prayer of Confession and Forgiveness

*We acknowledge the Kaurna [or local] peoples –
the traditional owners and original custodians of the land on which we meet.
We honour their elders past and present together with all the Kaurna descendants,
for their care for these lands and waters since creation.
We honour their continuing culture and pray for reconciliation.*

*Remembering our history is an important part of our journey
toward reconciliation as First and Second Peoples.
We are reminded of the dispossession and violence
against First Peoples, and lament both the Church's and Second Peoples' part in this.*

*Our declaration allows us to stand together in remembering
the truth of our history, & honouring the culture of Australia's First Peoples,
their families and the next generations.
We pray that the whole nation may fully acknowledge our history
and take a significant step towards healing for our nation.
And we pray for forgiveness, healing & hope as we seek
a new destiny together.*

Leader: You refill the cup of life, O God.
 In Christ, we find refuge, strength and hope.
 Amen

Prayer of confession

Leader: Merciful God, we acknowledge and lament
 the injustice and abuse that has so often marked
 the treatment of First peoples in this land.

Voice 1: We acknowledge and lament
 the way in which their land was taken from them
 and their language, culture, law and spirituality
 despised and suppressed.

Leader: We acknowledge and lament
 that in our own time
 the injustice and abuse has continued.

Voice 2: We have been indifferent
 when we should have been outraged,
 we have been apathetic
 when we should have been active,
 we have been silent when we should have spoken out.

Prayer of Confession

Leader: Gracious God, hear our acknowledgements —
All we have not loved you with our whole heart,
nor have we loved First Peoples
and other neighbours as ourselves.

Voice 2: Liberating Jesus, hear our lament and confession,
Leader: and through your Spirit bring healing, hope and transformation to the lives of
our First Nations sisters and brothers and their communities, we pray.

**All: By your Spirit transform our minds and hearts
so that we may love as you have loved us,
that we may boldly speak your truth
and courageously do your will.
Through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen**

Assurance of forgiveness

Leader: This is the best of all:

When we are empty, God fills us;

Voice 1: when we are disheartened, God is compassionate
when we are wounded, God brings healing;

Voice 2: when we confess our sin, God forgives.

**All: In Christ, through Christ and because of Christ,
our sins are forgiven.
Thanks be to God.**

Leader: You refill the cup of life, O God.
In Christ, we find refuge, strength and hope.
Amen

This prayer of confession is based on the Assembly Resources for the Day of Mourning adapted for worship at Adelaide West Uniting Church, 20/1/19