



Referendum on an Indigenous Voice to Parliament

Prayer Resources

A Prayer for the Referendum

Pangari Winamaldi, May our homes, our communities, our nation, and those around the world watching become havens of peace, let us act as reflection of Jesus Christ who sat on the margin's listening to those without a voice.

Pangari Winamaldi, we ask for your Grace to see all people as a child of God, regardless of race, language or culture and hear and share the wisdom to receive the stories and experiences of those different from ourselves and to respond with respect, compassion, and love. Winamaldi give us the strength to teach our children how to resolve our differences respectfully, and the courage to model it in our own behaviour and within our homes.

Winamaldi bless our wider UCA family, that we will continue to celebrate and welcome the diverse faces of Christ in our worship, our ministries, and our leaders within our Church, congregations, and communities.

Lord comfort those who are having difficult conversations about the Referendum, and to give everyone an opportunity to be respectfully heard by those who want to speak and may this be a better appreciation of how our words and actions can make positive impacts within our communities.

Lord I also pray for those in solidarity with Australia at this time - Our global human family, that we may work together to protect those who are most vulnerable and most in need.

Lord, I send my love and prayers to the wider UAICC Family across the country during this time and may the Lord continue to provide a cloak of love, comfort, strength, resilience, and peace to the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.

Love and prayers,
Sean Weetra
Chairperson
UAICC South Australia

Pangari Winamaldi means Creator Spirit.



We will Listen*praying a vigil*

Whichever way this goes, O God,
we're bruised, we're raw, we're tired,
none more than our precious ones
who ask to be named and heard.

We hold our kin, our First Nations kin,
in our love, our hearts, our praying;
we sit beside these precious ones
with care for the wounds exposed.

Whichever way the nation goes, Holy One,
we, your Church, are listening:
we listen to you, we listen to our kin,
with gratitude for the first ones here.

We celebrate this oldest culture,
collected of hundreds of peoples over time;
we celebrate that they are here,
gift to the lands now called Australia.

We celebrate.
We give thanks.
We see the First Peoples of these lands,
and we will listen to their voice.

Amen.

[composed by Sarah Agnew for the Uniting Church in Australia]

Lament, after we said no (and I hope we don't need this one)

Oh Holy One,
we were so afraid
of what we did not know:
we were too afraid to try.

Oh Holy One,
are we so afraid
of one another?
Too afraid to love?

Oh Holy One,
we are so afraid
politicians will betray us again:
too afraid for trust.

Oh Holy One,
we've been so afraid:
we've let fear take the reins.
Will fear bring us undone?

Oh Holy One,
we may be afraid
now of the future we have created:
afraid enough to give up?

We cry to you.
We yearn for you.
Send your love
to quell our fear;
send peace, send hope,
don't leave us alone.

[composed by Sarah Agnew for the Uniting Church in Australia]

Heard

Yes!
tears fall
we fall
to our knees
with relief
we breathe again
we take the hand
of our neighbour
feel the balm
on bruises
stitches in wounds.

We said yes!
We said yes.

Close our eyes
take some rest
we start a new story
tomorrow.

[composed by Sarah Agnew for the Uniting Church in Australia]