



Act of Repentance Service Friday, June 12 1:30 p.m.

Edited by Rev. Jeremy Smith

FULL SCRIPT

<i>Moment</i>	<i>Leadership</i>	<i>Direction</i>
Drums	Wilshire Native American Fellowship	East (altar)
Water song	Wilshire Native American Fellowship	East
Opening Ceremony	Wilshire Native American Fellowship	
Message	Anita Phillips	East (altar)
“Dust and Ashes” Hymn	Laura and Roberta	East (screens)
Turn and Silence	Lowell Greathouse	South

Repentance can be known as a turning away from the errors of the past or present and turning towards a better future with God, Creation, and Neighbor. Today we will repent with our bodies as we turn to the four walls and the four winds. I invite you to rise as you are able, turn so you can sit facing the south wall (the right side of the Hall), and then sit.

Confession of Responsibility	Lowell Greathouse	South
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We name before you a heart-breaking list of wrongs committed by our ancestors against native peoples through imperial ambitions of colonial powers the world around. God, in your mercy, **We confess our sins to you.**

Through genocidal policies and massacres, the destruction of traditional forms of relationship to the earth, God, in your mercy, **We confess our sins to you.**

Through the transfer of massive tracts of territory for roads, railways, water, mining, timber and the privileging of Anglo-European companies, farmers and ranchers with leases of native land. God, in your mercy, **We confess our sins to you.**

We name our strategies of assimilation and Westernization; national education and job training programs committed to the removal of native people from their tribes; schools and curricula designed to divest indigenous people of their appearance, language and ways of life, God, in your mercy, **We confess our sins to you.**

Tearing of the Fabric strips Lowell Greathouse South

I invite you to pair up with someone next to you and select one of the fabric strips on your table. Each one has a cut at one end and you both can grasp the ends and tear the fabric in half. It should tear with some effort. We tear the fabric to acknowledge the ways how our actions past and present have ripped our connection and have left us with frayed edges. We rip the fabric to acknowledge our actions have hurt the very fabric of our common humanity and ripped it out at the seams. I invite you to tear the fabric and reflect on our responsibility for this day.

Turn and Silence Mary Foote West

I invite you to stand, turn to the back of the Hall as we continue our journey of repentance, and sit so you can see the back wall.

Litany of Reconnecting Mary Foote South

Our faith traditions are complicit—indeed, often actively engaged in the violations and even the cultural and physical genocide of native peoples. The church engaged in abusive and exploitative practices of its own. God, in your mercy, **mend what is broken, connect us to one another**

While some in the church protested its transgressions against indigenous people, the dominant pattern has been one where by both its silence and its active support the church has participated in the violation, the exploitation and even the killing of indigenous people. God, in your mercy, **mend what is broken, connect us to one another**

Evangelistic efforts legitimated colonization and manifest destiny; Our congregations and ministries benefited from native lands acquired unjustly when it was not a result of outright confiscation; God, in your mercy, **mend what is broken, connect us to one another**

These and other injustices and wrongdoings stand as a painful testimony to the sin of the church. Help us to reconnect to the Church that is more shaped by Christ than cultures of exploitation. God, in your mercy, **mend what is broken, connect us to one another**

Tying of strips
onto willow circles

Mary Foote

West

I invite you to take turns and tie your strips of fabric to the willow hoop in the center of your table. These hoops were made by Duane Medicine Crow and several others who meticulously bent

the branches into the hoops and tied them into an appropriate form. As tables, we will tie our fabric strips to the hoops like this:

So go around your table and tie the fabric to each one, however many you have, in whatever way you want, but we do invite everyone at your table to contribute. In the silence that follows, I invite you to reflect on how you are connected to one another and how you want to be more involved and connected to persons who need justice in our world.

Turn and Silence

Jeremy Smith

North

I invite you to stand, turn clockwise again towards the left side of the Hall as we continue our journey of repentance, and sit so you can see that wall.

Litany of Recommitting

Jeremy Smith

West (screens)

Please join with me in the liturgy projected as we respond God, in your mercy, **help us to live together as a whole Body of Christ.**

When the Hebrew people turned from you and yearned for Egypt, God, you guided us when we were lost in the wilderness. We've been lost for so long, and we have turned on each other. God, in your mercy, **help us to live together as a whole Body of Christ.**

When the leaders of Israel lost their way, you sent your prophets to speak with authority to their transgressions. May we listen now to the prophets in our midst, voices always alongside us but rarely paid attention to. God, in your mercy, **help us to live together as a whole Body of Christ.**

When the Christian tradition was born, at a critical moment, just a few people convicted of God's inclusive love opened the church to Gentiles previously long excluded. Guide us to be a convicted few that can truly change the world. God, in your mercy, **help us to live together as a whole Body of Christ.**

We live together and die alone. We travel further by journeying together. May we never turn away from our responsibility, but be encouraged to reconcile with one another. God, in your mercy, **help us to live together as a whole Body of Christ.**

Tying of circles onto Tree Jeremy Smith

North

I invite you to choose one person from your table and send your completed hoops to the front of the Ballroom. We have some tables up here and when you arrive, you'll want to tie your hoop to at one other hoop using the ends of your fabric. We have some assistants to help you. We will hang these in our worship space as a reminder of our connection and our commitment to repentance and restoration. As we do that, Stephanie will center our hearts and thoughts with her flute. Send your person from your table and listen.

Flute Performance

Stephanie Baldrige

North

Turn and Silence

Jeremy Smith

East (altar)

One more time, please rise, turn to the front of the worship space, and we find ourselves right back where we were. And yet we aren't the same. We've journeyed, we've learned, we've confessed, we've connected, and we've...well, we're not sure yet what we've done. But we've committed to move forward together, seeking the same type of justice and common human dignity that Chebon reminded us of yesterday and Anita Phillips speaks of today. To close our time together, let us join together in the litany of resolution projected.

Litany of Resolution

Circle of Love, Jeremy Smith

East (screens)

The circle of love is repeatedly broken because of the sin of exclusion. We create separate circles: the inner circle and the outer circle, the circle of power and the circle of despair, the circle of privilege and the circle of deprivation.

All: the circle of love is broken whenever there is alienation, whenever this is misunderstanding, whenever there is insensitivity and a hardening of the heart.

The circle of love is broken whenever we cannot see eye to eye, whenever we cannot link hand to hand, whenever we cannot live heart to heart and affirm our differences.

All: through God's grace we are forgiven, by the mercy of our Creator, through the love of the Christ, and in the power of the Spirit. Let us rejoice and be glad.

Closing Message

Anita Phillips

East (altar)

Benediction

East (altar)

Closing Prayer

"I am Your Mother" Hymn

East (screens)

Laura and Roberta

(see slides)

(Closing slide while Bishop is speaking)